

Drawn into the Heart of Reading  
By Carrie Austin, M. Ed.

Level 2-3,  
Level 4-5,  
Level 6-7-8,  
Teachers Manual

The name of this curriculum is what drew me in, but the quality and ease of use is what made me stay. I love to read!!! Reading is a skill that is necessary to instill, but most of all, I want my children to find a love for words and the ideas conveyed by the printed page.

Unit studies by nature can be used with students of multiple ages at the same time. However, this is the first program I've found that has the teacher's planning work completed, yet we get to choose the books. This is fabulous when you find an obscure book, writer, or illustrator, or perhaps your children fall in love with a book and you'd like to base a study around it. This series will enable you to do just that without having to write your own unit study.

One of the most important elements to a Christian family can be the respect given to Biblical principles. Drawn into the Heart of Reading includes reference to scripture verses and specific days devoted to scripture study as it relates to your story.

Now to give a snapshot of Drawn into the Heart of Reading: amazingly, this program is designed for grades 2-8. The teachers' guide covers all grades in one manual. The student books are broken down into three separate books: Levels 2 & 3, Levels 4 & 5, and Levels 6, 7, & 8.

Nine genre units covered are:

- Biography
- Adventure
- Historical Fiction
- Fantasy
- Mystery
- Folk Tales
- Nonfiction
- Humor
- Realistic Fiction

Some of the types of activities included are: pre-reading activities, guided literature discussions, evaluation of a character's actions in light of God's word, and creative projects.

"The instruction and activities are meant to enhance the reading experience, without dissecting the text until the pleasure of reading is lost." Moreover, the activities in this series encourage the student to dig into their own heart and life thus deepening their experience with the books they read. I truly look forward to Mrs. Austin's next work.