Create Your Own Book of Centuries

A Book of Centuries is like a timeline in a notebook. As its name suggests, each two-page spread in the book is devoted to one hundred years—a century—of history. Each student creates his or her own book, recording historical events and names of importance, along with pictures, poems, quotes, and anything else that makes the book individual. You can also add written narrations, illustrations from the Internet, or titles of books you've read that are set in that time period.

If your children are not yet old enough to take on the responsibility of their own Books of Centuries, you can create one together as a family.

Books of Centuries can be as simple or elaborate as you desire. This simple Book of Centuries document labels each two-page spread with a date (in hundred-year increments) from 4000 B.C. to A.D. 2100. Follow the easy steps below to create your own Book of Centuries.

- 1. Print this document. (Some people like to use heavier paper for more durability.)
- 2. Sort the printed pages into two identical piles, with the same dates opposite each other.
- 3. Three-hole punch one pile of copies on the right side of the paper and the other pile, on the left side. Now you should have each of the two pages with identical dates laying beside each other, holes facing each other on the inside edges of the pages.
- 4. Put the pages in chronological order into a three-ring notebook. The first two pages in the notebook should be 4000—3901 B.C. and the last two pages should be A.D. 2001—2100. (Remember that the B.C. dates count backward and the A.D. dates count forward. So your book should start with 4000 B.C., 3900 B.C., 3800 B.C., etc. Once you get to 100—1 B.C., start counting forward again with A.D. 1–100, A.D. 101–200, A.D. 201–300, up to A.D. 2001–2100.)

That's it! Make a cover for your Book of Centuries if you want to, then just start making entries as you study different time periods, people, and events. Enjoy!