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Introduction

Complete Plans

Beyond Little Hearts for His Glory features 34 units with complete daily plans. These plans are designed to provide an enjoyable, balanced approach to learning. Little preparation is required, and all of the skill areas are covered. Each day of plans is divided into the following 2 parts: “Learning the Basics” and “Learning Through History”.

Learning the Basics

The “Learning the Basics” part of the program focuses on language arts and math. It includes activities for spelling, poetry, copywork, basic grammar, mechanics, and usage, math exploration, and choices for reading and storytime.

Learning Through History

The “Learning Through History” part of the program gives a chronological overview of early American history from 1565-1860. The daily history stories emphasize God’s plan throughout history. A weekly Bible passage wraps up each unit by focusing on an example of Godly character that corresponds with the history stories. The following areas are linked with the daily stories: Bible memory work, Bible study, devotional topics, science discovery, art projects, geography, timeline and history activities, visual history, gross motor skills, and music.

Easy to Use

Each unit contains 5 days of instruction. Easy daily plans are divided into 9 boxes, which can be spaced throughout the day as time allows.

Quick Activities

Beyond Little Hearts for His Glory was written with the busy homeschool teacher in mind. It provides a way to do great activities without all of the usual planning and preparation. Quick and easy activities require little or no preparation and use materials you’re likely to have on hand.

Fun Ideas

Engaging daily lessons take approximately 120-150 minutes to complete. They are filled with ideas that get kids moving, exploring, and learning in meaningful ways.

Flexible

Lesson plans are written to allow you to customize the program to suit your child’s needs. A choice of resources is provided. Choose from three different sets of read-alouds, three levels of reading instruction, three different math programs (with two levels each), and two levels of spelling – or, you can use your own resources in these areas. No matter what you choose, *Beyond Little Hearts for His Glory* pulls it all together for you!

Resources

All of the resources noted in *Beyond Little Hearts for His Glory* are available from Heart of Dakota Publishing. Order resources online at www.heartofdakota.com, by

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mail using the printable online order form, or by telephone at (605) 428-4068. Resource titles are listed on the next page.

History Resources (considered necessary)

**American Pioneers and Patriots* by Caroline D. Emerson (Christian Liberty Press, 2002)

**Stories of the Pilgrims* by Margaret B. Pumphrey, Revised by Michael J. McHugh and Elizabeth Arwine (Christian Liberty Press, 1991, 2007)

**Boys and Girls of Colonial Days* by Carolyn Sherwin Bailey (Christian Liberty Press, 2002)

Note: There are two versions of this book with a 2002 copyright. The newer version uses a larger font. The newer version is the one that matches the plans in *Beyond Little Hearts for His Glory*.

Visual History Set (provides living books that connect with the history)

**Visual History Set* (see www.heartofdakota.com for purchase of book set)

**Visual History Bookmark Set* by Carrie Austin and Shaw Austin (Heart of Dakota, 2023)

Poetry & Copywork Notebook (considered necessary)

**Copy the Classics* by Carrie Austin and Shaw Austin (Heart of Dakota Publishing, 2023)

Connecting Resources (provide text and music connections)

**Morning Bells* by Frances Ridley Havergal (SMF Press, 2011)

**God's Wonderful Works* by Eric D. Bristley and Edward J. Shewan (Christian Liberty Press, 1999)

**Hide 'Em In Your Heart Vol. II* by Steve Green (Sparrow, 2003)

Reading Choices (considered necessary choices)

*If your child is a beginning reader, choose one of the following phonics options:

1. *Real Phonics Book 1* and *Book 2* by Kallie Woods (Broden Books, 2011, 2012)
2. *The Reading Lesson* by Michael Levin and Charan Langton (Mountcastle Company, 2000)
3. *Reading Made Easy* by Valerie Bendt (Bendt Family Ministries, 2001)
4. Your own phonics program

*If your child is an emerging reader, choose one of the following emerging reader options:

1. *Scheduled Book Set for Emerging Reader's Set 1* by Carrie Austin (Heart of Dakota, Revised 2017, 2023)
2. Your own program

*If your child is a newly independent reader, choose one of the following options:

1. *Scheduled Book Set for Emerging Reader's Set 2* by Carrie Austin (Heart of Dakota, 2023)
2. Your own program

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Math Choices (considered necessary choices)

1. *Primary Mathematics 1A & 1B, U.S. Edition* by Singapore Ministry of Education (Times Media, 2003) **or** *Primary Mathematics 2A & 2B, U.S. Edition* by Singapore Ministry of Education (Times Media, 2003)
2. *Apologia Math Level 1* or *Level 2* by Kathryn Gomes (Apologia Educational Ministries, Inc., 2020)
3. *Math with Confidence Grade 1* or *Grade 2* by Kate Snow (Well-Trained Mind Press, 2021, 2022)
4. Your own math program

Read-Aloud Choices (considered necessary choices)

1. *Boy Set* (see www.heartofdakota.com for purchase of set)
2. *Girl Set* (see www.heartofdakota.com for purchase of set)
3. *Classic Set* (see www.heartofdakota.com for purchase of set)
4. Your own read-alouds (covering the nine different genres outlined in plans)

“Learning Through History” Components

Reading About History

The “Learning Through History” part of each unit has a theme centered around stories from early American history. The themes are organized in chronological order from the years 1565-1865. God’s plan is emphasized throughout the themes. History stories are read aloud to the students each day using the following resources: *American Pioneers and Patriots*, *Stories of the Pilgrims*, and *Boys and Girls of Colonial Days* by Christian Liberty Press. A weekly Bible passage wraps up each unit by focusing on an example of Godly character that corresponds with the history stories. These stories provide the focus for this part of the plans. The areas listed on this page are all linked to the daily stories.

Picture the Past

Daily readings from the “Visual History” Set use living books to provide a colorful visualization of the people, places, and events students are learning about in history. These beautiful read-alouds are matched week-by-week to the history themes in *Beyond Little Hearts for His Glory*.

The “Visual History” Set works alongside the history spines in “Reading About History” and also includes *Visual History Bookmarks* with daily questions and “Picture Clues” activities emphasizing the following skills:

- *making historical connections
- *practicing listening comprehension skills
- *answering guided reading questions
- *strengthening vocabulary skills
- *using contextual clues to improve understanding
- *building critical thinking skills through discussion
- *using picture clues to aid comprehension

Bible Memory Work

A new memory verse is introduced in each unit. Each memory verse has a practical meaning for young students, and also reinforces God’s plan throughout history. A variety of daily memory activities incorporate gross motor skills to help students enjoy memorizing these important verses.

Bible Study

Daily Bible study questions are meant to instill Biblical values by training children to read and reflect on God’s word. The questions work best with the King James or NIV version of the Bible. Each unit includes the following Bible study activities in coordination with the history stories:

- *Day 1: introduction and interpretation of the memory verse
- *Day 2: personal application of the memory verse
- *Day 3: observation of Godly character through devotional reading
- *Day 4: practical application of the devotional character trait
- *Day 5: exploration of a Bible passage focusing on Godly living

“Learning Through History” Components

(continued)

Devotional Activity

One day in each unit lists a text connection from *Morning Bells* by Frances Ridley Havergal. Each devotion is linked to the history theme, and also emphasizes basic Biblical lessons in an understandable way. A related narrative, corresponding Scripture verse, and a quote from a poem or hymn are part of each devotion.

Corresponding Music

Musical selections from *Hide ‘Em in Your Heart Volume II* by Steve Green correspond with the Bible memory verses in the program. The original songs recite the Bible verses using a variety of musical styles.

Art Activity

One day in each unit includes an art activity that reinforces the historical theme. These activities help students practice some of the basic skills needed to express themselves and create freely.

Science Discovery

Two days in each unit include short, discovery activities that are linked to the history readings. Hands-on exploration in the areas of life science, physical science, and earth science help children make connections to the world around them. *God’s Wonderful Works* by Christian Liberty Press is referenced as a science text connection for the lessons.

Geography Exploration

One day in each unit includes exploration of a geography concept that stems from the history story. Concepts range from learning about the continents and oceans, to tracing the routes of explorers, to reading maps, and to following directions. The included activities help students gain basic geography skills while learning about the world around them. A world map or globe and a map of the United States is needed for several of the geography activities.

Timeline and History Activities

One day in each unit includes a history activity that reinforces the history story. To understand the flow of history, students will keep a basic timeline of the major events studied throughout the year. The students will also participate in short engaging activities that make the history stories come alive.

“Learning the Basics” Components

Language Arts

For the language arts portion of each unit, four days are devoted to spelling and one day is devoted to basic grammar, mechanics, and usage skills. Daily copywork provides written language practice.

Spelling

Four days in each unit include spelling activities to guide students to spell words necessary for writing and daily use. A choice of two different word lists is provided in the Appendix for each unit. Word lists contain words from the Dolch word list, Fry’s word list, and other grade level lists of high frequency words.

Each unit emphasizes one spelling word pattern. Eight words on each list are pattern words. The other two spelling words on each list are target words that do not follow the spelling pattern. Spelling strategies are taught using a multi-sensory approach that emphasizes picturing the word mentally.

A brief scope and sequence of the spelling patterns is listed by unit below (Number ‘1’ corresponds to unit 1, number ‘2’ corresponds to unit 2, etc.):

- 1 - short ‘a’
- 2 - short ‘e’
- 3 - short ‘i’
- 4 - short ‘o’
- 5 - short ‘u’
- 6 - short vowel words ending in double consonants ‘ff’, ‘zz’, ‘ll’, ‘ss’
- 7 - review
- 8 - long ‘o’, ‘y’, and ‘e’ at the end of a word
- 9 - long ‘a’ formed by silent final ‘e’
- 10 - long ‘i’ formed by silent final ‘e’
- 11 - long ‘o’ formed by silent final ‘e’
- 12 - long ‘u’ formed by silent final ‘e’
- 13 - review
- 14 - ‘or’ as in ‘horn’
- 15 - ‘er’ as in ‘her’
- 16 - ‘ir’ as in ‘girl’
- 17 - ‘ar’ as in ‘farm’
- 18 - review
- 19 - long ‘a’ spelled ‘ay’ as in ‘day’
- 20 - long ‘a’ spelled ‘ai’ as in ‘sail’
- 21 - long ‘e’ spelled ‘ee’ as in ‘keep’
- 22 - long ‘e’ spelled ‘ea’ as in ‘eat’
- 23 - final ‘y’ that says long ‘e’ as in ‘baby’
- 24 - review
- 25 - long ‘o’ spelled ‘ow’ as in ‘grow’
- 26 - ‘ow’ as in ‘cow’
- 27 - ‘oo’ as in ‘moon’
- 28 - ‘oo’ as in ‘book’

“Learning the Basics” Components

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- 29 - ‘aw’ as in ‘saw’
- 30 - ‘oi’ or ‘oy’ as in ‘boil’ or ‘boy’
- 31 - review
- 32 - color words
- 33 - number words
- 34 - days of the week
- Extra: contractions

Note: See the Appendix for actual word lists for each of the spelling patterns listed above. If you have a spelling program that you prefer, feel free to substitute your own program for this part of the plans.

Grammar, Mechanics, and Usage

One day in each unit focuses on basic grammar, mechanics, and usage skills. Lessons are mainly oral using guided conversation between you and your child. The lessons are purposefully short and designed to focus on one rule or concept per lesson. In this manner, students are exposed to a variety of language skills in a low-key way. The concepts in the lessons are only introduced and are not meant to be mastered at this level.

A brief scope and sequence of the grammar, mechanics, and usage concepts is listed by unit below (Number ‘1’ corresponds to unit 1, number ‘2’ corresponds to unit 2, etc.):

- 1 - sentences and fragments
- 2 - run-on sentences
- 3 - sentences: subjects and predicates
- 4 - sentences: statements
- 5 - sentences: questions
- 6 - sentences: questions and statements
- 7 - sentences: commands
- 8 - sentences: commands
- 9 - sentences: exclamations
- 10 - sentences: exclamations and statements
- 11 - sentences: statements, questions, commands, exclamations
- 12 - nouns
- 13 - proper nouns: first names
- 14 - proper nouns: full names
- 15 - initials of full names
- 16 - capitalizing ‘I’
- 17 - proper nouns: names of days of the week
- 18 - proper nouns: names of days of the week
- 19 - proper nouns: names of the months
- 20 - proper nouns: names of the months
- 21 - writing dates
- 22 - common and proper nouns: places

“Learning the Basics” Components (continued)

- 23 - proper nouns: addresses of places
- 24 - common nouns: things
- 25 - plural nouns: adding ‘-s’ and ‘-es’
- 26 - commas in a series
- 27 - action verbs
- 28 - verbs: using ‘is’ and ‘are’
- 29 - verbs: using ‘was’ and ‘were’
- 30 - verbs: using ‘has’ and ‘have’
- 31 - contractions
- 32 - alphabetical order
- 33 - alphabetical order
- 34 - friendly letters

Poetry

A different classic poem is introduced each unit. These poems are beautifully illustrated and are contained within *Copy the Classics*. Each poem was chosen for its enduring quality and its ability to withstand the test of time. Many famous poets are represented, and the poems also reinforce the history theme in *Beyond Little Hearts for His Glory*. Highlighted text within each poem shows which lines are used for copywork throughout each week.

Copywork

Daily written language practice is provided four days in each week through copywork in *Copy the Classics*. By copying from a correctly written model, students gain practice in handwriting, spelling, grammar, capitalization, punctuation, and vocabulary. Copywork also prepares students to eventually write their own compositions.

Copy the Classics helps students develop writing skills through a built-in copywork progression. As copywork passages grow longer, provided lines gradually decrease in size to encourage students to write smaller. Shaded guide words are provided to aid students in this transition.

One day each week, as part of the grammar lessons in *Beyond Little Hearts for His Glory*, students will also copy a sentence or a list of words related to the grammar, usage, or mechanics concept covered in that unit.

Reading

A reading instruction reminder is listed in the plans daily. If your child is a beginning reader, choose one of the phonics programs suggested in the Appendix, or use your own. If your child is an emerging reader, follow the *Emerging Reader’s Set 1 Schedule*. If your child is a newly independent reader, follow the *Emerging Reader’s Set 2 Schedule*. Both the *Emerging Reader’s Set 1* and *Set 2*, along with their accompanying schedules and progress charts, are available from Heart of Dakota.

“Learning the Basics” Components

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Storytime

Daily storytime sessions are based on literature that is read aloud from the following nine genres: Biography, Adventure, Historical Fiction, Fantasy, Mystery, Nonfiction, Humor, Realistic Fiction, and Folk Tale. Each type of literature is read aloud for 20 days, except for Folk Tale which is read aloud for 10 days.

The instructions and activities are written so they may be used with any literature. This flexibility allows you to use your own discretion in selecting literature to read aloud to your students. The structure also allows you to select the pace at which you’ll complete your read aloud selection.

A suggested list of read-aloud titles is provided in the Appendix. It is an optional list to help you choose literature for each genre to read-aloud. Each book on the list was very carefully chosen as an excellent read-aloud for this listening level. For ease of use, Heart of Dakota sells three different packages (Boy Set, Girl Set, and Classic Set) of read-aloud selections on the website www.heartofdakota.com.

Each unit includes the following reading activities in coordination with the read-aloud assignments:

- *Day 1: introduce and study different types of literature
- *Day 2: model narration to foster comprehension
- *Day 3: identify and analyze a different story element for each genre
- *Day 4: relate personally to one Godly character trait, compare Biblical and book characters, and select one area to improve
- *Day 5: practice narration by retelling the story in a variety of ways

Math Exploration

A math instruction reminder is listed in the plans daily. *Beyond Little Hearts for His Glory* offers a choice of *Singapore Primary Mathematics*, *Apologia Math*, or *Math with Confidence*.

Both *Apologia Math* and *Math with Confidence* come with their own 4-day a week plan for math within their respective Teacher’s Guides. Both are excellent programs with a strong hands-on component. Either Level 1 or Level 2 is recommended for use with *Beyond Little Hearts for His Glory*.

Singapore Primary Mathematics 1A/1B comes with its own daily schedule available through Heart of Dakota with hands-on activities. These activities use concrete objects to introduce mathematical concepts through guided exploration. The activities replace the *1A/1B Textbooks* and provide a needed hands-on component for math at the primary level. A daily schedule for *Singapore Primary Math 2A/2B* is located in the Appendix of *Beyond Little Hearts for His Glory*.

If you have a different math program that you are already comfortable using, feel free to substitute it for the “Math Exploration” part of the plans.