

Table of Contents

	Section
Introduction	Introduction
The Beginning of History Language Arts and Math	Unit 1
The People Sin	Unit 2
Language Arts and Math	
Abraham and His Descendants	Unit 3
Language Arts and Math	
Jacob's Family in Egypt	Unit 4
Language Arts and Math	
The Exodus Out of Egypt	Unit 5
Language Arts and Math	
The Promised Land	Unit 6
Language Arts and Math	
The Time of the Judges	Unit 7
Language Arts and Math	
Israel's First Kings	Unit 8
Language Arts and Math	
The Time of the Prophets	Unit 9
Language Arts and Math	
Exiles in Babylon	Unit 10
Language Arts and Math	
The Birth of Jesus	Unit 11
Language Arts and Math	
Jesus Begins His Ministry	Unit 12
Language Arts and Math	

Jesus' Miracles	Unit 13
Language Arts and Math	
Jesus Teaches Others	Unit 14
Language Arts and Math	
The People Praise Jesus	Unit 15
Language Arts and Math	
Jesus Dies and Lives Again	Unit 16
Language Arts and Math	
Jesus' Last Days on Earth	Unit 17
Language Arts and Math	
The Apostles Preach the Good News	Unit 18
Language Arts and Math	
Christianity in the Roman Empire	Unit 19
Language Arts and Math	
The Spread of Christianity	Unit 20
Language Arts and Math	
The Age of Exploration	Unit 21
Language Arts and Math	
The Reformation	Unit 22
Language Arts and Math	
Settling America	Unit 23
Language Arts and Math	
New England Colonies and Expansion	Unit 24
Language Arts and Math	
George Washington Grows Up	Unit 25
Language Arts and Math	
America's War for Independence	Unit 26
Language Arts and Math	
The Start of a New Nation	Unit 27
Language Arts and Math	
America Grows and Changes	Unit 28
Language Arts and Math	

Settlers Move West Unit 29
Language Arts and Math

Leaders During the Civil War Unit 30
Language Arts and Math

The Age of Change Unit 31
Language Arts and Math

Preserving the United States Unit 32
Language Arts and Math

Sights to See and Places to Visit. Unit 33
Language Arts and Math

Living for Jesus Unit 34
Language Arts and Math

Appendix Appendix

- Phonics: Pacing Suggestions
- Bibliography: Storytime Set
- Bibliography: Visual History Set
- Rhymes in Motion for Units 1-34
- Other Books by This Author

Introduction

Complete Plans

Little Hearts for His Glory features 34 units with complete daily plans. These plans are designed to provide a fun, 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 two parts: “Learning Through History” and “Learning the Basics”.

Learning the Basics

The “Learning the Basics” part of the program focuses on language arts and math. It includes choices for phonics, math, and handwriting; as well as activities for fine motor skills, storytime, and language arts.

Learning Through History

The “Learning Through History” part of the program gives a broad overview of history from creation through present day, and emphasizes God’s plan throughout history. Bible stories are integrated with history stories about individuals. The following areas are linked with the daily stories: Bible memory work, devotional topics, visual history, science discovery, art projects, dramatic play, thinking games, rhymes, gross motor skills, and music.

Easy to Use

Each unit contains five days of instruction. Simple daily plans are divided into 10 boxes, which can be spaced throughout the day as time allows.

Quick Activities

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 90-120 minutes. They are filled with ideas that get kids moving, exploring, and playing in a meaningful way.

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 four easy-to-use phonics options, three excellent math programs, two different handwriting choices (with two levels each), and two levels of fine motor skills selections – or, you can use your own resources in these areas. No matter what you choose, *Little Hearts for His Glory* pulls it all together for you!

Resources

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

- **History for Little Pilgrims* (Christian Liberty Press, 1998)
- **History Stories for Children: Third Edition* (Christian Liberty Press, 2017)
- **Family-Time Bible in Pictures* by Kenneth N. Taylor (Tyndale House, 2007) **or**
101 Favorite Stories from the Bible by Ura Miller (Christian Aid Ministries, 2006) **or**
Your own Bible
- **History for Little Pilgrims Coloring Book* (Christian Liberty Press, 2017)

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, 2024)

Connecting Resources (provide devotional, music, and science connections)

- **The Magnificent Names of Jesus* by Jimmy and Sally Dodd (B&H Publishing Group, 2023)
- **Hide 'Em in Your Heart Vol. I* Audio by Steve Green (Sparrow, 2003)
- **Scripture Memory Cards* by Morgan Austin (Heart of Dakota Publishing, 2024)
- **The World God Made* by Edward Shewan (Christian Liberty Press, 2019)

Language Arts Resources (considered necessary)

- **Thornton Burgess Animal Stories Books*:
 - The Adventures of Reddy Fox* (Dover, 1991)
 - The Adventures of Peter Cottontail* (Dover, 1991)
 - The Adventures of Danny Meadow Mouse* (Dover, 1993)
 - The Adventures of Grandfather Frog* (Dover, 1992)
 - The Adventures of Chatterer The Red Squirrel* (Dover, 1992)
 - The Adventures of Buster Bear* (Dover, 1993)
 - The Adventures of Jerry Muskrat* (Dover, 1993)
- **Peter Rabbit and Other Favorite Tales* by Beatrix Potter (Dover, 1994)

Read-Aloud Set (considered necessary)

- **Storytime Set* (see www.heartofdakota.com for purchase of book set)

Phonics Choices (considered necessary choices)

Choose one of the following phonics options to use with this program:

1. *Learn to Read Activity Book* by Hannah Braun (Callisto Kids, 2018)
2. *Real Phonics Book 1* and *Book 2* by Kallie Woods (Brodin Books, 2011, 2012)
3. *The Reading Lesson* by Michael Levin and Charan Langton (Mountcastle Company, 2000)
4. *Reading Made Easy* by Valerie Bendt (Bendt Family Ministries, 2001)
5. Your own phonics program

Fine Motor Skills Choices (considered necessary choices)

Choose one of the following fine motor skills options to use with this program:

1. *Do It Carefully* and *Finding the Answers* by Rod & Staff (Rod & Staff, 1990)
2. *Going On Eagerly* and *Just Thinking and Choosing* by Rod & Staff (Rod & Staff, 2008, 2014)

Handwriting Choices (considered necessary choices)

Choose one of the following handwriting options to use with this program:

1. *Italic Handwriting Book 'A'* by Getty & Dubay (Education Press, 1994)
2. *Italic Handwriting Book 'B'* by Getty & Dubay (Education Press, 1994)
3. *A Reason for Handwriting 'K'* (Concerned Communications, 2001)
4. *A Reason for Handwriting 'A'* (Concerned Communications, 2001)
5. Your own handwriting program

Math Choices (considered necessary choices)

Choose one of the following math options to use with this program:

1. *Essential Math Kindergarten A & B, U.S. Edition* (Singapore Math, 2013) **or**
Singapore Primary Math 1A & 1B, U.S. Edition by Singapore Ministry of Education (Times Media, 2003)
2. *Math with Confidence Grade K or Grade 1* by Kate Snow (Well-Trained Mind Press, 2021, 2022)
3. *Apologia Math Level 1* by Kathryn Gomes (Apologia Educational Ministries, Inc., 2020)
4. Your own math program

“Learning Through History” Components

Reading About History

The “Learning Through History” part of each unit has a theme centered around stories from history. The themes are organized in chronological order from creation through present day. God’s plan is emphasized throughout the themes. Bible stories and other history stories are read aloud each day using the following resources: *History for Little Pilgrims*, *History Stories for Children*, and your choice of *The Family-Time Bible* or *101 Favorite Stories from the Bible* or your own Bible. These stories provide the focus for this part of the plans. The areas listed on this page are all linked to the daily stories. The *History for Little Pilgrims Coloring Book* is scheduled to coordinate with the history stories as well.

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 *Little Hearts for His Glory*. Book descriptions are provided in the Appendix of *Little Hearts for His Glory*.

The books in the “Visual History” Set work alongside the history spines in “Reading About History” and also include *Visual History Bookmarks* with daily questions and “Picture Hunt” 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 thinking skills through discussion
- *using picture clues to aid comprehension

Rhymes in Motion

A new rhyme is introduced each unit. Each rhyme emphasizes one or more gross motor skills, and also reinforces the history theme.

Bible Study

A new memory verse is introduced each unit. Each verse has a practical meaning for young students, and also reinforces God’s plan throughout history. A variety of daily activities, combined with corresponding *Scripture Memory Cards*, make memorizing these important verses fun for students. Weekly, students will color their *Scripture Memory Card* to personalize each verse.

Devotional Activity

One or more days in each unit lists a devotional connection from *The Magnificent Names of Jesus*. Each devotion is linked to the history theme for that day and also highlights one of the names of Jesus in a memorable way. Each devotion includes a related story, a corresponding Scripture, and a name-focused prayer that spotlights one of Jesus’ names.

Corresponding Music

Musical selections from *Hide 'Em in Your Heart Volume 1* by Steve Green correspond with the Bible memory verses on the *Scripture Memory Cards* 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 simple, 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. *The World God Made* by Christian Liberty Press is referenced as a science text connection for the lessons.

Thinking Games

One day in each unit includes a thinking game that is linked to the history story. Each game-like activity requires thinking skills along with active movements to perform.

Dramatic Play

One day in each unit includes dramatic play that reinforces the history story. Dramatizations based on the stories encourage creativity, using play-to-learn skills.

“Learning The Basics” Components

Fine Motor Skills

Three days in each unit include an assigned workbook page from your choice of either *Do It Carefully* and *Finding the Answers* by Rod & Staff, or *Going On Eagerly* and *Just Thinking and Choosing* by Rod & Staff. These pages emphasize thinking skills and following directions in order to cut, color, and paste. Each activity helps develop small-muscle strength and coordination in fun and creative ways.

Handwriting

Two days in each unit include assigned handwriting pages. You have a choice of *Italic Handwriting Book ‘A’* or *Book ‘B’*, *A Reason for Handwriting Book ‘K’* or *Book ‘A’*, or your own handwriting program.

Phonics

A phonics instruction reminder is listed in the plans daily. This schedule is suggested once your child shows an interest in learning to read. For phonics instruction, we recommend one of the following options: *Learn to Read Activity Book*, *Real Phonics*, *The Reading Lesson*, or *Reading Made Easy*. All of these programs are easy-to-use, include short planned lessons, and are economical. All four programs utilize one book that includes a teacher’s guide and a student book all-in-one. For help deciding which program best suits your child, refer to the program descriptions in the Appendix of *Little Hearts for His Glory*.

Since I believe phonics instruction is a very personal decision for each family, I specifically designed *Little Hearts for His Glory* to work with any phonics program that you choose.

Language Arts

Short daily “Language Arts” sessions are included in the “Learning the Basics” part of the plans. Seven books of fictional stories written by Thornton Burgess are used for the bulk of the language arts lessons. *Peter Rabbit and Other Favorite Tales* by Beatrix Potter completes the assignments.

Each short chapter is ideal for language arts instruction because it centers on one main character and the many different problems the character encounters. Children will get to know the characters on a deeper level and will eagerly anticipate what might happen next. Each unit includes the following language arts activities in coordination with the read-aloud assignments:

- *Day 1: basic comprehension discussion questions
- *Day 2: retelling the story in a variety of ways
- *Day 3: critical thinking questions including some vocabulary discussion
- *Day 4: early writing practice emphasizing names and simple words
- *Day 5: moral connection questions with personal application

Storytime

Short daily “Storytime” sessions are included in the “Learning the Basics” part of the plans. Our unique Storytime Set uses “cuddle-up-and-read” classics with gorgeous illustrations that have stood the test of time! Enjoy classic storybook fables, listen to cherished stories from Brambly Hedge, imagine joyful tales from country vet James Herriot, relate to character-building farm stories from Helga Moser, hear pioneer accounts from Laura Ingalls wilder, and experience a brand-new children’s version of *Little Pilgrims’ Progress* – all just a sampling of what awaits you! These delightful tales are sure to charm young listeners. Book descriptions are provided in the Appendix of *Little Hearts for His Glory*.

The daily plans also use guided questioning matched to storybook text and illustrations to help students recognize story elements like character, setting, mood, theme, and more! These questions are designed to foster comprehension through discussion, while easing the transition between picture books and chapter books.

Math Exploration

A math instruction reminder is listed in the plans daily. *Little Hearts for His Glory* offers a choice of *Singapore Essential Kindergarten Math A/B*, *Singapore Primary Mathematics 1A/1B*, *Math with Confidence Grade K* or *Grade 1*, or *Apologia Math Level 1*.

Singapore Essential Kindergarten Math A/B and *Primary Mathematics 1A/1B* come with their own daily schedules written by Heart of Dakota that include unique hands-on activities. These activities use concrete objects to introduce mathematical concepts through guided exploration. Each activity provides a needed hands-on component for math at the primary level, and for *Level 1A/1B* the activities replace the *1A/1B Textbooks*.

Both *Math with Confidence* and *Apologia Math* come with their own four-day a week plan for math within their respective Teacher’s Guides. Both are excellent programs with a strong hands-on component. *Math with Confidence* is available for either *Grade K* or *Grade 1*, while *Apologia Math* is only available for *Level 1*.

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.