

Exploring God's World—Book List

Categories	Titles	Starts in Week	Categories	Titles	Starts in Week
Bible	<i>Family-Time Bible</i>	1	Science	<i>The Berenstain Bears' Big Book of Science and Nature</i>	1
Storybooks	<i>A Treasury of Mother Goose Rhymes</i>	1		<i>The Year at Maple Hill Farm</i>	16
	<i>The Lion Storyteller Bedtime Book</i>	1		<i>What's Under the Sea?</i>	17
	<i>A Family Treasury of Little Golden Books</i>	1		<i>Is a Blue Whale the Biggest Thing There Is?</i>	23
	<i>Eric Carle's Animals Animals</i>	1		<i>How Do You Lift a Lion?</i>	25
	<i>Milly-Molly-Mandy Story Book</i>	10		<i>What's Smaller Than a Pygmy Shrew?</i>	28
	<i>Children's Book of Virtues</i>	10		<i>How to Dig a Hole to the Other Side of the World</i>	31
	<i>American Tall Tales</i>	16		<i>Why Do Tigers Have Stripes?</i>	32
	<i>Stories from Around the World</i>	17			
	<i>The Complete Adventures of Peter Rabbit</i>	36	Social Studies	<i>Things People Do</i>	1
Language	<i>Dr. Seuss' ABC</i>	10		<i>Stories from Africa</i>	18
Arts	<i>First Thousand Words</i>	10		<i>The Gods Must Be Angry</i>	24
				<i>People</i>	25
	<i>Developing the Early Learner 1</i>	1		<i>Then and Now</i>	26
	<i>Developing the Early Learner 2</i>	10		<i>New Toes for Tia</i>	36
	<i>Developing the Early Learner 3</i>	19	Art	<i>A Child's Book of Art</i>	10 ¹
	<i>Developing the Early Learner 4</i>	28			

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¹ *A Child's Book of Art* is scheduled under the Activities Section of the Schedule, starting Day 4 of Week 10.

Welcome to Exploring God's World!

We welcome you to *Exploring God's World!* Did you know that the U.S. Department of Education says, "The single most important activity for building the knowledge required for eventual success in reading is reading aloud to children."¹

Reading expert Dr. Kyleene Beers agrees. Her research demonstrates that the single greatest predictor for a child's future success is how much he is read to before he enters Kindergarten—more than ethnic, socio-economic, or even genetic factors.² As we read aloud to our kids, we build their vocabulary, and that gives them an advantage for future success.

When we enjoy stories together, we also build times of intimacy. As we snuggle on the couch and read with our children, we form treasured memories and enable them to unlock their listening skills and unleash their creativity.

This guide provides a schedule for reading classic stories, award-winning books, poetry, memory verses, and carefully-selected activities, all in just 20-40 minutes per day.

And most of all, you'll have plenty of opportunities to just spend treasured time together and build memories to last a lifetime. Have fun with your Little Explorer!

Some Practical Tips

As the parent of a young child, you already know that it is extremely difficult for little children to sit still for long periods of time. So, for this program, we suggest you break up the assigned reading into small chunks to do throughout the day. You could do the Bible reading as a devotional with the whole family before breakfast; have Dad help with some reading in the evenings; or save some books as special treats for before nap time or bedtime.

We recommend you read each story primarily for you and your child's pleasure. Of course, the two of you will learn things and enter into the wonder of new discoveries. But all of that will come naturally on top of the primary purpose: enjoying together the delightful experience of great literature.

You may want to allow your child to color, draw, or play quietly with dolls or Legos® while you read aloud. As long as your child is exposed to great literature and is soaking up the reading, he will gain a great benefit, even if he is not sitting completely still.

We hope you enjoy this program and that it helps you instill in your child a love of reading. If we can be of any assistance, please do not hesitate to e-mail us at main@sonlight.com, or better yet, visit us on the forums at www.sonlight-forums.com, where you can chat with other parents who are going through the same program. You can ask questions, learn some new ideas, share with others what you have learned, problem-solve, or just talk. Enjoy your days of discovery together!

Before You Start

Our schedule gives a suggestion for one way you can work through this program. But please note: this schedule is just a suggestion! Feel free to modify or adapt it in any way you see fit to better meet the needs of your family.

How to Read the Schedule

Each week fits on a single sheet of paper. Each day's assignments are listed vertically in columns. If you wish to keep track of your progress, simply place a **check mark** next to each assignment as you accomplish it. Once you've finished the assignments in that column, you're done for the day. It's just that easy!

Secret of the Andes	12/13/98	12/13-1/25			
	chap. 1	chap. 2-3	chap. 4	chap. 5	chap. 6
	12/9/01		12/13		

Book Title

In the first column on the left-hand side of the schedule page, we list every book you will need for that week. Look across the row to see what assignments to do during the week.

Storybook

You will read from several storybook collections throughout this program. The title of the collection can be found on the left, and the title of the story you are to read is listed on each day.

Science & Social Studies

Berenstain Bears, *The Year at Maple Hill Farm*, *What's Under the Sea?*, and *Why Do Tigers Have Stripes?* are the books used in the science curriculum to guide you in exploring God's world. Please be aware of the titles listed in the far left line, as these books change throughout the

¹ Anderson, R.C., E.H. Heibert, J.A. Scott, and I.A. Wilkinson, eds. *Becoming a Nation of Readers: The Report of the Commission on Reading*. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Education, 1985, pg. 23

² Beers, Kyleene, "When Students Struggle With Reading," Holt, Rinehart, and Winston, 2001, seminar notes.

Week 1—Schedule

Date:	Day 1 ¹	Day 2 ²	Day 3 ³	Day 4 ⁴	Day 5 ⁵
Bible					
Family-Time Bible	Introduce the memory verse for the week. [N] ¹	chap. 1 pp. 2-5	chap. 2 pp. 6-7	chap. 3 pp. 8-9	
Memory Verse	Pay attention, my child, to what I say. Listen carefully. (NLT) Proverbs 4:20 Attentiveness: I listen with my eyes, ears, and heart.				
Storybook					
A Treasury of Mother Goose Rhymes	"Old Mother Goose" pp. 8-11	"Jack and Jill" pp. 12-13	"Simple Simon" pp. 14-15	"Mary's Lamb" pp. 16-17	
The Lion Storyteller Bedtime Book	"Mouse and the Lion" pp. 9-11		"Rabbit and Tiger Save the World" pg. 21		"The Contented Priest" pp. 83-85
Family Treasury of Little Golden Books		"The Poky Little Puppy" pp. 3-7		"The Little Fat Policeman" pp. 110-114	
Eric Carle's Animals Animals	pg. 7				
Language Arts					
Developing the Early Learner 1	pp. 1-2	pg. 3	pg. 4	pp. 5-6	pg. 7
Science					
The Berenstain Bears' Big Book of Science and Nature (Almanac)	pp. 4-7	pp. 8-12	pp. 13-15	pp. 16-19	
Social Studies					
Things People Do	This week, read pages 4-5.				
Activities					
	Kitchen Helper- Wipe the table or counters with a sponge or wet cloth. (This could be a daily chore!)	Play in the sandbox.	Song: "Jesus Loves Me"	Water plants with a watering can.	
Other Notes					

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¹ The [N] symbol refers to a note found in the notes section immediately after the schedule pages.

Week 18—Schedule

Date:	Day 1 <small>86</small>	Day 2 <small>87</small>	Day 3 <small>88</small>	Day 4 <small>89</small>	Day 5 <small>90</small>
Bible					
Family-Time Bible	Introduce the memory verse for the week.	chap. 59 pp. 146-147	chap. 60 pp. 148-149	chap. 61 pp. 150-151	chap. 62 pp. 152-153
Memory Verse	Only fools insist on quarreling. (TLB) Proverbs 20:3				
Storybook					
A Treasury of Mother Goose Rhymes	"Sing a Song of Sixpence" pp. 84-85	"The Wise Men of Gotham" pg. 84	"The Soldier and the Maid" pp. 86-87	"The Queen of Hearts" pg. 88	"Pussy-Cat" pg. 89
Milly-Molly-Mandy Storybook				chap. 7	
Family Treasury of Little Golden Books	"I Can Fly" pp. 102-109		"The Friendly Book" pp. 154-156		
The Children's Book of Virtues					"It Can Be Done" pg. 11
Eric Carle's Animals Animals	"Giraffe" pg. 48			"Quack!..." pg. 50	
Language Arts					
Developing the Early Learner 2	pp. 49-50	pg. 51	pg. 52	pp. 53-54	pg. 55
Dr. Seuss' ABC	"I" pp. 22-23				
First Thousand Words		"People" pp. 40-41		"My Clothes" pg. 39	
Science					
What's Under the Sea?	pg. 7	pg. 8	pg. 9	pp. 10-11	
Social Studies					
Stories from Africa	Story #1: "Jabo's Mystery Box"				
Activities					
	Kitchen Helper: Learn to set the table—use sturdy or unbreakable plates and flatware.		Song: "The Farmer In the Dell"		Book of Art "5 Senses" pp. 46-47
Other Notes					

Week 36—Schedule

Date:	Day 1 <small>176</small>	Day 2 <small>177</small>	Day 3 <small>178</small>	Day 4 <small>179</small>	Day 5 <small>180</small>
Bible					
Family-Time Bible	Introduce the memory verse for the week.	chap. 125 pp. 294-295	chap. 126 pp. 296-297	chap. 127 pp. 298-300	chap. 128 pp. 301-303
Memory Verse	For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life. (TLB) John 3:16				
Storybook					
A Treasury of Mother Goose Rhymes	"Bedtime" pg. 152	"The Moon" pg. 153	"A Prayer" 153		
The Children's Book of Virtues	"Why Frog and Snake Never Play Together" pp. 106-111				
The Complete Adventures of Peter Rabbit		"The Tale of Peter Rabbit" pp. 7-20	"The Tale of Benjamin Bunny" pp. 21-34	"The Tale of the Flopsy Bunnies" pp. 35-46	"The Tale of Mr. Toad" pp. 47-78
Eric Carle's Animals Animals	"Rhinoceros" pg. 86			pg. 88	
Language Arts					
Developing the Early Learner 4	pp. 49-50	pg. 51	pg. 52	pp. 53-54	pg. 55
First Thousand Words		"Workshop" pp. 10-11			
Science					
Why Do Tigers Have Stripes?	pp. 18-19	pg. 20	pg. 21	pp. 22-23	
Social Studies					
New Toes for Tia	chap. 1	chap. 2	chaps. 3-4	chap. 5	chap. 6
Activities					
	Kitchen Helper: Crack raw eggs. (Hint: Do this into an empty bowl to avoid shells in the batter!)		Song: "5 Bears In the Bed"	<i>Book of Art</i> "Action Words" pp. 24-25	
Other Notes					

Week 1—Notes

Bible

Memory Verse

On Monday, please introduce the Memory Verse for the week. You may want to make up simple hand motions for key words to help your child remember it better, and then practice these hand motions as you say the verse together each day. For example:

Pay **attention**, my child (place index finger on your temple)

to what I **say**. (place your hand next to your mouth as though you were calling to someone)

Listen carefully. (place your hand by your ear)

Proverbs 4:20

Don't forget to practice the verse's reference each time you say the verse!

After you introduce the verse, read the Character quality to your child, which is included on the schedule page underneath the verse. Ask your child what he thinks it means to be attentive, and see if you can come up with particular times during your schedule when attentiveness is a good quality to exhibit. (At church? While you're reading the Bible story each day?)

As you introduce more character qualities in the weeks that follow, feel free to use the vocabulary your child is learning about character to remind them of the good behavior skills that they now know!

Field Trips

We recommend that you take your child on some field trips during the year. These "hands on" learning exercises will be invaluable as your child experiences the sights and sounds of the world. Here are some suggestions:

Visit Various Businesses:

- The Post Office
- A Garden Center

- A Bank
- A Bakery
- A Fire Station
- A Police Station
- A Radio and/or Television Station
- A Farm
- A Greenhouse
- Dad's and/or Mom's place of work
- City Hall
- A Court Room
- The Newspaper
- A Smaller Print Shop
- A Grocery or other Wholesale Distributor
- A Pottery Shop
- A Music Store
- An Airport

Visit Service Organizations:

- The Library: story time; learn how to find a book you want
- Any parks with nature walks or docent program
- Museums of all varieties
- A Natural History Museum
- Botanic Gardens
- A Planetarium
- A Zoo
- An Aquarium

Art

- Visit an art museum or gallery
- Do art activities with others
- Check out an art book from the library once a week
- Use art creations in real life situations (i.e. on Christmas cards, for book covers, etc. ■)