

THE STATE OF THE ESTATE

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TJane is a teenager! I sat down with Jane and a few of her friends to compare notes on what's popular with teens today compared to when I was their age back in 1983.

It turns out the favorite weekend activity is exactly the same now as it was then: hang out with friends. What did kids do when I was 13 while hanging out? Since I grew up in a Capitola, California, kids rode skateboards, went to the beach, played hacky sack, or played video games. Today's teens, at least according to Jane and friends, enjoy binge watching their favorite shows on Netflix or Hulu, or making videos with Tik Tok.

What do kids today want to do when they grow up? "Nobody knows" and "doctor" were the top answers. That's pretty similar to my youth too.

Who are today's favorite musicians (at least among thirteen year olds)? Post Malone, Sean Mendes, Drake, and Khalid. When I was thirteen, we bopped around the roller rink to Michael Jackson or C'mon Eileen by Dexy's Midnight Runners (where did they go?)

The rest of these answers may surprise you because everyone says kids today are so different from kids of the 1980s.

Favorite TV show? Family Feud! My sister and I used to scream out the answers to Family Feud back in 1983 and it's still very popular today (though with Steve Harvey instead of Richard Dawson.) The other favorite show for these kids was Friends, which they can watch all at once on Netflix instead of waiting for Thursday night each week.

The favorite junk food for kids today will also be surprisingly familiar to anyone who was thirteen in 1983: Oreos, Goldfish, and Cheez-its. (Of course in 1983 we love fro-yo too.)

Finally, the coolest vacation spot for today's thirteen year olds is....Hawaii! And there you have it: proof that the more things change, the more they stay the same.



Juliet's Corner

Pineapple Pinecone DIY

MATERIALS:

- pinecones
- yellow paint
- paint brushes
- green construction paper
- scissors
- tape or glue gun
- bakers thread



DIRECTIONS:

- Wash your pine cones.
- Once dry, paint them yellow.
- Set pinecones to paint dry
- Next up is making the pineapple leaves. Get your construction paper and scissors.
- Do not cut out individual leaves. Instead, make a strip of them. Also, you might want to curve the ends a bit.
- Once pine cones are dry, get the leaves strip and roll it over the very top part of the pinecone. Use the pinecone layers to help you set the leaves strip. Once you are satisfied with the position of the leaves you can either tape it all together or dab a drop of glue gun to hold everything in place.
- The final step is tying the baker's thread to the pineapple pine cones so you can hang them around.

For Full Instructions: <https://coolmomscooltips.com/2016/06/a-tropical-pineapple-summer-with-the-pineapple-pinecone-diy.html>

How to Make a DIY Fairy Light Lantern

Materials:

- Terrarium, Lantern, or Glass Container
- White Stones Vase Filler (Or alternative)
- Fairy Lights
- Clear Tape
- 3M Stripe

<https://www.keystoinspiration.com/diy-fairy-light-lantern/>



DIRECTIONS:

- First, you will need to find a container. You can use just about any glass container for this project. Lanterns also look pretty, but even a glass jar will work.
- Next, you will need to fill the container with vase filler. I chose these white crushed stones. If you don't love the look of stones, you could use sand or even marbles.
- PS: The dollar store is a great place to find different vase fillers.
- Fill the container up about $\frac{1}{3}$ of the way with vase filler.
- Next, you will need a set of battery powered fairy lights. If you aren't familiar with fairy lights, they are basically just string lights. But fairy lights are a lot less bulky.
- String them around the container evenly and use clear tape to arrange them in any way you'd like.
- Finally, to hide the lights battery pack, attach the 3M Stripe to it and stick it to the back of your container, virtually invisible now!

Lemon Blondie Bars

The full directions can be found here

<https://www.iheartnaptime.net/lemon-brownies/>

FOR THE LEMON BROWNIES:

- 1/2 cup salted butter (softened)
- 3/4 cup sugar
- zest of 1/2 lemon
- 2 large eggs
- 1 tablespoon fresh lemon juice
- 3/4 cup flour
- 1/2 teaspoon baking powder

FOR THE GLAZE:

- 3/4 cup powdered sugar
- 1 1/2 tablespoon fresh lemon juice
- zest of 1/2 lemon



INSTRUCTIONS

1. Preheat the oven to 350. Prepare an 8 x 8 pan by spraying with cooking spray or lining with foil, and set aside.
2. In a large bowl or the bowl of a stand mixer, beat together the butter, sugar, and lemon zest until light and fluffy. Add the eggs one at a time, mixing well after each addition, then add the lemon juice. Add the flour and baking powder, and mix until just combined. Pour the batter into the prepared pan and smooth into an even layer. Bake 20-25 minutes, or until a toothpick inserted into the brownies comes out clean. Let lemon brownies cool for 10-15 minutes.
3. To make the glaze, whisk together the powdered sugar, lemon juice, and lemon zest, then pour over the brownies, spreading evenly to coat. Let lemon blondies cool completely before slicing and serving.

What Assets Go Through Probate In California?

Not all of a decedent's assets go through California probate process. If the deceased had no titled assets to his or her name, then the probate process may not even be necessary. The California Probate Code provides that estates of \$100,000 or less do not need to be probated.

Other assets that will not go through the California probate process:

- Assets that were in joint tenancy and will go to the joint owner, which could be land, property, vehicles, or a bank account, for instance
- Life insurance policies, IRAs, and similar contracts with named beneficiaries
- Assets owned through a living trust
- Also, assets that were registered in the decedent's name and are "transferable on death" to another person
- Furthermore, assets registered by a married couple as community property with the right of survivorship

All assets that go to a surviving spouse, including those that the deceased person owned separately in his or her name, but were left in a will or by intestate succession to the surviving spouse

There is also a simplified legal process to avoid probate and assign assets to a spouse if there are no objections. It is called the Spousal Property Petition, and only a husband and wife can take advantage of this procedure. If you have additional questions about the California probate process, contact a qualified California probate attorney at 888-433-6590 today.

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This newsletter is intended to educate the general public about probate, trusts, wills, and other issues. It is for information purposes only and should not be construed as legal advice. Prior to acting on any information contained in this publication, you should consult with experienced, competent counsel regarding your specific situation

CANNOT FIND A MISSING OR LOST WILL?

When beginning the administration of an estate in California, one of your first steps will be to locate the will of the deceased. Unfortunately, the deceased does not always leave behind clear instructions as to where this document is kept, in which case you may have a missing or lost will. If you are confident that your loved one prepared a will before he or she passed, you should take the appropriate measures to find it. Otherwise, if you begin the probate administration as if the decedent died without having a will, you could have a problem that will cost significant time and money if the will is later found.

What should you do if you think your loved one had an estate plan, but there is a missing or lost will?
Consider taking the following steps:

- Contact an experienced San Diego probate court lawyer for assistance. Your attorney can help guide your search.
- Check filing cabinets and other locations within the deceased's home where important records were kept.
- Contact the family and close friends of the deceased.
- Check safety deposit boxes if the deceased had one and if you have access to it.
- Consult with the deceased person's attorney. The lawyer may have the original will, or he or she may have a copy.
- Check to see if the deceased deposited his or her will with the San Diego probate court.
- Publish notice in a legal newspaper, or ask for help from the local attorney bar association.
- If you are not sure whether your loved one had a will at all, view our article, *I Don't Know if My Parents Had a Will or Trust When They Died. What Should I Do?* This article provides helpful information if you find yourself uncertain of whether there was a will in place or not.