



Camp AH-HA: Make It Monday: Time Capsule

Save the history of this time in a fun way.

Who:

- You and your family

What:

- Have you ever heard of a Time Capsule? A time capsule is a container that is filled with items that represent a certain time period. The capsule is then buried or put away with instructions not to open for 10, 50 or even 100 years!
- Did you know that the United States' oldest Time Capsule was buried by Paul Revere in 1795! In 2014, workmen fixing a building in Massachusetts found it. Inside were coins from the 1600s, newspapers from the 1700s and a plaque made by Paul Revere himself.
- Right now, we are living in a pretty historic time. How do you think you will remember it? How will people 10, 50 or 100 years in the future remember it?
- Today, you are going to make a time capsule of items that will help people in the future remember what this time in 2020 was like.

How:

- Think of the type of container you want to use. You can use anything from a cardboard box to a plastic container to an old suitcase... whatever you have is fine. Think though if you want to bury the time capsule or just put it away in a closet. How will that help you decide what type of container to use?
- Once you have your container, start collecting items that you think will help people remember what this time was like. Think about newspaper articles or something you print off the internet. Maybe you'll want to include coins from this year, or a picture of your family staying at home? How about

schoolwork you are doing or a screenshot of an online class meeting or family meeting?

- Now, write a letter to go in the capsule sharing who you are and how you are feeling. What kinds of things are you doing? What is your home like right now?
- Ask other family members to write letters to go in the box. Facetime grandparents or other family members not in your home and have them send you their letters sharing their thoughts and what they think people should know about this time.
- Once you have collected everything, put it inside your container and seal it. On the outside in permanent marker write “Time Capsule”, today’s date and then write when you want the time capsule to be opened. Ten years? Twenty? More?
- Now put the capsule away in a closet or under a bed. If you chose to bury it, make sure you get an adult to help so you can find the best place to bury it where it won’t be near utilities or water lines.
- You have just made history – like Paul Revere!

Tips:

- Time Capsules don’t have to be for the way distant future. If you plan to open yours in 10 years, that’s great! It’ll be interesting to look back and see yourself as a younger person.

Extensions:

- The idea of making a time capsule is not just ours. There are lot of resources online about Time Capsules. YouTube even has videos of time capsules being opened.