

A Touch of History

GRANT RECIPIENTS

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NYS STANDARD

Standard 1: Language for information and understanding.
Standard 2: Language for literacy response and expression.

GRADE LEVEL

Grade 1

STUDENTS SERVED

16 students

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Through the grandparents' hands of students in my first grade class, history in a very real way reached out, touched us, and helped us learn. At the beginning of the school year child-made invitations were sent out to students' grandparents inviting them to share their memories through their photographs and presence in the classroom. Previous to the visit, grandparents received the Talking Photo Album that was filled with pictures of grandparents' memories and through the miracle of technology, the voice of grandma/grandpa telling their stories. The voices of our senior citizens, and this long reach into history touched us all. The Talking Photo Album is their legacy to us!

(Talking Photo Albums were purchased from Amazon. COM.)

STUDENT OUTCOMES

It's always productive when we are able to get as many community members involved in the reading act. Six and seven year olds list grandparents as favorites because they bake cookies with you, take you fishing, give lots of hugs and kisses, have great laps, and never rush you. Grandparents are a perfect match for this grade level. Students saw their grandparents' hands as hands of strength. Through the Talking Photo Albums students used their imaginations and saw what it was like in grandma/grandpa's world. Oral literacy is the very beginning of all literacy and this grant was interwoven with all aspects of language arts: listening, speaking, reading, and writing with meaningful, connected text.

