

Week 2

Date:	Day 6	Day 7	Day 8	Day 9	Day 10
American History: A Visual Encyclopedia		pp. 8–11 🌐	pp. 12–13, 18–19 🌐 🌐	pp. 14–15, 20–21 🌐 🌐	pp. 16–17, 22–23 🌐

For **Day 7**, the previous edition had this assignment listed on pp. 6–11, but are now found on **pp. 8–11**. Please update the IG’s Schedule and notes to reflect these new page numbers.

For **Day 8**, the previous edition had this assignment listed on pp. 12–15, but are now found on **pp. 12–13 & 18–19**.

For **Day 9**, the previous edition had this assignment listed on pp. 18–19, but are now found on **pp. 14–15 & 20–21**.

For **Day 10**, the previous edition had this assignment listed on pp. 20–23, but are now found on **pp. 16–17 & 22–23**.

Day 7 pp. 8–11

To Discuss After You Read

This encyclopedia does not attempt to delve into very specific details on every single issue of American history. Still, there’s a lot of information in its pages, so take some time to familiarize yourself with how the author has presented the contents. This will help you get a quick grasp on the material and also help you as you assist your children with the material. In particular, keep an eye on the time period covered in the spread, quickly identified by the colored tabs on the edge of pages. You’ll also want to help your children understand the maps and any accompanying map key. Don’t get too bogged down on details

and specific dates to memorize—at this stage it’s far better if your children can grasp the big picture and, even better, can understand some of the key reasons behind historical events.

The caption to Leutze’s painting highlights some important points to keep in mind about historical artwork. First, it’s not always correct. Artists sometimes get details wrong and, like anyone, can make mistakes. Second, sometimes such artwork is “idealized,” as the author mentions. To “idealize” something means to make it seem better or more ideal than it was in reality. Still, artwork like this can capture our attention and draw us into the topic more. It also can display technical proficiency and artistic beauty, even if some of the details are off.

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Week 9

Date:	Day 41	Day 42	Day 43	Day 44	Day 45
American History: A Visual Encyclopedia	pp. 50–51 🌐 🌐 🌐			pp. 52–53 🌐 🌐	pp. 54–57 🌐

Day 45 pp. 54–57

To Discuss After You Read

The text incorrectly states that “Washington served two terms, beginning in 1788” He was actually sworn into office in 1789. The first presidential election was held from December 15, 1788 to January 10, 1789. This is the only presidential election to have spanned two calendar years. December 15, 1788 to January 10, 1789 States selected their electors. February 4, 1789 those electors cast their votes. George Washington was unanimously elected with 69 electoral votes. April 30, 1789 Washington was sworn into office. [p. 54]

- Q: What’s different about a “loose” interpretation of the Constitution versus a “strict” one? [p. 54]
 A: a loose interpretation broadly defined the role of government, enabling the expansion of federal power; a strict

interpretation would give the government only those powers that were clearly stated in the Constitution

- Q: What did the Alien and Sedition Acts do? [p. 54]
 A: they allowed the government to deport foreigners considered dangerous and made it a crime to say bad things about the government
- Q: How does America grow from 1800–1850? [p. 57]
 A: settlers moved west; new roads, canals, and railroads were built; the cotton gin caused plantation owners to gain more land in the west; the US annexed Texas

Timeline and Map Points

- 🌐 **Federalist Papers (1788)**
- 🌐 **George Washington elected president (1789)**
- 🌐 **Alien and Sedition Acts passed (1798)**

Week 34

Date:	Day 166	Day 167	Day 168	Day 169	Day 170
American History: A Visual Encyclopedia	pp. 248–251 	pp. 252–255 	pp. 256–259 	pp. 260–263 	pp. 264–267

Day 170 pp. 264–267

Cultural Literacy

Osama bin Laden: former Al Qaeda leader, killed by American operatives in May 2011, and professing mastermind behind the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks on the United States. [p. 265]

Al Qaeda: a radical Islamic terrorist network established by Osama bin Laden in the 1980's and responsible for the September 11, 2001 attacks on the United States. [p. 265]

Taliban: a radical Sunni Islamic terrorist network; desire Sharia law and extreme Islamic principles. [p. 265]

To Discuss After You Read

Q: What has been one focus of the new millennium? [pp. 264–267]

A: *terrorism*

The 9/11 attacks simultaneously demonstrated human capacity to do evil (terrorism) and to do good, as many firefighters, police officers, other rescue workers, and ordinary citizens heroically risked their lives to save others.

Q: What do Americans link 9/11 to? [p. 264]

A: *the most-deadly, terrorist attacks on American soil*

Q: Why did the attacks occur? [p. 265]

A: *Islamic terrorist (like Bin Laden) "hated American lifestyles and politics, particularly its support of Israel, and had declared a jihad, or holy war, against the United States to kill Americans and plunder their money"*

Q: What was the purpose of the War on Terror and what was the outcome?

A: *to go on the offensive against terrorists; costly battles in Afghanistan and Iraq—both in lives lost and financial resources*

Q: Can you come up with a strategy to fight terrorism?

Q: In a normal war, one nation attacks the other and the other retaliates. Is this possible in the War on Terror?

Timeline and Map Points

- Gore concedes election to Bush (December 2000)**
- Terrorist attacks on World Trade Center and Pentagon (September 2001)**
- President Obama reduces the population at Guantanamo Bay (2016)**
- Afghanistan (C8); Pakistan (C8); Iraq (C7); Iran (C7); North Korea (C10) (map 3)*

Note to Mom or Dad: Your study of American History in this program from Sonlight covers the Civil War through the late 20th Century. At this point in the book *American History: A Visual Encyclopedia*, we have reached the 21st Century, 2000–2018 (pp. 260–283). While we can see some definitive themes in the first two decades of this new Millennium, we do not yet know what will stand out as the defining events or thoughts. Themes, turning points, and the ability to summarize a decade takes the passage of time and perspective. Since we are still so close to this period of history (and are not through it yet!), we have chosen to not schedule all of these pages, but we have provided some possible discussion points below.

The two exemptions to this are the 2000 presidential election and the September 11, 2001 attacks. While we are still living out the implications of these events, they are clearly important for children to know as they read about current events.

Please feel free to read the remaining pages with your children. Talk to them about what you know and share your experiences with sporting events, natural disasters, changes in the environment, and/or medical advancement.

pp. 268–269

To Discuss After You Read

Q: While these pages are titled, "A Global Society," they focus much more on the advantages of technology. To balance, please think of some negative aspects when it comes to technology.

A: *shorter attention spans, wasted time, easy access to addictions (like pornography and shopping), loss of privacy, etc.*

pp. 272–273

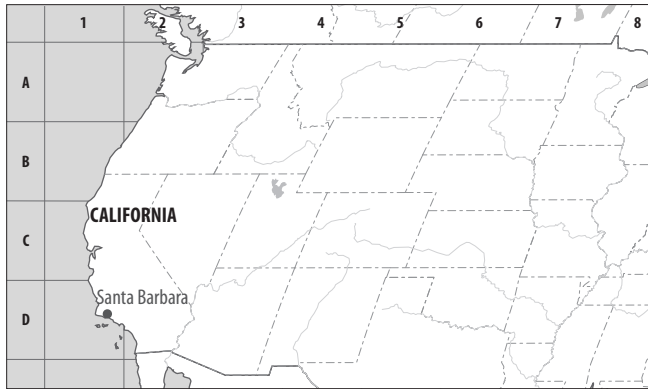
To Discuss After You Read

Q: What role should the federal government take during national disasters? Should the states budget to cover them? The private sector? Churches? Non-profits?

Timeline and Map Points

- New Orleans (G7); New Jersey (D11); Seattle, Washington (B2) (map 1)*
- New York (C7) (map 3)*
- Puerto Rico (E2) (map 4)*

🌐 *Santa Barbara, California* (see map below)



pp. 274–275

To Discuss After You Read

A two-page spread on environmentalism might illustrate the editor's bias. The book includes a two-page spread on the Constitution—the document that serves as the basis of the law of the land.

As Christians, we are commanded to care for the earth and to treat it responsibly. A counter-perspective would state that responsible energy isn't as efficient and uses precious resources.

Q: Are the wildfires in California more destructive because more people live more closely together?

pp. 276–277

To Discuss After You Read

"America was founded on immigration" and immigrants still legally immigrate to the U.S. and become citizens. Illegal immigrants bypass the normal immigration process. Both sides are right to wrestle with how to handle people who enter the country illegally. To have compassion is good and to control a nation's border is also good. [p. 277]

pp. 278–279

To Discuss After You Read

These pages might also show the editor's bias. A two-page spread on "guns in America" feels uneven. The two sides of this debate propose limited gun ownership versus those who hold to the Second Amendment of the Constitution.

Q: The number of mass shootings has risen greatly in the U.S. Can you imagine any reasons why that might be so?

A: *maybe medications, violence* ■