

You can teach two or more students with a single Sonlight Core. Consider this ...

Walk into many college classes, and you'll find freshmen, graduate students, and all ages between. Sonlight's Core programs work the same way ...

Sonlight uses the term "grade" when we speak of parts of the curriculum which are indeed grade-specific. Examples include our Reader and Language Arts packages, Math and Handwriting programs.

Ultimately, you should choose a program based more on content than on its assigned number. How can this be? The primary reason: Sonlight Curriculum is history-focused and literature-based. And great literature (*unlike most textbooks!*) speaks to a wide range of ages.

Adults with master's degrees describe Sonlight's Kindergarten program as "fascinating and educational." Straight-A students in 8th grade can study Sonlight Core 5 to good purpose. Many parents tell

us they can adapt each program (with little difficulty) to students across a broad range of ages.

Which is more important: what your children know or what "grade" they are in?

We adults don't choose the books we read (or courses we take) based on an arbitrary number. Why should we choose in that manner for our children? If your students have yet to study the most spiritually needy peoples and places on Earth (the subject of Sonlight Core 5), it's time they did—whether they are in 5th grade or 8th.

Each Sonlight Core can serve a wide range of students. From Core 5 up, we recommend you teach each program with students in the same numbered grade or higher. The "Eastern Hemisphere" (Core 5) Instructor's Guide, for example, includes assignments appropriate for students in 5th—8th grades; Core 6 "World History, Part 1," for 6th—8th; and Core 200 "History of God's Kingdom," for 9th—12th.

You can decide (and do) what's best for your family.

You *could* use separate programs for each child. Why not choose to teach two or more children with *one program*?

First, you save the time you'd spend juggling the extra program(s), and the money you'd spend on it (them). Then there's the frustration you'd feel from being pulled in multiple directions!

Caution: there are no iron-clad rules about what will work best for you when you use one Core program to teach more than one child. A great way to start: visit Sonlight's online "Choosing" Forum to meet other homeschoolers and draw on their wealth of experience.

No matter how you choose to use Sonlight in your home, you have the backing of our 18-week "Love to Learn" Guarantee (details on page 160). If things really don't work out, return your entire program for a full refund.

a Key to Catalog Listings

TRIMESTER: (1st, 2nd, or 3rd 12-week period) in which the book is first used. If you see two symbols (e.g. ②①), the first one is for Four-day schedule, second is Five-day.

EXTENDED USE: Used for more than 3 weeks in the fastest-paced programs.

NEW LISTING

ITEM #

Author's Last Name: Polland

PROGRAM INDICATOR: 5 Indicates a book used in Five-day program ONLY. □ Indicates use in Four-day AND Five-day programs.

Appropriate Audience if Read Aloud by a competent reader with no additional explanation, commentary or discussion.

Appropriate grade-level if Read to oneself.

Understanding the "RA" (Read Aloud) and "R" (Reader) ratings.
The numbers following the RA and R codes indicate the grade they are appropriate for: P=Pre-K, K=Kindergarten, 1=Grade 1, A=Adult.

MISSION TO CATHAY ②①➔ (NEW) 5R34 \$9.50

RETAIL PRICE as of catalog publication date. Subject to change.

BINDING: Pb = Paperback Hb = Hardbound

PUBLICATION AVAILABILITY: S = Sonlight unique (to our knowledge, available for purchase at this time only from us). X = Christian publisher (usually available through Christian bookstores and/or distributors).

CONSUMABLE. You may want one for each student.

5 Polland. A fictional story of Matteo Ricci, the first Roman Catholic ambassador to enter China. Full of cultural detail and adventure. Presents an astonishingly realistic look at many of the difficulties facing Christian ambassadors to unreached peoples. **Consumable. S Pb.**
RA: 2-A; R: 5-8

Most books in the elementary levels can be read aloud, with explanation and/or discussion, to students at least a year or two younger than the lowest level indicated. That means our low-end RA (Read Aloud) ratings are actually conservative. When you get to Level 7 we start listing many books that we believe are not good candidates for reading aloud—even with commentary—to younger audiences. In such cases, we have noted the fact in the descriptive copy.

Sonlight's "RA" and "R" Ratings help you easily choose the best books to read next

When your students (or you) hunger for more great books to read, you can find what you need in a snap...

Look for Read-Aloud (RA) and Reader (R) ratings for each title (see the example above). Number ratings refer to public school grades: P=Preschool, K=Kindergarten, 3=Third, and A=Adult.

Sonlight's lowest RA ratings are conservative (high). You can read most elementary grade books aloud (with some explanation and discussion) to students 1-2 years younger than the lowest RA grade indicated. Other "elementary" books are rated above their assigned grade; they are so great,

we believe it well worth extra effort to make them accessible to younger students. Still other books are NOT good choices for reading aloud to young ones—even with commentary. You'll see higher RA ratings on such titles; most appear in years 7 and up.

Why do RA ratings for many books extend from early grades up through "Adult?" Such books are like the very best "G" rated films: excellent choices to *engage your entire family*. Books with ratings below "Adult" can captivate all ages, but may not appeal to older readers.

When both R and RA ratings extend to Adult,

that book appeals more strongly to serious-minded readers than titles with ratings of 8 or below. In years 5 and up, we urge you: ignore that rating and focus instead on content. Sonlight selects these books primarily for content and accessibility. Your student—and you—can learn plenty!

Worried you might "short-change" your child? Consider this: the next easiest book on the topic is often a college text! College-educated parents rave about what they learn from their kindergarteners' books. Your children, too, can learn content well—even if the source communicates it simply.