

EXPLORATION TO 1850

Second Edition

A one-year program
for 4th through 8th graders
(and 2nd or 3rd graders with older siblings in the program)

MY FATHER'S WORLD[®]

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Exploration to 1850

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State Report

Nature Journaling

Week 33

State Report

Nature Journaling

Week 34

State Report

Nature Journaling

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State Report

Nature Journaling

Week 36 (optional)

State Report

Nature Journaling

Sample

Welcome to an exciting year! *Exploration to 1850* is part of a four-year, chronological, history-based study for students in grades 2-8. You will travel back in time and “sail” with Leif Ericsson, Christopher Columbus, and others who explored the New World. Discover the amazing story of the colonization of the U.S. as you learn about the courage and faith of many who came to America. Investigate cultures around the world and see how events in other countries affected U.S. history. Study the development of the U.S. as a country from its beginnings to the time of the California gold rush. We hope and pray that you will understand history in a new way and that God’s kingdom will be affected by what you learn this year.

Exploration to 1850 is a complete curriculum for history, Bible, science, art, and music. You will need to add language arts and math at the appropriate grade level.

Highlights of *Exploration to 1850*:

Bible

- Study the book of James in depth using a children’s inductive Bible study called *Boy, Have I Got Problems!* and memory verses from James.
- Be inspired by the stories of Christians from the past. *Trial and Triumph* (which was used in *Rome to the Reformation*) will be used again this year. *In God We Trust* focuses on the godly faith and character of early Americans.
- Sing the great hymns of our faith and learn their story, coordinated with this year’s history study, using *Then Sings My Soul* (in the Deluxe Package).

History

- Study history from the early European explorers of North America up through 1850, with a number of helpful books, all fully scheduled in the teacher’s manual.
- Integrate history with art, composition, and handwriting as you make a history notebook.
- Study your own state (the final 4-6 weeks of the year) as you learn how to write a research paper.
- Learn about U.S. presidents and U.S. geography, with a brief trip through all 50 states (a two-year study that will be completed in next year’s program).

Science

- Explore the world of plants and animals. Includes an introduction to taxonomy (the scientific classification of living things).
- 7th and 8th graders use Apologia’s *Exploring Creation with General Science* or *Exploring Creation with Physical Science* instead of the above (purchase separately).
- Focus on nature journaling in your local area as you study state history at the end of the school year.

Art and Music

- Enjoy hands-on projects related to history, science, and Bible.
- Study Schubert, Mendelssohn, and Chopin (in the Deluxe Package) and briefly review music history.
- Continue to develop a variety of art skills with lessons from *God and the History of Art*, which was used in *Creation to the Greeks* and *Rome to the Reformation* (available separately from My Father’s World).

Read-Aloud

- Enjoy inspiring stories for family read-aloud in the evening or anytime!

Almost Home

Amos Fortune, Free Man

Madeleine Takes Command

William Carey

Mary Jones and Her Bible

Bound for Oregon

2nd-3rd Grade Supplement

2nd and 3rd graders will also need the 2nd-3rd Grade Supplement for *Exploration to 1850*. These are key *living books* from *Adventures in U. S. History*, designed specifically for 2nd and 3rd graders, to help make history come alive for younger students. All of these books are conveniently scheduled in your lesson plans for *Exploration to 1850*.

Math and Language Arts

Add math and language arts. We recommend Singapore Math® *Primary Mathematics* for grades 2-6 and Saxon Math with Jacobs Geometry for grades 7-12. Our language arts recommendations are:

Grade 2 – *Language Lessons for Today Grade 2*, *Spelling by Sound and Structure*, and *WORLDbkids* magazine

Grade 3 – *Language Lessons for Today Grade 3*, *Merriam-Webster's Elementary Dictionary*, *Spelling Power*, *Handwriting*, and *WORLDbkids* magazine

Grade 4 – *Language Lessons for Today Grade 4*, *Merriam-Webster's Elementary Dictionary*, *Spelling Power*, *Spelling Power Activity Task Cards*, *Writing Skills for Today Level A*, and *WORLDbkids* magazine

Grade 5 – *Language Lessons for Today Grade 5*, *Spelling Power*, *Spelling Power Activity Task Cards*, *Writing Skills for Today Level B* (Students who did not complete *Writing Skills for Today Level A* or *Writing Strands Level 3* use *Level A* this year and *Level B* in 6th grade.), and *WORLDbkids* magazine

Grade 6 – *Language Lessons for Today Grade 6*, *Spelling Power*, *Spelling Power Activity Task Cards*, *Writing Skills for Today Level C* (Students who completed only *Writing Skills for Today Level A* or *Writing Strands Level 3* use *Level B*; students who have not used *Writing Skills for Today* or *Writing Strands* use *Level A*.), and *WORLDbteen* magazine

Grade 7 – two literature guides from Progeny Press, *Spelling Power* (if needed), *Writing with Skill Level 1* (first half of book), *Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Thesaurus* (used with *Writing with Skill*), *Applications of Grammar* (Students with no previous basic instruction in nouns, verbs, etc., first complete *Language Lessons for Today Grade 6* in the first 8 weeks.), and *WORLDbteen* magazine

Grade 8 – two literature guides from Progeny Press, *Spelling Power* (if needed), *Writing with Skill Level 1* (second half of book), *Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Thesaurus* (used with *Writing with Skill*), *Easy Grammar Ultimate Series Grade 8*, and *WORLDbteen* magazine

Note: *WORLDbkids* and *WORLDbteen* are print and digital current events magazines with a biblical worldview. They're ideal for Book Basket™ or reading aloud with parents. See mfwbooks.com/magazine.

Foreign Language

We recommend *Rosetta Stone*® (optional) because of its excellent methodology and engaging, interactive format. My Father's World has developed a *Foreign Language Enrichment Guide* with cultural activities and other helps. These plans are useful for assigning high school credit or enriching a younger student's experience.

Sample

Exploration to 1850

Basic Package

Teacher's Manual
Student Sheets (one per student)

Bible/History

Boy, Have I Got Problems (one per student)
Exploring American History, Second Edition
In God We Trust
Building a City On a Hill
George Washington's World
The Last 500 Years
The Story of the World, Volume 3
Writing a State Report, Second Edition
U.S. Presidents Flashcards (one per student)
Map of the U.S./World—placemat size (one per student)
U.S.A. Wall Map

**Trial and Triumph* (included in *Rome to the Reformation*) and a world wall map (any type) are also required (purchase separately).

Science

The World of Animals (4th Edition, Answers in Genesis)
Guide to God's Animals
Exploring Creation with Botany

Deluxe Package (also includes the above books)

Read-Aloud

Almost Home
Amos Fortune, Free Man
Madeleine Takes Command
William Carey
Mary Jones and Her Bible
Bound for Oregon

Science

Soda Bottle Bird Feeder

Music/Art

Introduction to Schubert, Mendelssohn, and Chopin (six-CD set)
Then Sings My Soul

**God and the History of Art* is scheduled as an optional resource (purchase separately).

2nd-3rd Grade Supplement

American Pioneers and Patriots
North American Indians
Red, White, and Blue
The Fourth of July Story
The Courage of Sarah Noble
Sarah Witcher's Story
The Complete Book of Animals

Week 8

| | | | | |
|--|--|---|--|---|
| Virginia Colony | | Louis XIV of France 1643-1715 | Frederick, First Prussian King 1701 | |
| <i>Then Sings My Soul</i> p16 Now Thank We All Our God | | | | |
| Weekly review-James 1:1-11 Review James 1:12-18 Learn James 1:19 | Review James 1:12-19 Learn James 1:20 | Review James 1:12-20 Learn James 1:21 | Review James 1:12-21 Learn James 1:22 | Test James 1:12-22 |
| Weekly review-James 1:1-11 Learn James 1:12 (see notes) | Review James 1:1-12 | Review James 1:1-12 Learn James 1:13 | Review James 1:13 | Test James 1:1-13 |
| | <i>In God We Trust</i> p37 Father Jacques Marquette | | | |
| Spelling | Spelling | Spelling | Spelling | |
| English 22 | English 23 | English 24 | Writing 15 | Writing 16 |
| <i>Exploring American History</i> p24-26 John Smith (begin at The Decline of Jamestown) | Activity—Make The New England Primer** (see notes) | <i>The Story of the World</i> p129 The Sun King of France <i>The Last 500 Years</i> p22-23 France and the Sun King | <i>The Story of the World</i> p134 Frederick, The First Prussian King | |
| <i>Building a City on a Hill</i> p333-337 | <i>Building a City on a Hill</i> p338-346—optional | | | |
| Notebook Virginia summary** | | Notebook King Louis XIV summary** Timeline Louis XIV | | |
| Book Basket | Book Basket | Book Basket | Book Basket | |
| <i>World of Animals</i> p54 Amphibians (see notes) <i>Guide to God's Animals</i> p84-85 | | <i>World of Animals</i> p57 Amphibian Metamorphosis** (see notes) | <i>World of Animals</i> p60 Reptiles (Scaly picture is optional) (see notes) <i>Guide to God's Animals</i> p104-105 | |
| Math + Drill | Math - Drill | Math x Drill | Math ÷ Drill | Math |
| Reading | Reading | Reading | Reading | Reading |
| Music Bach (see notes) | <i>God and the History of Art</i> p293 review top of page; do Lesson #172 Sign of the Fish Music Bach (see notes) | <i>God and the History of Art</i> (see notes) | <i>God and the History of Art</i> p316 Watteau— optional (no project) | |
| Foreign Language | Foreign Language | Foreign Language | Foreign Language | |
| Read-Aloud <i>Amos Fortune, Free Man</i> p93 The Arrival at Jaffrey | Read-Aloud <i>Amos Fortune, Free Man</i> p109-118 Hard Work Fills the Iron Kettle 1781-1789 | Read-Aloud <i>Amos Fortune, Free Man</i> p119-129 | Read-Aloud <i>Amos Fortune, Free Man</i> p130 Amos on the Mountain | Read-Aloud <i>Amos Fortune, Free Man</i> p146 Auctioned for Freedom |

Option A:
Memorize
part of James

Option B:
Memorize
all of James

Week 8 Notes

| 2 nd and 3 rd Grade Supplement | | | | |
|--|---|---|---|--|
| <i>American Pioneers and Patriots</i> p53-56 | <i>American Pioneers and Patriots</i> p57-59 | <i>American Pioneers and Patriots</i> p60-63; p64 Questions | Activity—Make a Canoe (see notes) | |
| <i>Book of Animals</i> p259 Frogs | <i>Book of Animals</i> p261-268 Pull-Out Storybook: Frogs (optional: p260 or p269) | <i>Book of Animals</i> p280-281 Life Cycle of a Frog | <i>Book of Animals</i> p168 What Is a Reptile? | |

Materials

- *The Story of Bach in Words and Music* and music by Bach (not required; included in *Creation to the Greeks* Deluxe package; will be reviewed this week)—for optional music lessons (M)
- Grow-a-Frog or Frog Hatchery Kit (from Home Science Tools, www.homesciencetools.com, or other sources)—optional for science (W)
- for 2nd and 3rd Grade Supplement—yarn or string, single-hole punch (TH)

Monday

James (Plan B only)

Today begins a new memory section. You will no longer review James 1:1-11 each day. You will only review it once a week (for the rest of the year).

The World of Animals

Beginner

- **Name three kinds of animals that are amphibians.** Frogs, toads, and salamanders.
- **How does an amphibian breathe as a baby?** It breathes water with gills.
- **How does an amphibian breathe as an adult?** It breathes air with lungs.

What did we learn?

- **What are the characteristics that make amphibians unique?** They spend part of their lives in water breathing with gills, and part of their lives on land breathing with lungs. They are also cold-blooded, usually have smooth moist skin and lay eggs.
- **How can you tell a frog from a toad?** In general, frogs have smooth moist skin, while toads have dry bumpy skin.
- **How can you tell a salamander from a lizard?** Salamanders have smooth skin and lizards have dry scales on their skin. Also, salamanders go through a larval stage but lizards do not.

Taking it further

- **What advantages do cold-blooded animals have over warm-blooded animals?** They don't have to eat as often and can usually survive a broader range of temperatures.
- **What advantages do warm-blooded animals have over cold-blooded animals?** Cold-blooded animals' activities are more restricted by temperature extremes. A warm-blooded animal can still be quite active in very cold or very warm weather.
- **Why are most people unfamiliar with caecilians?** Caecilians spend most of their time underground and live only in tropical rain forests; so most people never see them.

Notebook: Today make a sheet about amphibians. File it in the vertebrates section.

Amphibians

Cold-blooded

Have smooth, moist skin

Begin life in the water

As they mature, they breathe air through lungs

Music—Bach

Find Bach on your timeline. Say, “Bach was a Baroque composer, like Vivaldi. Bach was born in Germany in 1685. He was a devout Christian and wrote his music for the glory of God. One of Bach’s well-known works, *The Brandenburg Concertos*, was dedicated to a powerful prince in Germany, the Margrave of Brandenburg.

“Bach is well-known for his *counterpoint* and *fugues*. Counterpoint is two or more melodies played at the same time. In a fugue, the same melody is repeated with slight variations by different instruments.”

If available, play *The Story of Bach* CD, tracks #1 - #10 (finish the CD tomorrow). You might also play music by Bach at various times this week.

Note: The final Baroque composer, Handel, will be studied in Week 15, corresponding to the time in English history when he lived.

Tuesday

Activity—The New England Primer

The New England Primer was a textbook commonly used in homes and schools in New England and other areas. It taught moral values as well as the alphabet and reading, often using people or ideas from the Bible. It was first printed in 1690 and widely used through the 1800s. Today’s project uses several reproduced pages; the actual primer has many pages. See *Building a City on a Hill*, page 238 and sidebar on page 239.

Cut the white border off both students sheets. Glue the two sheets together. A glue stick works well for this. Fold in the middle to make a book, with *The New England Primer* on the front.

Look through the pages and note any religious content. This was a public school text from the founding of the United States. How would you compare the content to public school reading books typically used today?

Music—Bach

If available, play *The Story of Bach* CD, track #11 to the end. You might also play music by Bach at various times this week.

Wednesday

The World of Animals

Beginner

- **What is a baby frog called?** A tadpole.
- **What does a tadpole look like?** Like a little fish.
- **How does a tadpole change as it grows?** It grows legs, loses its tail, and grows lungs.

What did we learn?

- **Describe the stages an amphibian goes through in its lifecycle.** It begins as an egg, and then it hatches into a larva. In a frog, this is the tadpole stage. Then, it slowly changes into an adult. This is the metamorphosis stage in which lungs develop and gills disappear, and the creature changes its shape from a water dweller without legs to a land dweller with legs.
- **What are gills?** They are special organs on the sides of water animals that extract oxygen from the water as water passes over or through them.
- **What are lungs?** They are special organs that extract oxygen from the air as air passes through them.

Taking it further

- **Does the amphibian lifecycle represent molecules-to-man evolution? Why or why not?** No! Evolution says that one kind of animal changes into another. However, a frog is still a frog even when it is a tadpole. A tadpole always changes into a frog. It does not grow up to be a bird or a mammal or even a salamander. It is always what God made it to be, even if its infant form is significantly different from its adult form.

God and the History of Art

- Read page 311 (first paragraph, omit last 2 sentences about Marie Antoinette).
- Read page 312 (first 2 paragraphs).
- Do pages 314-315 Rococo Art, Lesson #183 Painting Pink Angels. See the postcard of the Sistine Madonna by Raphael.

| |
|-----------------|
| Thursday |
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The World of Animals

Beginner

- **Name three different kinds of reptiles.** Lizards, snakes, turtles, crocodiles, and alligators.
- **What do reptiles have covering their skin?** Scales.
- **Where do reptiles live?** In all parts of the world.

What did we learn?

- **What makes reptiles different from amphibians?** Reptiles have scales and amphibians do not. Also, reptiles have lungs all their lives and do not go through metamorphosis.
- **What are the four groups of reptiles?** Lizards, snakes, turtles, and crocodiles.

Taking it further

- **How do reptiles keep from overheating?** They stay in the shade or other cooler places during the hottest part of the day. Many sleep during the day and are only active at night.
- **What would a reptile likely do if you dug it out of its winter hibernation spot?** It would appear dead. It would not move or eat. If you brought it inside and it warmed up, then it would seem to come alive, though it is actually alive even in its hibernating state.

Notebook: Today make a sheet about reptiles. File it in the vertebrates section.

Reptiles

Cold-blooded

Have dry, scaly skin

Breathe air through lungs

Lay eggs

► **Activity—Canoe (2nd and 3rd Grade Supplement)**

Begin with a 5" x 9" piece of ivory, gray, or light brown construction paper. Fold it in half so you end up with a long rectangle, 2½" x 9". Place it on the table so the folded edge is closest to you. (The folded edge is the bottom of your canoe.) Now draw the front of the canoe—draw a curved line beginning at a top corner and curving down and to a point several inches in at the bottom. Draw the back of the canoe—draw an identical curved line beginning at the other top corner.

Cut out your canoe. (It should still be attached at the bottom fold line.) Use a single-hole punch to make holes along all the edges except for the top. Cut a length of yarn or string and lace it through the holes.

Sample