

Art and Music

Art and music are two important parts of an education that can be studied and explored in an endless variety of ways. Unlike math or science, the learning objectives for art and music cannot be as neatly quantified or defined. The main goal of art and music is to enjoy them and use them to glorify God. We have many great classes on SchoolhouseTeachers.com that can help you do just that!

If you're interested in specific academic goals for art and music, you'll find some general guidelines listed on the following pages. It is often most helpful if you naturally incorporate art and music into other subjects whenever possible (such as studying the art of ancient Egypt or the music of Russia alongside history and social studies).

Whenever possible, take field trips (either physical or virtual) with your children to explore art and music in a living, breathing way. Visit a museum, enjoy a musical performance, watch tradesmen in action, and dig in and try as many styles and techniques as you have time and the opportunity to enjoy!

Keep in mind as you explore art that it can cover a wide variety of techniques and media. It includes drawing and painting, but it also includes animation, architecture, casting, ceramics, computer graphics and applications, construction, dance or other creative movement, digital arts, drama (including mime, storytelling, and technical aspects of theater), drawing, film, graphic design, improvisational music, instrumental music, metal sculpture, mosaics, photography, printmaking, sculpture, textiles and fiber art, and much more.

Another integral part of art and music studies is reading biographies of famous artists and composers. You can find suggested reading lists about architecture, music, art, and art history in our [Book Lists for Families](#). Enjoy!

Art and Music

1st–3rd Grade Art

- Explore colors. Know the primary colors and how they are mixed to produce secondary colors. Understand intermediate colors. Understand the color wheel and learn about tints and shades.
- Start exploring elements of art including line, shape, texture, space, light, shadow, and value (lightness or darkness of a color) and start seeing how you can spot these in works of art. Understand foreground, middle ground, and background and how elements of art work together to create a focus or center of interest.
- Start becoming familiar with famous works of art by a variety of artists from a variety of time periods.
- Understand the difference between portraits, still lifes, abstract art, and landscapes.
- Draw a self-portrait.
- Continue to experiment with many different types of media.
- Begin learning to group paintings by artist.

On SchoolhouseTeachers.com

[Elementary Art – Lessons in Self-Portraits](#) (iST): 5 weekly lessons for 1st grade

[All About Art](#): 6 weeks for 1st–3rd grade

[All About Artists](#): 6x weeks (Unit Studies and More page) for 1st–3rd grade

[Introduction to Colors](#): 6 lessons (Unit Studies and More page) in 1st grade

[Elementary Art – Twelve Great Artists](#) (iST): 12 artist biographies for 1st–4th grade

[Achieving Art Success with ArtAchieve](#): Level I, 7 units each year of 2nd and 3rd grade

[Elementary Art – Advent Art](#) (iST): 10 advent-themed lessons for 1st–4th grade

[Everyday Easels](#): over 75 one- and two-week unit studies for Kindergarten–12th grade

[Exploring the World of Art](#): 12 units for 3rd–12th grade

(cont.)

Art and Music

1st–3rd Grade Art

On [SchoolhouseTeachers.com](https://www.schoolhouseteachers.com) (cont.)

[Let's Do Art Outside](#): 20 outdoor arts and crafts projects for 1st–4th grade

[World Book Kids](#) includes fun art projects under Activities: Craft Room, Doodle and Design, and Paper Patterns.

In our Electives category, we also have [Heritage Crafts](#) (all ages), [Photography](#) (2nd–12th grade), and [Hands-On Architecture](#) (3rd–7th grade).

Art and Music

1st–3rd Grade Music

- Become familiar with elements of music including rhythm, melody, harmony, pitch, dynamics, tempo, and timbre.
- Know the definition of scale, staff, and treble clef.
- Know the names of the lines and spaces on the treble clef.
- Sing the C major scale (do, re, mi, fa, so, la, ti, do).
- Identify whole, half, quarter, and eighth notes and whole, half, and quarter rests.
- Recognize and understand 4/4, 2/4, and 3/4 meter signatures and the symbols *p*, *pp*, *f*, and *ff*.
- Enjoy and memorize traditional and fun songs.
- Learn the four families of instruments in the orchestra (strings, brass, woodwinds, and percussion) and know which instruments belong to each.
- Experiment with simple musical instruments.
- Listen to music by various composers.

On SchoolhouseTeachers.com

[Music Theory I](#): 16 weeks of the primary level in 1st, 2nd, or 3rd grade

[Music Theory II](#): 16 weeks of the primary level in 1st, 2nd, or 3rd grade

[Music Mania](#): in the Unit Studies and More section

[Great Musicians](#): 12 units for 1st, 2nd, or 3rd grade

Students may also enjoy the one-week [Ditch the Desk](#) study about Meaningful Music.

[World Book Kids](#) includes fun music projects under Activities: Make Some Noise.

Additionally, SchoolhouseTeachers.com offers [Recorder](#), [Guitar](#), [Drum](#), and [Beginning Violin](#) lessons that can be started at any grade. [Fun with Music](#) also offers games for music terminology review for 3rd–12th grade.

Bible

While Bible is not typically included in secular curriculum lists, to most Christian families, it is the most important subject. SchoolhouseTeachers.com meets this need in several ways, led by the highly recommended:

[Schoolhouse Bible](#): 36 weeks per grade level of Bible reading plans for Preschool–Grade 12.

Meanwhile, there are over 30 other Bible courses for all ages from Preschool–Grade 12 in many subjects, including video-based and text-based learning, apologetics, Bible study, Christian character, and more. Please browse the [View by Subject: Bible](#) page to learn more.

Courses in every subject area on SchoolhouseTeachers.com are written from a Biblical worldview. Some that may assist with Bible study are [Breadmaking Devotional](#) (electives), [Geography of the Bible](#) (geography), [Dinosaurs and the Bible](#) (science; iST), and [Drive Thru History: Bible Backroads](#), [Church History](#), and [History of Christianity](#) (history).

In addition, the [Unit Studies: Bible](#) section has a dozen more short studies in various topics, and the [Just for Parents](#) section has topical encouragement for moms and dads as well, including titles such as In Due Season and Joy in the Morning.

Finally, there are multiple biographies of Christian missionaries and heroes of the faith in [Lighting the Way](#) (elementary) and the [Unit Studies: History](#) page (middle grades).

Computer and Technology

Suggestions regarding what computer and technology skills should be learned at each grade level vary widely. We have included a list below of the courses we have for these skills and the recommended grade levels for each class.

[Building Blocks of Computer Science](#): 10 units for K–5th grade

[Editing Photos with GIMP](#): 36 weeks for 6th–12th grade

[How to Use Microsoft Excel](#): 18 weeks for 6th–12th grade

[How to Use Microsoft Word: Beyond the Basics](#): 16 weeks for 6th–12th grade

[Inkscape Online Adventure](#): 32 weeks for 8th–12th grade

[Internet Entrepreneurship for Teens](#): 24 weeks for 8th–12th grade

[Keyboarding](#): 10 lessons for 3rd–12th grade

[LibreOffice Writer® Basics](#): 50 lessons for 5th–12th grade

[Podcasting to Change the World](#): 6 units for 8th–12th grade

[Web Game Design](#): 42 lessons for 7th–12th grade

Plus a roundup of technology websites and resources in [Unit Studies: Computer and Technology](#).

Drama and Speech

Suggestions regarding what drama and speech skills should be learned at each grade level vary widely. We have included a list below of the courses we have for these skills and the recommended grade levels for each class.

[Reader's Theater](#): 76 units for 3rd–6th grade

[Simply Shakespeare](#): more than a dozen plays for 3rd–9th grade (instructions given for single-child families)

[In the Limelight](#): study of a series of novels for 4th–10th grade (instructions given for single-child families)

[Introduction to Public Speaking](#): 20 weeks for 8th–12th grade

[Advanced Public Speaking](#): 18 weeks for 8th–12th grade

Electives

We have included a list below of our elective courses and the recommended grade levels for each class.

[Heritage Crafts](#): 8 units to be enjoyed as a family

[Homesteading](#): dozens of topics to be enjoyed as a family

[Whole Foods Cooking with Sue Gregg](#): 14 weeks to be enjoyed as a family

[Home Economics](#): 23 weeks for K–4th grade; portions of this course are incorporated into the health scope and sequence for Kindergarten and 2nd grade

[Breadmaking Devotional](#): 12 lessons for 1st–12th grade

[Fun with Cooking](#): 28 lessons for 2nd–6th grade

[Hands-On Design Fun](#): 41 lessons for 2nd–6th grade

[Hands-On Learning Activities Through Crafts](#): 5 units for 2nd–9th grade

[Photography](#) and [Photography Challenge](#): 30 weeks plus 48 challenges for 2nd–12th grade

[Wildlife Adventures](#): 15 weeks for 3rd–6th grade

[Hands-On Architecture](#): 27 weeks for 3rd–7th grade

[Media Socialization](#): 19 weeks for 6th–12th grade

[Introduction to Architecture](#): 37 weeks for 6th–12th grade

[Editing Photos with GIMP](#): 36 weeks for 6th–12th grade

[Introduction to Graphic Design](#): 17 weeks for 6th–12th grade

[Career Exploration](#): 8 weeks for 7th–12th grade

[Filmmaking](#): 33 weeks for 7th–12th grade

[Logic](#): 15 weeks for 7th–12th grade

[Money 101](#): 7 weeks for 7th–12th grade

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Electives (cont.)

[Personal Finance in Bite-Size Chunks](#): 21 lessons for 7th–12th grade

[Starting a Micro Business \(for Teens\)](#): 8 weeks for 8th–12th grade

[Accounting 101](#): 18 weeks for 9th–12th grade

[College Choice Guidance](#): 32 weeks for 9th–12th grade

[High School Home Economics](#): 18 units for 9th–12th grade

[SAT-ACT Math Test Prep](#): self-paced practice for 9th–12th grade

[Psychology: Learning about the Mind from a Christian Perspective](#): 36 weeks for 11th–12th grade

You might also enjoy a four-week [Lapbooking](#) unit for upper elementary and middle school about the History of Photography.

English Language Arts

Language arts is a broad heading that can incorporate many subjects depending on the approach taken. It varies from one curriculum to another, but often found under language arts are phonics/reading, reading comprehension, handwriting, literature, writing and composition, grammar, listening and speaking skills, and research skills.

One important element of language arts curricula is that the skills learned early in an education (such as capitalization and punctuation rules) are continually used throughout the student's journey. Even if the specific skills are not repeated in this scope and sequence each year, it is understood that the student is to continue to use what he or she has learned previously, reviewing as necessary.

Reading

When possible, have your student read as many varied types of materials as he or she can. For prekindergarten and kindergarten emerging readers, creating a print-rich environment is important. Manipulating letters to sounds and sounds to words are the building blocks for reading. At this level, everything is readable—cereal boxes, signs, traditional text, names, etc.

In first to third grade, types of reading to become familiar with might include fiction, nonfiction, legends, fables, folktales, fairy tales, poetry, calendars, recipes, and hymns. In fourth and fifth grade, this can expand to include classic and contemporary literature, magazine articles, and newspapers. By sixth grade, readers should be exploring novels, short stories, biographies, autobiographies, plays, essays, and the classics.

Pre-Reading/Reading/Phonics

There are many effective approaches to teaching reading, and SchoolhouseTeachers.com offers a variety of options to meet different needs. Many of our early reading courses can be found in the [Focus on Reading Center](#), which gathers them in one convenient location.

A particularly valuable resource we've developed is the [Literacy Center](#), designed to help you teach foundational reading skills for Kindergarten through 4th grade. This easy-to-navigate tool presents essential reading skills in the order they are typically acquired, allowing each skill to build logically on the previous one. You'll find simple assessments, helpful teaching tips, creative ideas, and direct links to relevant lessons on SchoolhouseTeachers.com, all in one place.

For focused phonics instruction, the [Reading Remedies](#) course is another powerful tool. Created by a reading specialist, it includes lessons on phonics, reading fluency, spelling, and more. Whether you're introducing reading to young learners or providing remedial help for older students, this course offers clear, structured support.

[Teaching Reading Through Play](#) is also an excellent, stand-alone kindergarten course that provides key foundational skills and is especially helpful for the highly active child. [Independent Morning Work for Kinders](#) provides numerous worksheets for additional review and practice.

[Welcome to Reading](#) features 46 eBooks to build early reading skills and comprehension.

Reading

1st Grade: Phonics

- Review of all sounds and blends learned.
- Continue to build on phonics skills, learning skills such as recognizing the hard and soft *c* and *g*, silent consonants, silent *e*, and special phonics sounds.
- Alphabetize words using the first letter only.
- Learn about counting syllables.
- Sound out one-syllable and two-syllable words.
- Practice silent reading and reading aloud.
- Identify and use contractions (such as aren't, wasn't, isn't, and I'm) and convert them to their longer forms.
- Know age-appropriate sight words.
- Understand basic prefixes and suffixes.

On SchoolhouseTeachers.com

You can find these resources in the [Literacy Center](#) on SchoolhouseTeachers.com or the [Focus on Reading Learning Center](#).

Reading

1st Grade: Reading Comprehension

- Draw conclusions based on the story.
- Identify cause and effect.
- Compare and contrast two elements of the story.
- Identify the main characters, their traits, and their motives.
- Answer questions such as who, what, where, when, and why about what they have read.
- Answer true/false questions about what they have read.
- Be able to orally summarize what they have read.
- Know the meaning of plot, setting, characters, hero, and heroine and be able to identify them in what they have read.

On SchoolhouseTeachers.com

You can find these resources in the [Literacy Center](#) on SchoolhouseTeachers.com or the [Focus on Reading Learning Center](#). The [Grade Level Readers](#) in the Literacy center provide age-appropriate classic stories and primers to practice reading skills.

[Welcome to Reading](#) features 46 eBooks to build early reading skills and comprehension.

Additional Reading Resources

[The AMO® Program: Nurturing the Heart for God](#) uses Biblical and classic literature to cultivate a Christian worldview, sensibilities, and character.

[Ditch the Desk](#): stand-alone units on Jack and the Beanstalk, the Emperor's New Clothes, and writing your own fairy tale. [Growing Readers](#): activities to supplement *Owls in the Family* and *Pippi Longstocking*.

[Adventures with Books](#): suggested reading lists based on a theme and related activities you can do with your family to bring the stories to life.

[Ditch the Desk](#): Test Taking—Week 3 offers tips to make reading comprehension tests less stressful.

[Loving Literature through Chapter Books](#): Each book-length unit study will provide your family with the opportunity to read and explore a different chapter book. Whether you choose to study one or all of the novels included in the course, we know that you will love these books as much as we do.

[Reading Remedies](#) provides specific phonics instruction and strategies for struggling readers of any age.

[Daily Puzzlers](#) are language-based logic puzzles that vary in difficulty and include puzzles for 2nd through 12th grade. They promote critical thinking, vocabulary, and reading comprehension.

Spelling

Kindergarten–12th Grade: Spelling

[Schoolhouse Spelling](#) (iST for K–3): provides a full K–12 spelling curriculum on SchoolhouseTeachers.com.

In addition to the phonics units, [Reading Remedies](#) has three units which address spelling: Reading and Spelling Multisyllable Words, Spelling by Word Parts, and Improving Reading and Spelling Skills in Science.

For extra spelling fun, explore the [spelling-themed games](#) that are part of the Everyday Games series.

Handwriting

Developing handwriting skills is an essential part of early education, supporting fine motor development, hand-eye coordination, and foundational literacy. Children typically begin learning proper pencil grip and basic tracing in Preschool, laying the groundwork for more structured instruction. From Kindergarten through 3rd grade, handwriting is formally taught, progressing from manuscript to cursive, which is often introduced around third grade as students gain confidence and control in written expression. Copywork can continue to be useful in higher grades, both to reinforce handwriting and to improve memory and retention.

Kindergarten

Kindergarteners continue to build on the prewriting skills they've learned previously. They need to know how to hold and position paper and pencil, how to form their letters, and generally how to align and space their letters. They need to be able to print all the letters of the alphabet in upper and lower case, print their first and last names, and write simple words.

On SchoolhouseTeachers.com

[Beginning Handwriting and Phonics](#) covers topics such as pencil grip, prewriting skills, letter formation, and tips and tricks for remembering which letter is which.

[Color Block Handwriting](#) emphasizes correct letter formation, with memory devices and extra visual support to address reversals.

Handwriting

1st–2nd Grade

Handwriting in first grade focuses on improving the legibility of printed letters, words, and sentences. Spacing and alignment should gradually improve during this time.

3rd Grade

Cursive handwriting is often introduced in third grade.

On SchoolhouseTeachers.com

[Color Block Handwriting](#) teaches proper formation of printed letters.

[Everyday Copywork](#) brings your student penmanship practice, in both print and cursive, through copying Bible portions, excerpts of literature, historical selections, and much more. There are many different lengths, and the copywork varies in difficulty, so it is suitable for many ages. You will also find alphabet worksheets for the little ones who are just learning to print.

Writing and Composition

We encourage you to incorporate writing in as many subjects as you can. Students can write recipes, create historic journals, write instructions for how to program a computer, keep a journal, etc. The possibilities are endless and do not need to be confined to a portion of a language arts curriculum.

Please note: The focus of the writing and composition section of this scope and sequence is on creativity and composition, not the physical act of writing. If your child struggles with the physical act of writing, please take a look at Judi Munday's [Special Needs Lessons 15 and 16](#) for alternative ways you can help your child express his or her thoughts.

Writing and Composition

Kindergarten

Since handwriting is still a developing skill at this stage, the focus here is more on creativity and composition. Encourage students to dictate sentences they compose and complete sentence starters you give to them. Spelling should not be corrected at this time. Students should be encouraged to “spell it as it sounds” to promote sound discrimination in words.

1st Grade

Students should practice completing sentences, short stories, and rhymes that they are given. They should practice writing descriptions of things they see or experience. They should practice creative writing by creating journal entries, stories, poems, newspaper articles, letters, or anything else they enjoy. They should also be gently introduced to the concept of the writing process—formulating ideas, writing a draft, revising and editing a draft, and creating the final piece. This should be done very naturally at this stage without causing the young writer stress or worry.

On SchoolhouseTeachers.com

Here to Help Writing Flights 1–3, Paragraph Level, are uniquely suited to foster the natural integration of creativity and composition that is encouraged for this age. The three courses may be taken in any order in 1st–3rd grade:

[Here to Help Writing Flight 1, Paragraph Level](#): 32 weeks

[Here to Help Writing Flight 2, Paragraph Level](#): 32 weeks

[Here to Help Writing Flight 3, Paragraph Level](#): 32 weeks

Grammar

1st Grade

First graders need to learn:

- basic rules of capitalization such as capitalizing the first word in a sentence, proper names, the pronoun *I*, days of the week, and months of the year
- a sentence starts with a capital letter and ends with punctuation: period, question mark, or exclamation point
- commas are used in dates and in series, and apostrophes are used in contractions and possessives
- the job of nouns, verbs, and adjectives
- how to make a complete sentence
- synonyms (same meaning words), antonyms (opposites), and homonyms (same sound words)
- adding -s to regular nouns to make them plural
- an introduction to what syllables are
- the idea of comparative and superlative words
- how words use suffixes and prefixes
- what a compound word is

On [SchoolhouseTeachers.com](https://www.schoolhouseteachers.com)

[Schoolhouse Grammar: First Grade](#) (iST): a year's worth of bite-sized lessons

Students can even have fun *reading* about grammar! Check out the [Book Lists for Families](#) unit about Spelling and Grammar.

Listening and Speaking Skills

1st Grade

- Listen to, restate, and follow two- and three-step oral directions
- Read aloud to others
- Creatively reenact stories
- Memorize and recite short poems, rhymes, and Scriptures
- Listen for enjoyment to many kinds of stories, poems, nursery rhymes, folktales, etc.
- Listen to stories for comprehension, interpreting and answering questions about what the student has heard
- Dictating words, phrases, and sentences for someone to write down
- Describe an experience or share an idea

On SchoolhouseTeachers.com

[Beginning Listening & Speaking Skills](#): 30 daily activities (6 weeks) for Kindergarten–1st grade

Additionally, you can find resources for listening for enjoyment and comprehension in the [Literacy Center](#) on SchoolhouseTeachers.com.

Research Skills

Kindergarten–2nd Grade

- Learn to identify the parts of a book: cover, title, title page, author, and illustrator
- Read a color key
- Find information using the table of contents, chapter headings, index, or glossary
- Understand the main difference between books that tell stories (fiction) and books that share information (nonfiction)
- Beginning dictionary skills including using guide words, understanding alphabetical order, learning about the parts of an entry, and using them to find definitions and check spelling
- Learn the basics of what a thesaurus is and how to use one to find synonyms and antonyms

On SchoolhouseTeachers.com

Several of these skills are covered in the SchoolhouseTeachers.com [Literacy Center](#).

[Ditch the Desk](#): stand-alone unit on becoming an Author and Illustrator

Foreign Language

Many families introduce foreign language instruction during the elementary years, often through songs, vocabulary games, and cultural exposure. This early introduction builds interest and familiarity. More formal instruction typically begins in middle school, where students begin developing foundational communication skills and an understanding of language structure.

High school graduation requirements for foreign language vary by state. A common benchmark for graduation or college admission is the completion of at least one year of a foreign language. Some states also recognize American Sign Language (ASL) as fulfilling this requirement.

SchoolhouseTeachers.com offers a number of foreign language options, include Spanish and Korean. To ensure visibility and clarity, our English as a Second Language (ESL) courses are also grouped under Foreign Language rather than Language Arts. This helps families locate appropriate instruction based on student needs, whether they are learning a new language or acquiring English as an additional language.

ESL Courses on SchoolhouseTeachers.com:

- [ESL for Beginners](#): 5 full levels of instruction, each with 12 interactive audio lessons suitable for K-5th grade
- [ESL Language Arts](#): 18 weeks of text-based lessons for the whole family
- [ESL Vocabulary](#): 8 weeks of text-based lessons for the whole family
- Find courses with Spanish components in our [Educación en Casa en Español](#) Center.

Foreign Language

1st-8th Grade

Foreign Language instruction in elementary and middle school is optional and should focus on:

- Introductions
- Basic vocabulary (colors, numbers, etc.)
- Cultural awareness
- Communication skills

On SchoolhouseTeachers.com

[Elementary Spanish](#): 34 video-based lessons for 1st-6th grades

[Latvian](#): 32 video-based lessons for 1st-12th grades

[French for All Ages](#): 8 levels of text- and audio-based instruction, each covering approximately 1 school year, for 1st-12th grades

[Beginning Latin](#): 24 video-based lessons for 3rd-12th grades

[Latin II](#): 26 video-based lessons for 8th-12th grades

Find more Foreign Language resources in our [ESL & Foreign Language Center](#).

Health

Every curriculum approaches health a little differently. Some incorporate it with science from the very beginning. Some incorporate it with science and anatomy in higher grades. You may enjoy the [Book Lists for Families](#) selections for Healthy Reads! Famous Doctors, Nurses, and Researchers. Below, you will find an outline of some suggested health topics to incorporate each year.

You'll find in-depth information about how to determine your child's fitness goals and guide them on their way to developing and maintaining a healthy lifestyle in our [Physical Education Center](#), where we have material for all ages. We'll also help you set goals such as:

- Engaging in physical activity with competence and confidence
- Experiencing physical activity in a variety of environments
- Understanding the importance and benefits (physical, emotional, social) of a lifestyle that includes physical activity
- Incorporating regular physical activity into your family's lifestyle
- Achieving and maintaining physical fitness

Health

Kindergarten

Understand that good nutrition, the right amount of sleep, hygiene, and exercise are important for our health.

On [SchoolhouseTeachers.com](https://www.schoolhouseteachers.com)

[Home Economics: Self Management](#): Weeks 1–4 incorporate health topics for Kindergarten–4th grade
[Kindergarten Health](#): 6-week course

Additionally, [SchoolhouseTeachers.com](https://www.schoolhouseteachers.com) offers [Nourishing Nuggets](#), [Healthy Eating for Families](#), and [Family Fitness](#) classes that are designed to be done as a family with adaptations for children of any age.

1st Grade

Continue learning why good nutrition and hygiene, as well as the right amount of sleep and exercise, are important for your health. Learn how to take care of your teeth, how to have good posture, and how to take care of your body, clothes, and home. Learn how to stay safe at home and away from home (Stranger Danger, on the playground, etc.). Understand how to use good manners at home and in public.

On [SchoolhouseTeachers.com](https://www.schoolhouseteachers.com)

[Growing Healthy in First Grade](#): 9 weekly lessons

Students may enjoy Learning Ladders—Play Sports, a stand-alone eBook in [Unit Studies: Health and Safety](#).

Additionally, [SchoolhouseTeachers.com](https://www.schoolhouseteachers.com) offers [Nourishing Nuggets](#), [Healthy Eating for Families](#), and [Family Fitness](#) classes that are designed to be done as a family with adaptations for children of any age.

History

The approaches to teaching history are varied, but for the purposes of this scope and sequence, we offer an outline of two main tracks: **traditional** (following a generally chronological approach to US history and a regional approach to world history) and **classical** (a series of cycles that follows a chronological approach, with each cycle through the topics going into more depth). Remember that you can never teach every moment of history! Help your children understand the framework of history so they can continue to build on that knowledge for the rest of their lives.

Traditional Track

Kindergarten

Early American History (pre-Columbian period to the Revolutionary War)

3rd Grade

New World Explorers; Native Peoples; 13 US Colonies; Industrial Revolution; Europe (Renaissance to the early 19th century)

6th Grade

American History (Post-Civil War through World War I and Women's Suffrage, 1860s-1919); Ancient History (AD 400 to Pre-Renaissance)

9th Grade

Some curriculums divide world history into two high school years, 9th and 10th grade. Some leave one year open for state history study or specialized study and review world history in 10th grade

12th Grade

American Government and Economics

1st Grade

Early American History (pre-Columbian period to the US Constitution)

4th Grade

American History (Great Awakening to the Age of Jackson, 1720-1845); Early and Medieval Africa; Colonization and Movements Toward Independence in Central and South America

7th Grade

American History (Roaring Twenties through Post-World War II); World History (Renaissance to Early 20th Century)

10th Grade

World History (ancient to modern)

2nd Grade

American History (Constitutional Convention to late 19th century)

5th Grade

American History (Pre-Civil War through Reconstruction, 1820-1877); Ancient History through the Fall of Rome

8th Grade

Modern American History (Post-World War II to present); Modern World History (1900 to present)

11th Grade

American History (from discovery to post-WWII)

History

1st Grade (Traditional)

Early American History (pre-Columbian period to the US Constitution)

Develop a deeper understanding of Early American History by continuing to learn about:

- Columbus and Native Americans
- Early Spanish and English settlements
- Historical figures such as John Smith, Pocahontas, Squanto, Daniel Boone, Lewis and Clark
- Famous Americans such as Johnny Appleseed, Davy Crockett, and those connected to holidays
- National symbols and figures: US flag, president, vice president, patriotic songs, and other symbols
- American folktales such as Paul Bunyan, Pecos Bill, John Henry
- Early wars including the French and Indian War and American Revolution
- The problem of slavery

1st Grade (Classical)

Ancient History (from Creation to AD 476)

Demonstrate knowledge of writings, ways of life, government, wars, and major contributions of this period:

- The lands and events of the Old Testament period including Creation, the Flood, the Tower of Babel, the patriarchs, the period of the Exodus, the reign of King David, the Divided Kingdom of Israel, the fall of Israel to Assyria and Babylon, and the Exile
- Mesopotamians and Sumerians
- Ancient Egypt including Nefertiti, Tutankhamen, and Ramses II
- Ancient China including the Shang and Zhou Dynasties
- Ancient Greece including Homer, the Olympic Games, Athens and Sparta, the Golden Age of Athens
- Ancient Rome including its founding and the birth of the Roman Republic
- The Golden Age of India

History

1st Grade

On [SchoolhouseTeachers.com](https://www.schoolhouseteachers.com)

Traditional:

[ABC with ME: History](#): 26-week introduction to figures in American history

[American History for Beginners](#): 34 weeks covering Columbus to the US Constitution

[Discovering American Folktales](#): 7 weekly lessons

Classical:

[Ancient History for Elementary](#): 36 weeks covering the key objectives listed except for the New Testament period. The lands and events of the New Testament period including the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ, the Early Church, and the missionary journeys of Paul are covered in a variety of our Bible classes.

Additional History Resources

[American History in Picture Books](#): this series of activities and discussion questions based on picture books is a great introduction to history for students in 1st–5th grade

[Drive Thru History: Bible Backroads](#): video-based course for 6th–12th grade on the New Testament books

[Drive Thru History: Bible Unearthed – Biblical Archaeology](#): video-based course for 4th–12th grade

[Church History](#): 12 weeks for 9th–12th grade

[Fashions in History](#): 11 weekly lessons plus numerous optional extension activities for 3rd–12th grade

[Hands-On Notebooking Across the United States](#): state-by-state notebooking for Kindergarten–2nd grade

[History of Air Travel](#): 5 eBooks unit study designed for 5th–6th grade

[History of Christianity](#): video-based course for 9th–12th grade exploring the impact of Christianity on various points of history

[Lapbooking Through the Ages](#): 13 lapbooks for 1st–5th grade on a variety of history topics

[Life of Abraham Lincoln](#): 12-week study for 2nd–9th grade

[Native American History: An Introduction](#): 18 weeks designed for 7th–9th grade

[This Day in History](#): (all ages) collection of resources to bring history to life every day of the year

[Writing On This Day In History](#): collection of history-themed writing prompts for every day of the year; designed for 7th–10th grade

[Women Through History](#): 29 weeks for 8th–12th grade

(cont.)

Additional History Resources (cont.)

[Unit Studies: History](#)

- All About Inventions: for 2nd–5th grade – take a fun look at some modern inventions like bubble gum
- A Timeline of Hieroglyphics to Hypertext: A Timeline of the Written Word for 4th–6th grade
- A Timeline of Smoke Signals to Smartphones: ... Long-Distance Communication for 4th–6th grade
- A Timeline of Stargazing to Space Travel: A Timeline of Space Exploration for 4th–6th grade
- Learning Ladders: Inventions for 1st–2nd grade
- Presidents of the Past for 2nd–5th grade
- The Submarine: A Legend Before Its Time for 3rd–7th grade

[Unit Studies: Geography](#)

- Land of Liberty: Liberia for 4th–6th grade

[Unit Studies: Social Studies](#)

- Learning Ladders: Famous Buildings for 1st–2nd grade

You may also enjoy [Book Lists for Families](#) for Black History Month, Courage, Hero Hurrah! and World War II.

World Book Student has a [biography center](#) where you can search more than 10,000 famous people or generate lists of people based on job or achievement, country or cultural heritage, and time period. For example, students could find female explorers or male English scientists of the 1800s.

[World Book Timelines](#) includes hundreds of timelines, thousands of events, and the ability to build or customize your own timeline. Some of the premade timelines include timelines of US, African, Asian, Australian, Canadian, European, Latin American, Middle East, and New Zealand history; US military history; the history of explorers; world history; history of science and inventions; and the history of literature.

World Book Advanced includes a [Teaching with Documents](#) series of lessons on military history from Charlemagne to Vietnam.

Geography

Some curricula treat geography as a subject separate from history in Kindergarten–8th grade, while others incorporate it into historical studies. For example, any time the nation of China is studied is a perfect time to explore the physical characteristics and boundaries of the nation. This makes geography interesting and relevant for the students. However, there is some basic geography that can be studied independently from historical studies. Here are some of the goals included in various curricula.

You may also enjoy [Book Lists for Families](#) selections on Africa, Florida, and Travel.

Geography

1st Grade

- Learn about different types of maps (atlases, globes, etc.)
- Learn how to understand a basic map key (water, land, rivers, etc.)
- Learn about the compass rose and cardinal directions (north, south, east, and west)
- Memorize the seven continents and where they are on a map
- Memorize the five oceans and where they are on a map
- Locate the United States, Canada, and Mexico on a map

On SchoolhouseTeachers.com

[All About Maps](#): Unit 1: self-paced unit

All About the World: Grade 1: self-paced unit in [Unit Studies: Geography](#)

[Living Geography](#): 16 weekly lessons

World Book [Early Learning](#) has short videos about places around the world.

[World Book Kids](#) includes two mapping your environment projects under Doodle and Design in Activities.

Additionally, SchoolhouseTeachers.com has a number of supplemental geography resources for your family to enjoy. You will find these on the page titled Additional Geography Resources that is included with this scope and sequence. There are printable maps, outline maps and flags, an atlas, interactive maps, and more in the map resources featured in several of the [World Book Online](#) resources and fun geography games in [World Book Kids](#).

Additional Geography Resources

[Everyday Explorers-Australia/New Zealand](#): 7 monthly units for K–12th grade

[Everyday Explorers-Canada](#): 11 monthly units for K–12th grade

[Everyday Explorers-USA](#): 22 monthly units for K–12th grade

[Exploring Elementary World Geography](#): 7 units for 1st–4th grade

[Ayo's Awesome Adventures Around the World for Kids](#): 10 eBooks for 2nd–4th grade

[Asia: Trade Route Safari](#) (also included with Additional History Resources: 38 weeks for 2nd–5th grade

[Wonders of the World](#) (iST): 5 weeks for 3rd–5th grade

[Let's Visit Denmark](#): 9-week study for 3rd–6th grade

[Lapbooking](#): 4-week unit on London and Buckingham Palace for 3rd–7th grade

Geograquizzes: Geography Quizzes and Activities for 6th–9th grade* in [Unit Studies: Geography](#)

[Kinetic Connections](#): offers tips to help parents teach geography to hands-on learners

[Geography of the Bible](#): video series for high school

There are further resources in [Unit Studies: Geography](#) including Cruisin' the Country, Geography Study with George Frederic Handel, Geography Study with Missionary William Carey, Military Geography, Physical Geography of Africa, and Travel the World.

*One way to use the geography quizzes as part of your curriculum is to use the answer key as the lesson to spark independent research. For example, using the World Commodities Quiz, students can learn that Venezuela exports iron ore, Russia exports natural gas, etc. They can use that as a springboard to learn more about these specific countries and exports, write a paragraph or more on each, and then take the quiz at the end.

Social Studies

Some curricula treat social studies as a subject separate from history, while others incorporate it into historical studies. The ways in which social studies can be combined with history are virtually endless. When you study a period in history, look at as many aspects of daily life as you can. What jobs did people have? What were their families like? What kinds of homes did they live in?

Three key areas emphasized in social studies are cultural awareness, responsible citizenship, and foundational economics.

Here are some specific goals included in various curricula that do not always fall into a course of historical studies.

Social Studies

Kindergarten–1st Grade

- Your family structure
- Community helpers
- Community jobs and how they function (fire and police stations, post office, bank, newspaper, public transportation, telephone company, garbage disposal, etc.)
- American holidays and celebrations
- Things that make you special and unique
- Life on a farm

On SchoolhouseTeachers.com

Many of these topics are covered in the 34-week course [Kindergarten Social Studies](#). Additional topics are studied in the 9-week course [Exploring Social Studies for Beginners](#) for Kindergarten–1st grade. Firefighters, law enforcement, and EMTs are discussed in [Unit Studies: Social Studies](#) – Hometown Heroes, a three-week study for 1st–3rd grade. You can also learn about community helpers with [Who Are Community Helpers?](#) as well as [Unit Studies: Social Studies](#) – Learning Ladders—Jobs to Do eBook. [World Book Early Learning](#) has short videos about people and occupations and interactive learning tools about people at work.

This is also a perfect time to go on field trips so students can see first–hand how their community works.

You may also enjoy [Book Lists for Families](#) selections about Patriotism and Courage.

Citizenship

Some curricula include with its history/social studies for K–6th grades specific goals regarding teaching citizenship. This can be done in a structured way or in an unstructured way as you discuss voting, respecting authority, working together, and other such topics. Here are some of the goals included in various curricula.

Kindergarten

Understand why families and groups of any kind need rules. Talk about why it's important to work together. Discuss the kind of rules that keep people safe and happy.

On [SchoolhouseTeachers.com](https://www.schoolhouseteachers.com)

Safety rules and signs, civic leaders, and authority figures are discussed in the 34-week course [Kindergarten Social Studies](#). You may also enjoy [Book Lists for Families](#) for Civics, Parts One and Two.

1st Grade

Talk about the types of rules your community has (speed limits, where to ride bicycles, etc.). Discuss why they are important and how they help keep things orderly and safe and help people avoid or deal with conflicts. Memorize the Pledge of Allegiance. Talk about who your community, state, and national leaders are and what their jobs are.

On [SchoolhouseTeachers.com](https://www.schoolhouseteachers.com)

[Exploring Citizenship in First Grade](#): 9 weekly lessons

You may also enjoy [Book Lists for Families](#) for Civics, Parts One and Two.

Economics

Some curricula treat and include with their K-6th grade history/social studies specific goals regarding the teaching of economics. This can be done in a structured way or in an unstructured way as you discuss daily life, budgeting, the needs of the household, and other related topics with your children. You may enjoy [Book Lists for Families](#) selections on Entrepreneurship & Work Ethic and Thrift & Resourcefulness. Here are some of the goals included in various curricula.

Kindergarten

Discuss the difference between a *need* and a *want*. Talk about how to tell them apart and how to choose between them. Learn about some of the jobs people do to earn money and provide for their families.

On [SchoolhouseTeachers.com](#)

These topics are incorporated into the 34-week [Kindergarten Social Studies](#) course.

1st Grade

Talk about scarcity of goods and what it means. Discuss how there is not an unlimited supply of various resources. Talk about what it means to save money. Discuss how people can utilize the barter system/trade things other than money (such as time, resources, skills, etc.) for the goods that they need.

On [SchoolhouseTeachers.com](#)

[Elementary Economics for First Grade](#): 9 weeks

Math

Mathematics is a subject built layer by layer, with each concept forming a brick in a student's foundation of understanding. When even one of these foundational concepts is weak or missing, it can impact the learner's ability to progress confidently to the next level. That's why a sequential approach to math instruction is critical. SchoolhouseTeachers.com offers full-year, grade-level math courses that are designed to follow a logical progression, ensuring that students develop skills in the right order for long-term success.

The Scope and Sequence for Math is a valuable companion to these full courses. It provides a clear, organized list of key math concepts by grade level, helping parents identify what students should typically be learning at each stage. These overviews can serve both as a planning tool and as an informal checklist: to see whether your child is on track, to determine readiness for the next grade level, or to identify concepts that may need reteaching or reinforcement.

Because students don't always learn in a straight line, gaps can develop over time—especially if they've changed curricula, had an uneven learning experience, or struggled with certain topics. The scope and sequence helps bring clarity to these situations. When a student is struggling, parents can refer to the list of grade-level skills to pinpoint exactly where understanding broke down. Then, instead of having to repeat an entire year's course, parents can use ST's short, single-skill math resources to target specific areas for remediation. This flexible, skill-by-skill support complements our sequential courses and empowers parents to tailor instruction to their child's unique needs. (For more information about skills-oriented courses, see our [Focused Learning Center for Math](#).)

In short, the Scope and Sequence for Math is more than just an outline—it's a strategic tool. Whether you're choosing the right course, building a custom learning plan, or evaluating progress, this guide helps you see the big picture while also zeroing in on the details. When in doubt, use it as a roadmap: it can show you where your student has been, where they're going, and whether any detours are needed along the way.

Math

Kindergarten

Concepts at this grade level are best learned by using hands-on methods to include objects that students can manipulate. Sets of small objects for students to use, such as beans, erasers, toy cars, etc., would be beneficial to have on hand as these ideas are presented.

Counting to 100 by ones and tens

Recognize, name, and write numbers 1-100

Understand the concept of zero

Ordinal positions from first-tenth; also first, next, last

Understand daytime/nighttime

Compose and decompose numbers with objects

Understand temperature (hot/cold)

Use tally marks to represent numbers to at least 10

Recognize and extend simple patterns

Addition sums to 10

Basic addition and subtraction word problems

Read and write time to the hour

Count forward from any number (1-100)

Represent numbers with tangible objects

Estimate small numbers of items in a set

Understand parts and whole, equal/unequal parts

Identify coins; count pennies

Classify objects by attributes (shape, color, size, etc.)

Understand sequence of events

Build shapes from objects

Basic addition concepts

Basic subtraction concepts

Place value: tens and ones

Calendars (days of the week, months, seasons)

Compare objects by length, width, or capacity (longer, shorter, bigger, smaller, heavier, lighter, taller, shorter, more, and less)

Estimate simple measurements (longer, shorter, more, less, heavier, lighter, holds more/less, takes more/less time)

Spatial Relationships (top, middle, bottom, left, right, over, under, inside, outside, on, off, front, back)

2-D and 3-D Shapes (circle, square, triangle, rectangle, hexagon, sphere, cylinder, box shapes (rectangular solid, cube), cone)

On SchoolhouseTeachers.com

[Building a Foundation with Kindergarten Math](#): 36-week course covering the traditional topics listed above

SchoolhouseTeachers.com has [How to Teach Elementary Math](#), [Kinetic Connections](#), and [Hands-On Math Help with Cuisenaire Rods](#) to help parents teach elementary math skills. There are hundreds of fun printable games to help reinforce elementary math concepts in [Everyday Games](#) and a number of additional supplemental math resources for your family to enjoy. You will find these on the page titled Additional Math Resources that is included with this Scope and Sequence.

For basic addition facts, look for Silly School Songs: Addition Songs in [Unit Studies: Math](#).

Additional Math Resources

[Book Lists for Families](#): book lists for Math at various reading levels

[Covering All the Bases: Geometrical Area and Volume](#) (iST): 7-week video course for 4th–8th grade

[Let's Do Math Outside](#): 24 worksheets and activities for 1st–4th grade

[Siyavula International Homeschool Math Curriculum for Grades R–12](#): complete grade-level curricula using comma decimal separators from preschool through high school.

[Focused Learning Center-Math](#): round up of all math resources on the site plus extra teaching helps

Math-focused units in [Ditch the Desk](#):

- Weeks 3-4 of Spring unit for 2nd–5th grade
- Week 2 of Test Taking unit for 2nd–5th grade
- Baking with Math single unit for 3rd–5th grade

Skill building:

- [Decimal Workshop](#): 10 lessons for 3rd–5th grade
- [Multiplication and Division Practice Unit](#): 24 lessons for 3rd–5th grade
- [Whole Numbers Place Value](#): 11 lessons for 3rd–5th grade
- [Fraction Workshop](#): 12 lessons for 3rd–6th grade
- [Understanding Fractions Workshop](#): 11 lessons and games for 3rd–5th grade
- [Daily Math](#): more than 200 supplemental worksheets for 3rd–8th grade reviewing a wide range of skills
- [Everyday Games](#): 100s of supplemental math worksheets for 1st–4th grade

Additional Math Resources (cont.)

The following can be found in [Unit Studies: Math](#):

Teach Kids Algebra: help introducing algebra concepts to younger elementary students

Middle School Math Help:

- Fractions, 4-week unit for 3rd–6th grade
- Equations, 4-week unit for 4th–6th grade
- Probability and Statistics, 3-week unit for 4th–6th grade

High School Math Help:

- Finding Areas Using Reasoning, single unit for 10th–12th grade
- Pythagorean Theorem, 5-lesson unit for 10th–12th grade
- Finding Areas Without Formulas, 5-lesson unit for 10th–12th grade
- Lesson on Pi, 2-lesson unit for 10th–12th grade

Adding and Subtracting with Regrouping: for 2nd–5th grade

Blaise Pascal: Mathematician Extraordinaire: a biography for 3rd–7th grade:

Converting Units in the Metric System: for 6th–8th grade: teaches how to convert using a table and by cross canceling

Fun with Shapes: Geometry for 4th–5th grade

How to Cross Cancel Fractions: for 4th–8th grade: teaches a skill important to converting units and learning algebra.

Scientific Notation Explained: for 6th–8th grade: important for both science and math

Silly School Songs: review and memorization for 1st–5th grade

Science

1st Grade

Life Science

- Plants
 - Key vocabulary: seeds, bulbs, flower, pistil, stamen, stem, roots
- Animals
 - Types of animals: zoo, circus, farm, pets, woodland, birds
 - Habitats
 - Classification of animals
- Five Senses
- Anatomy
 - Introduction of body systems and their roles

Earth Science

- Volcanoes
- Weather
- Seasons

Physical Science

- States of Matter
 - Key vocabulary: solid, liquid, gas, mixture, sink, float
- Types of Energy
 - Key vocabulary: heat, light, transparent, opaque, reflect, sound, vibrate
- Astronomy
 - Key vocabulary: sun, moon, planets, day, night, revolve, year
- Static Electricity
- Magnetic vs. Non-Magnetic
- Temperature

Science

1st Grade

On SchoolhouseTeachers.com

Life, Earth, and Physical Science

[Exploring God's World with First Grade Science](#) (iST): 32 weekly lessons that cover the traditional life science and earth science topics listed above.

[Fun with Science](#): 18 weekly lessons that explore body systems and their roles, volcanoes, and the physical science topics

Life Science

[Nature/Outdoors](#): 4-week study of traveling seeds; four-week study of wildflowers; four-week study of trees; four-week study of evergreens

[Lapbooking](#): 2-week unit Birds of the Air for elementary

[God's Beautiful Creatures](#): 10 eBooks with printable and hands-on activities

What Living Things Need: eBook in [Unit Studies: Science](#)

[All About Animals](#): 14 units that utilize World Book Online eBooks

[World Book Early Learning](#) has short videos about our senses and how our bodies work.

The [Content Worlds](#) section of World Book Early Learning has interactive learning tools about a wide number of animals, animal homes, plants, and our bodies.

Earth Science

Weather: eBook in [Unit Studies: Science](#)

The [Content Worlds](#) section of World Book Early Learning has interactive learning tools about weather and seasons.

Additional Science Resources

[Ditch the Desk](#): Test Taking: Bonus Lesson (Week 4) and Making a Lava Lamp Video for elementary

[Everyday Astronomy](#): 36 weeks for Kindergarten–12th grade with age-appropriate work designed to be done as a family

[Lapbooking Through Science](#): 6 mini lapbooks for 1st–3rd grade

[Let's Do Science Outside](#): 20 worksheets for 1st–4th grade

Light Studies: 2 units in [Unit Studies: Science](#) for 1st–5th grade

[Chemistry Help](#): 36 weekly lessons

[Science Experiments with Jason Lindsey](#): 20+ video-based science experiments with household items for 1st–5th grade

[Science Experiments with World Book](#): easy hands-on experiments for 1st–5th grade

Diet Pop and Mentos: downloadable experiment guide in [Unit Studies: Science](#)

[Nature/Outdoors](#): 4-week studies of sand, animal tracks, the night sky, rainbows, winter, and creeks

The Story of Energy: eBook in [Unit Studies: Science](#) that explores the discovery of electricity and natural gas, the long road to distributing those resources, the deregulation of the phone system in the past, and what the deregulation of energy may mean for the future

[Kinetic Connections – Science](#): parent helps for teaching science

[Focused Learning Center – Science](#): round up of all science resources on the site

[Book Lists for Families](#): see lists of books on physical science fun, fun with life science, nature exploration, and science

Additional Resources for Elementary

Ditch the Desk

Enjoy this [Ditch the Desk](#) unit all about spring!

Lapbooks

Enjoy this [lapbooking unit](#) as you study Philemon.

Kinetic Connections

Enjoy this series of [teaching ideas for holidays, seasons, and special occasions](#).

Unit Studies and More

Don't miss the unit studies on Following the Iditarod, From Tree to Table: A Maple Syrup Story, and The Appalachian Trail in our [Unit Studies: Various section](#). You can also find , Brain Teasers, Brain Ticklers, On the Move, Tough Trucks, Cranberry Christmas, The History of Hanukkah: Why Christmas is on the 25th, and A Bouquet of Valentine's Day Fun in our [Unit Studies and More section](#).

Daily Puzzlers

[Daily Puzzlers](#) are language-based logic puzzles that vary in difficulty and include puzzles for 2nd through 12th grade