

Folklorist Process

Step 1: Research

1. Research and choose one form of folklore in your community that interests you.
2. Identify and contact a local tradition bearer who is willing to share knowledge, skills and experience with you.
3. Develop thoughtful interview questions.

Step 2: Document

4. Gather the tools most appropriate for documenting the tradition bearer's stories and skills.
5. Conduct your fieldwork: interview, observe and record.

Step 3: Interpret

6. Review all of your information to identify the story that you want to share with others.
7. Choose the interview quotes, visuals and other materials that you feel best tell the story.
8. Prepare a first draft of your presentation, and review it with the tradition bearer and others.

Step 4: Present

9. Polish and share your presentation.



Smithsonian
Center for Folklife and Cultural Heritage

The logo features the word "ePals" in a blue, serif font. The "e" is lowercase and smaller than the other letters. The "P" is large and has a decorative flourish. The "a" and "l" are also in the same serif font, and the "s" is lowercase and smaller. The entire logo is set against a white background with a subtle drop shadow.