

PARENT GUIDE



myWorld Social Studies

Homeschool bundle includes:

- Student Worktext
(as an eBook DVD for grade K)
- myStory Video DVD
- Teacher Resource Library DVD



Because You Know What Matters Most



Thank you for choosing Pearson to help you on your homeschool journey. Making the right decision about homeschooling can set your child on an exciting path to a lifetime of learning and success. Pearson makes it easy for you to inspire a joy of learning with flexible programs to fit your child's unique learning style. This built-in flexibility lets you set the schedule and the pace that works for you and your child. As you read through this guide and review the included materials, you'll experience how easy it is to personalize the curriculum to match your child's learning style and ensure success with our engaging programs.

Plus, you can rest assured that all of the fundamentals for success are included. The homeschool curriculum you have chosen has been thoughtfully developed and tested by seasoned professionals, to make sure your child receives the finest education.

Welcome to Pearson Homeschool!

Preparation

It is always an exciting time when you get to open the box with your new curriculum. All of the books and materials are colorful, the pages are crisp and they are filled with the possibilities of the coming year. The anticipation of using the books and teaching your child is new and fresh. Like the air after a spring shower, it is invigorating. You can't wait until you can get started.

Open the bundle of materials, flip through the pages of each book, take in how they look and feel. Get familiar with all of the components. Let your child share in the excitement and catch the enthusiasm you have for starting this new adventure. These will be your companions over the course of the next year.

Once you get familiar with the material, you may experience the overwhelming feeling that is common to homeschool parents: "How will I ever cover all of this material?" You may be flooded with insecurities that you don't know or remember the subject or content. All of these are normal thoughts and experiences for anyone who has homeschooled.

Remember the value of the journey you are on. Focus on the reasons you chose to homeschool in the first place, the daily interaction with your child, and teaching them how to learn. As the tutor, you as the parent don't have to know all of the material. It's fine to learn it with your child as you go through the material together. You are the guide for your child as you journey with them through the learning process.



Overview

The *myWorld Social Studies* Homeschool Bundle includes:

- Student Worktext (as a Student Edition DVD-ROM for grade K)
- myStory Video DVD
- Teacher Resource Library DVD

Everyone has a story. What's yours?

myWorld Social Studies utilizes storytelling to bring Social Studies content to life. Our innovative instruction is seamlessly integrated, providing a blended program that is engaging, effective and easy to use. *myWorld Social Studies* is designed to:

- Connect Social Studies content with literacy instruction
- Engage your child and advance their achievement
- Reduce your preparation time

Using the Materials

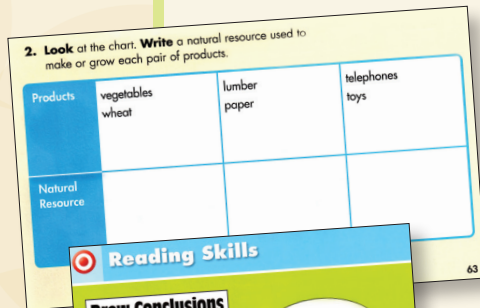
Student Interactive Worktext

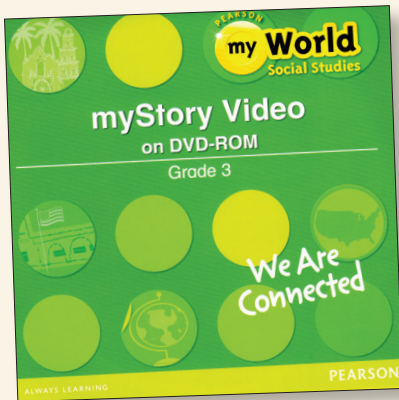
The Student Worktext encourages greater interaction with the content and more active reading leading to long term retention of skills and concepts. Your child will love writing, drawing, circling and underlining content as they **connect, experience** and **understand** the world of Social Studies. Please note that for Kindergarten you will have to print off the worktext pages from the DVD-ROM.

Each chapter begins with a myStory feature, a real life story that relates to the lesson providing the basis for discussion and critical thinking. Associated vocabulary words for that lesson are highlighted at the beginning of the lesson. Following the myStory is the Got It? section which prompts your child with questions to ensure understanding, and the Try It! activity, which gives your child an opportunity to interact with the material to apply their knowledge.

Throughout the lesson are a number of additional activities that will stimulate your child as they read through the lesson. At the end, of the lesson, is the Review and Assessment activity, which allows your child to review their understanding of the material.

myWorld Social Studies utilizes storytelling to bring social studies content to life. The myStory Idea writing prompts within the worktext are tied to each lesson's Big Question and allow your child to make personal meaning of the content in the chapter. The myStory Book component is powered by TikATok™. Visit <http://www.tikatok.com> directly to sign up for this feature at no additional cost. Your child will be able to write, illustrate and publish their own book online. Your family can choose to print either a soft or hardcover version, of the book, to keep at home for an additional fee.





myStory Video DVD

myStory Video DVD allows your child to see children of his or her own age explore the Big Question and the key ideas in each chapter, to go on video field trips, and to watch a character from the chapter come to life in the same style as an animated graphic novel. Through these video features, your child will make a personal connection to the lesson and build long-term understanding and knowledge.

Once you load this DVD, you will see a screen that lists your choices by chapter. These videos include interactive graphic novels depicting important people of the past and

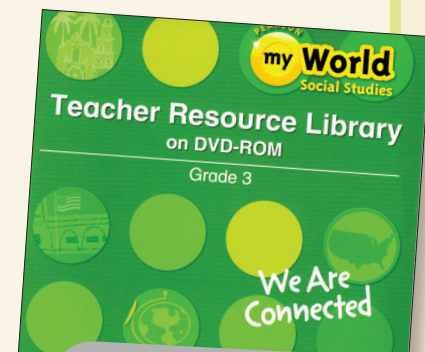
present and other children giving tours of historic sites. At the beginning of each chapter is a myStory reading. On that page is the myStory Video icon indicating that a corresponding video is available on this DVD. At the end of the video will be a question about how the material affects your child's own life. You might prompt your child to think or talk about how to answer this question.

Teacher Resource Library DVD

The *Teacher Resource Library* is an easy to use DVD that gives you everything you need right at your fingertips. The table of contents is listed on the left of the main screen. Click on the *myWorld Social Studies Teacher Resource Library* for detailed information about how to use this DVD and how to access the content. You will also find all of the resources by clicking on the Resources button at the bottom of the Table of Contents from the main screen. Each chapter will provide the following resources:

- A Teacher's Guide for each chapter by subject with lesson plan summaries
- A podcast for that same chapter subject
- Editable tests for each chapter and separate answer keys
- Hands-on activities to build your child's understanding
- Leveled Reading Lesson plan support for readers of various levels

These carefully planned resources will guide you with planning, supporting activities, and testing to ensure learning is personalized to fit your child.



Lesson Plans

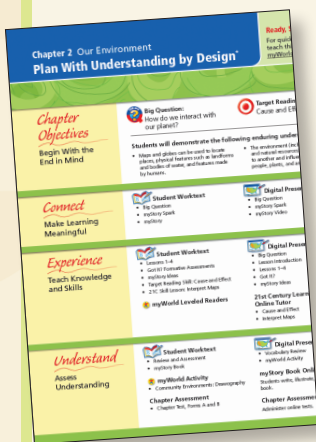
Lesson plans are important to a successful homeschool environment. They help keep you on track as you progress through the material and provide a steady structure for teaching your child. It is important to plan out your lessons, but remember lesson plans are a guide. You should leave room to adapt to your child and adjust the plan to ensure he or she understands the material. The objective is to have a tool you can use to watch your child progress and master the material you present over the school year.

Before you begin your lesson plan, review the materials to see how they are structured. The *myWorld Social Studies* program includes lesson plan summaries under each chapter in the Teacher Resource Library DVD. Chapter Guides and Lesson Plan sections are there to help guide you in your instruction. Your pace may vary, but each lesson within the course is structured for 45-75 minutes.

Use this as a guide to help you evaluate and formulate your lesson plan for the coming year. Additionally, there are a number of items to consider when preparing your plan. How many days per week will you have school? Do you plan to have extended breaks for the holidays or vacations? The number of children you have and their ages will affect how and what you can do as well.

Lesson plans in general should have certain vital components. A suggested list would include some or all of the following:

- The portion of text covered during the lesson
- Main ideas of the lesson
- Key concepts
- Questions to ask
- Activities to do
- Potential field trip ideas
- Assignments given
- Materials and resources needed



You will find the lesson plans in the *Teacher Resource Library DVD*. The beginning of each Chapter Resource section includes a Teacher Guide for that chapter. This guide covers the main objectives, and highlights presentation and Worktext reading suggestions. Then, each of the *Student Worktext* pages is shown with supporting questions and possible answers. The Teacher Guide ends with the Lesson Plan Review and Assess section. At the end of each chapter, and at the end of each unit, these reviews assess your child's comprehension of the material. Have your child complete these reviews to assess where additional instruction may be warranted. There are extra optional activities and readings to guide your child as necessary.

Also provided is a 4–5 minute podcast that will further describe how to implement and address the chapter's subjects. This will also cover

the activities within the *Student Worktext* and *Teacher Resource Library DVD*. Some of the online components mentioned are not part of the homeschool bundle, but this does not hinder the help you will receive from this podcast.

This is followed by editable tests for use with each of the chapters. Answer keys are listed near the end of the resource Table of Contents. Additional content follows the Teacher's Guide including practice activities and worksheets supporting each chapter.

As you plan your lessons, be sure to familiarize yourself with any legal requirements you may have in your local area or state. The Pearson Homeschool website (PearsonHomeschool.com) has links to each state Department of Education so that you may review the laws and how to comply with them.

Adapt the Curriculum

One of the great benefits of homeschooling is that you know the instruction is personal. Everything you teach will be personalized to fit your child. The lessons provided within each course of this series are easy to pace, and offer enrichment activities, and additional support when necessary.

Pacing

As you progress through the material you will find that your child grasps certain lessons with ease while needing more time and practice on other sections. Adapt your pace accordingly, to ensure your child understands the material. Refer to the Chapter Guides in the *Teacher Resource Library DVD* for chapter level planning and ideas to engage your child beyond the lesson basics, and measure their understanding. There is plenty of flexibility within the lessons to enhance them with additional challenging content. This will keep your child engaged and interested.

Teaching is Everywhere

Another part of the homeschool benefit is that teaching can occur all of the time. You can incorporate learning into everyday life. When you are outside of “school” ask your child about concepts learned in previous lessons. Tie them into life situations and world events. Check your local museums for history and geography exhibits, and align your lesson plans to incorporate those events. Check with your local government offices to plan visits so your child can experience government in action. Use your own resources to complement the material, and tie the lessons into your child’s interests and hobbies.

Conflicting Materials

Lastly, any homeschool parent will be faced with the dilemma of what to do when you come across material in the curriculum you don’t like or disagree with. While no curriculum will ever be able to satisfy all the beliefs, opinions or values held by each family, there are several approaches that you can take in these situations.

One approach is to just ignore or skip over the material in question. Another suggestion would be to use this as an opportunity for a special teachable moment. Review the material with your child. Check if they can discern what you see. Discuss why you may take exception to the material, idea or value presented. Take the opportunity to share the diversity of thought/opinion in the world and the need to be discerning of principles and ideas that may challenge yours.

Use it as an opportunity to affirm the ideas, principles and values you find important, while at the same time providing an opportunity to see how to deal with differing ones and still maintain your core convictions. You can teach them much by reasonably confronting ideas that differ from yours.

There is a definite balance between having the freedom that homeschool brings, and the responsibility you assume in educating your child. The good news is that most families find that balance and it works for them.

This curriculum has been modified specifically for homeschool families. At times, there may be references to print or digital components or activities that are not included within the homeschool bundle. This will not hinder your child’s successful completion of the course. In myWorld Social Studies Homeschool Edition, you can still have access to the myStory book by signing up at <http://www.tikatok.com> rather than accessing it through Pearson’s SuccessNet® Plus.

Thank you

As you progress along the journey, you will have moments of frustration and moments that make it all worthwhile. Remember to keep it in perspective. Homeschool parents live for those moments when their children are most teachable. You will know when those moments happen as you can see the light go on, they really get it. Cherish those times and use them as the fuel to motivate you through the tough times.

Thank you for choosing Pearson as a partner in your homeschool journey. We know the importance that you place in taking the time to teach your child and we appreciate your trust in us to help you and your child achieve the best education possible.



For additional programs to support your child's social studies curriculum, please visit our website at: www.PearsonHomeschool.com

For product related questions, please contact 1-800-848-9500 or submit the Contact Us form available on our website.



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