Notes to Teachers

*Mennonite History for Young People*

Worksheet 1

**Part I – You and Your Ancestors**

* For the second set of questions, numbers 8-19, if the student has access to *Volume 3 A New Home,* it may be helpful to check Appendix Two for figuring out the names of Colonies in Mexico. If the student has access to *Volume 2 – Discovering Mexico*, they can check out the map of the earliest Mennonite villages in Manitoba Colony and Swift Colony in Mexico.
* The names of Colonies and villages are often brought along to other parts of the country and other countries. This may even help those who do not come from this part of Mexico to figure out or spell the names of their ancestor’s home communities.
* By carrying on the names of their former villages and colonies, settling people can “carry” their homeland with them. It allows for a sense of familiarity in an unfamiliar place and safety in an environment that may be perceived as hostile.

**Part II – Family History**

* In *Volume 3 – A New Home*, the first chapter looks at what a Colony *is*, and the next two what life was like for children in the early years. You may want your students to read these chapters and have them talk to their parents and/or grandparents about how what the book says and if what they experienced is the same or different.

**Part IV - Reading Comprehension Activity**

* Volume Four – Leaving Russia – Appendices I, II, III pgs. 65-71 (Begins with *Baptized Again – Mennonite Beginnings)*
* Permission was granted to Ms. L. Hansen to photocopy the pages for this activity. Alternatively, you could use transparencies and washable markers and ask the students to write their summaries on a separate sheet of paper.