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# HISTORY

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## YEAR 1 - COURSE BOOK



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# TABLE OF CONTENTS

About this Course.....	7
Memorization.....	10
Read-Aloud Suggestions.....	15

## *Unit 1: Ancient History*

Lesson 1: The Creation .....	18
Lesson 2: Adam through Enoch .....	19
Lesson 3: Noah through the Tower of Babel .....	19
Lesson 4: Introduction to Ancient Egypt .....	20
Lesson 5: Ancient Egypt: Daily Life & Writing.....	21
Lesson 6: Ancient Egypt: Government & Buildings .....	31
Lesson 7: Ancient Egypt: Afterlife & Herodotus .....	34
Lesson 8: The Power & Importance of History .....	36
Lesson 9: Ancient Egypt Oral Presentations.....	37
Lesson 10: Abraham .....	40
Lesson 11: Isaac & Rebecca/Ancient Trade Routes.....	43
Lesson 12: Joseph in Egypt .....	49
Lesson 13: Moses/The Passover .....	51
Lesson 14: Egypt From 600 BC to Modern Day.....	57

## *Unit 2: The Middle Ages & the Renaissance*

Lesson 15: Ancient Britain .....	64
Lesson 16: The Spread of Christianity in Ireland/St. Patrick.....	67
Lesson 17: Review/History of Your Church .....	68
Lesson 18: The Spread of Christianity in England.....	69
Lesson 19: King Alfred the Great .....	71
Lesson 20: William the Conqueror.....	72

Lesson 21: Life in the Middle Ages.....	81
Lesson 22: The Magna Carta Part 1.....	83
Lesson 23: The Magna Carta Part 2.....	87
Lesson 24: The Age of Chivalry .....	89
Lesson 25: Joan of Arc Part 1 .....	93
Lesson 26: Joan of Arc Part 2 .....	94
Lesson 27: Joan of Arc Part 3 .....	99
Lesson 28: The Black Death & the Renaissance.....	99
Lesson 29: The Scientific Revolution .....	100
Lesson 30: The Faithful French Huguenots.....	102

### *Unit 3: The French and Indian War through the Revolutionary War*

Lesson 31: New France .....	105
Lesson 32: Young George Washington .....	106
Lesson 33: The French and Indian War .....	113
Lesson 34: Reasons for a Revolution.....	114
Lesson 35: The Sons of Liberty & the Boston Tea Party .....	117
Lesson 36: The First Continental Congress & the Start of the Revolutionary War ..	119
Lesson 37: The Second Continental Congress .....	122
Lesson 38: The Character of Thomas Jefferson .....	135
Lesson 39: The Coming Forth of the Declaration of Independence .....	138
Lesson 40: John Locke .....	141
Lesson 41: The Sacrifices of the Signers of the Declaration of Independence.....	144
Lesson 42: Principles of the Declaration of Independence .....	151
Lesson 43: General George Washington .....	159
Lesson 44: The Battle of Trenton .....	160
Lesson 45: Valley Forge & Alliance with France.....	164
Lesson 46: The Articles of Confederation.....	166
Lesson 47: The End of the Revolutionary War.....	167

## *Unit 4: The Victorian Era, The History of Flight & The Cold War Era*

<b>Lesson 48: The Blessings of a Democratic Constitutional Republic.....</b>	<b>172</b>
<b>Lesson 49: Queen Victoria &amp; the British Empire .....</b>	<b>178</b>
<b>Lesson 50: The Victorian Period.....</b>	<b>187</b>
<b>Lesson 51: Foreign Missionary Movement Part 1.....</b>	<b>189</b>
<b>Lesson 52: Foreign Missionary Movement Part 2.....</b>	<b>190</b>
<b>Lesson 53: Two Famous Victorians .....</b>	<b>191</b>
<b>Lesson 54: Florence Nightingale/The Great Irish Famine .....</b>	<b>195</b>
<b>Lesson 55: The History of Flight.....</b>	<b>196</b>
<b>Lesson 56: Cold War I (1945-1950): The Berlin Blockade.....</b>	<b>199</b>
<b>Lesson 57: Cold War II: Rebellion and Resistance .....</b>	<b>201</b>
<b>Lesson 58: The Space Race .....</b>	<b>203</b>
<b>Lesson 59: Ronald Reagan .....</b>	<b>205</b>
<b>Lesson 60: The Fall of Communism.....</b>	<b>210</b>



# ABOUT THIS COURSE

## Course Overview

Guided by the vision of Jenny Phillips, over 30 writers, educators, illustrators, and editors contributed to the *Good & Beautiful* history curriculum. Text from over 40 beautifully written history books from the late 1800s and early 1900s (modified to include modern discoveries if needed) was also used.

- **An Emphasis on God and Character:** This course helps youth understand truth and connect history to God and high character.
- **Family Style:** Teach children in grades K-12 with a 60-minute lesson 2-3 times a week.
- **The Whole Sweep of History with an Emphasis on US History and Principles of Freedom Each Year:** All history courses (years 1-4) cover ancient times to modern history, but each course stops in different places and time periods to explore in depth. Thus, children see the whole sweep of history and how it fits together during each course. Each of the four history courses places an emphasis on US history, the Founding Fathers, and principles of freedom.
- **Good & Beautiful Style Learning:** Many history courses today are composed of dry facts given from a secular humanistic viewpoint, stripped of meaning, faith, and beauty. The unique approach taken by The Good & the Beautiful history courses promotes truth, beauty, family interaction, and meaningful exploration.
- **No Preparation Time:** Just open the course and follow the instructions each day, learning and exploring along with your child.

## Christi an Worldview

The Good & the Beautiful curriculum takes a Christian worldview. Rather than focusing on doctrine, the curriculum focuses on Christ-like character and principles of liberty based on the following:

1. God created the world and all people; each individual is precious in His sight and is deserving of liberty.
2. Jesus Christ lived a sinless life and atoned for our sins.
3. Following the timeless, core principles of Christ's gospel found in the Bible leads to happiness.

The history curriculum shows the good things that men and women of many different religions have accomplished. For example, the course highlights the high character and good works of some Catholic saints and also takes the view that Protestant reformers were brave and faithful men who did much good. The curriculum is designed to point out high character and what we learn from individuals and nations that chose to follow or not follow God.

Parents can add in their specific doctrinal beliefs. Members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints can download a free PDF supplement to use alongside the curriculum at [www.goodandbeautiful.com/supplements](http://www.goodandbeautiful.com/supplements).

## Items Needed for the Course

You will need the following items for the course, all of which come with the purchase of the course set:

### Physical Items Shipped to You

1. *History Course Book Year 1*  
This 215-page, black-and-white, spiral-bound course book guides you through the course.
2. *The Big Book of History Stories + Maps and Images (Year 1)*  
This 204-page, full-color, spiral-bound book is a compilation of maps and images and 21 illustrated storybooks. The *Course Book* will indicate when to refer to the maps and images or read the stories to children.
3. *Keys of History Board Game*  
This board game, used throughout the course, is a fun way to review information and cement knowledge of key historical figures and events.

### Downloads That You Need to Print

4. *Student Explorers*  
Four Student Explorer PDFs are included with the course set: Grades 1-3, Grades 4-6, Grades 7-9, and Grades 10-12. Different assignments are included for the different levels of the Student Explorers; they increase in complexity for the higher grades. Print a Student Explorer for each child you are teaching (based on their grade level), and place each Student Explorer in a 3-ring binder.

### Posted Online

5. *Audio Recordings*  
Dramatized audio recordings are a major part of the course and can be accessed on [www.goodandbeautiful.com/history1](http://www.goodandbeautiful.com/history1). These engaging audio recordings bring history to life and add variety and power to the course.

## How to Teach the Course

If you complete two lessons per week, it will take one school year to complete a course. It is recommended you complete three lessons a week if you are teaching children in grades 6 and above.

Do not worry about repeating the same history courses once you have gone through them all. Children will need the review after 3-4 years.

Also, children will then be in the higher levels of the Student Explorers, which contain different assignments and information.

### Length of Lessons

Each lesson is designed to take around 60 minutes. This includes 20 minutes for a read-aloud book of your choice. Lesson times will vary depending on the amount of discussion and exploration you choose to do.

Because Student Explorers for older grade levels are more advanced and in-depth, older children will need to spend additional time (20-50 minutes per lesson) completing reading assignments and activities in the Student Explorers.

### How to Teach Each Day

It is suggested you look ahead at the next few lessons to see if you need to gather any extra items. But no other preparation time is needed.

**Bold text indicates instructions to you.** Regular text is what you read to children. [Text within brackets are the answers to questions you ask the children.]

### Student Explorers

This course book will indicate when to use the Student Explorers. Not all lessons use the Student Explorers. In some lessons, older grades will use the Student Explorer and younger grades will not. The higher level Student Explorers often include additional readings that delve deeper into the lesson topics or cover additional information that is related to the time period but not covered in the lesson.

To prepare older children for college-level learning, the Grades 10-12 Student Explorer is different than the other explorers. For each unit, the explorer gives students major reading assignments and a page of projects and writing assignments to be completed. These are not broken down on a lesson-by-lesson basis, encouraging student to practice planning and managing time.

## History Notebook

Students in grades 7-12 will create a history notebook. This will be created on loose leaf paper that students will put in a binder. The course book and student explorers will guide students through creating this notebook.

## Audio Recordings

Dramatized audio recordings are included with about half of the lessons. The script comes as a free download with the course set. It is suggested that you do not skip these audio recordings as they contain much of the main instruction. If desired, you can read the script instead of playing the audio recording.

On some days, to add variety, you may enjoy reading the script as a family, each person playing a character.

**Access the recordings on**  
**[www.jennyphillips.com/history1](http://www.jennyphillips.com/history1)**  
**(password= [REDACTED])**

## The Big Book of History Stories

*The Big Book of History Stories* includes maps and color images referred to in the course book as well as 21 illustrated stories that correspond with the lessons. Most of these stories are adapted from books written in the late 1800s and early 1900s (modified to include modern discoveries if needed) and are beautifully written and illustrated. The lessons will indicate when to read the stories. This compilation of storybooks is designed to save you money and time as you do not have to track down or purchase the equivalent of over \$200 in books.

## Skipping Lessons for Younger Children

Occasionally, in a big box under the lesson heading, you will see a message that suggests you skip the lesson if you are teaching only children in younger grades. All lesson material is appropriate for all ages, but these particular lessons may be too complex for younger children. If you have both older and younger children, it is suggested you do all the lessons and let younger children participate to the degree you choose.

## The Keys of History Board Game

The Keys of History board game helps children review important information about key historical figures and events in a fun way. Review is a vital part of learning. This game also helps to add variety plus family or class interaction. The course will indicate when to play this game at different points throughout the course. In addition, it is suggested (and directed by the course books) that you play this game occasionally during the Year 2, Year 3, and Year 4 history courses, again providing a wonderful review of key information learned in the Year 1 course. An instruction card is included with the game along with the following items:

- 10" x 10" game board
- 8 player pieces
- 22 black tokens
- 22 game cards
- 2 instruction cards
- 1 die

The game may be played by 1-8 students.

## Students in Kindergarten

If you have only children in kindergarten or younger, it is recommended that you wait until Grade 1 to start the course. If you have older children in addition to having a child in kindergarten, it is recommended your kindergarten child complete this course with the older children using the *Grade 1-3 Student Explorer*.

## Read-Aloud Suggestions

As part of the course, you are encouraged to select and read four books to your children, one from each of the four units in the course. See the section titled "Read-Aloud Suggestions" for recommendations. Reading engaging books with high literary, moral, and educational value is a powerful way to teach and instill a love of history. Twenty minutes is allotted in most lessons for the teacher read-aloud, but to finish a book by the end of the unit, most read-aloud books will require that you read outside of lesson time as well.