

Introduction to Build Your Library Curriculum

Thank you for choosing to use Build Your Library curriculum. I have created this curriculum based on the idea that children learn best through reading and hearing great literature. So sit down with your children, snuggle up and enjoy the stories and memories!

I am a homeschooling mom like you, and I tried a LOT of different curricula. I knew I wanted to read great stories with my children. I loved the philosophy behind the Charlotte Mason method, but I had a hard time finding a prepackaged curriculum that fit my needs. So, after tinkering and tweaking several different programs, I decided to just create my own. What you are now reading is based on my years of experience. I hope it will save you many hours of research and reading so you can just relax and teach your children.

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Booklist

These are the books that are scheduled as part of the curriculum. I highly recommend purchasing the spine books, or books that are used for the whole year. It will save you much aggravation to not have to deal with library fees and such. In addition to this list, I will include a list of picture books for each continent, should you want some extra reading. Don't feel that you need to read or purchase all of those books – they are strictly for enrichment!



All of these books are also listed at the Build Your Library website.

Geography:

[National Geographic Kids Beginner's World Atlas](#) (Spine)
[Children Just Like Me: A new celebration of children around the world](#) (Spine)
[The Kids' Multicultural Cookbook \(Kids Can!\)](#) (Spine)
[Adventures Around the Globe Activity and Sticker Book](#) (consumable Spine)
[Flags Around the World Sticker Book](#) (Spine)
[Me on the Map \(Dragonfly Books\)](#) (Week 1)
[The Great Kapok Tree: A Tale of the Amazon Rain Forest](#) (Week 8)
[Africa Is Not A Country](#) (Week 14)
[Sophie Scott Goes South](#) (Week 24)

Tales:

[Usborne Stories from Around the World](#) (Spine)

Literature:

[How to Make an Apple Pie and See the World \(Dragonfly Books\)](#) (Week 1)
[Little House in the Big Woods \(Little House, No 1\)](#) (Week 2)
[Thirteen Moons on a Turtle's Back](#) (Week 2)
[A Boy Called Slow](#) (Week 5)
[Tales Our Abuelitas Told: A Hispanic Folktale Collection](#) (Week 6)
[The Children of Noisy Village](#) (Week 9)
[Linnea in Monet's Garden](#) (Week 12)
[The Cat Who Walked Across France](#) (Week 13)
[Jambo Means Hello: Swahili Alphabet Book \(Picture Puffin Books\)](#) (Week 14)
[Day of Ahmed's Secret](#) (Week 14)
[Why Mosquitoes Buzz in People's Ears: A West African Tale](#) (Week 15)
[Nelson Mandela's Favorite African Folktales](#) (Week 16)
[The Librarian of Basra: A True Story from Iraq](#) (Week 19)
[Sami and the Time of the Troubles](#) (Week 20)
[The Year of the Dog](#) (Week 21)

[Elephant Prince: The Story of Ganesh](#) (Week 23)

[Audrey of the Outback](#) (Week 24)

[Mr. Popper's Penguins](#) (Week 28)

Science:

[Nat Geo Wild Animal Atlas: Earth's Astonishing Animals and Where They Live \(National Geographic Kids\)](#) (Spine)

[Tree of Life: The World of the African Baobab \(Tree Tales\)](#) (Week 16)

[A Drop Around the World](#) (Week 20)

[The Bee Tree](#) (Week 25)

[Why Are the Ice Caps Melting?](#) (Week 28)

[On the Same Day in March: A Tour of the World's Weather](#) (Week 30)

Poetry:

[National Geographic Book of Animal Poetry](#) (Spine)

Art:

[Around the World Art & Activities: Visiting the 7 Continents Through Craft Fun \(Williamson Little Hands Series\)](#) (Spine)

Optional Art Book:

[Global Art: Activities, Projects, and Inventions from Around the World](#) (This book is geared toward upper elementary, but it offers art projects that reflect cultural diversity and go a little deeper than the ones in the Around the World Art book. You could use this as a substitute for that book if you prefer, especially if you are doing this program with older children or use it to supplement the other book as needed.)

Optional Science Book:

[Janice Van Cleave's Science Around the World](#) (This book is again, geared toward upper elementary and middle grades, but it gives more science activities for an older child who might need more than just animal science.)

Around the World

Week 1

	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5
Geography	Me on the Map	World Atlas pg. 4 – 5	Me on the Map	World Atlas pg. 6 – 7 Adventures Around the Globe pg. 2 – 4	Me on the Map Children Just Like Me pg. 5
Tales					
Literature <i>How to Make an Apple Pie and See the World</i>					
Science <i>Animal Atlas</i>	pg. 4 – 5		pg. 6 – 9		
Art <i>Around the World Art and Activities</i>				Prepare Your Passport pg. 7	
Poetry <i>Book of Animal Poetry</i>		pg. 7 – 9			

Around the World

Week 1 - Day 1

Geography:

This week you will be reading *Me on the Map* – you'll notice I've scheduled it to be read 3 times. Read the whole book each time, repetition is important. It's a short book, and your child will likely pick up different things with each reading. Focus their attention on whatever that day's project consists of.

Geography Activity:

Today have your child draw a map of their home.

Literature:

This week you will read the picture book *How to Make an Apple Pie and See the World*. I didn't schedule it on any particular day – feel free to read it as often as your child likes this week. There will be little project ideas scheduled throughout the week to enrich the story.

Science:

Animal Atlas pages 4 – 5

This reading gives a nice overview of animals around the world. Take the time to look over the page with your child and talk about whatever they find interesting.

Around the World

Week 1 - Day 2

Geography Reading:

World Atlas pages 4 – 5

This spread gives an overview about what maps are used for, as well as different types of maps.

Poetry:

Book of Animal Poetry – read the introduction on page 7 and the poem on page 9

Literature Activity:

- Today, find the places mentioned in the story on your World Map.
- Talk about the ingredients for apple pie that are found all over the world. If possible, visit an apple orchard. Choose a few varieties of apples to try out.

Around the World

Week 1 - Day 3

Geography Reading:

Read *Me on the Map* again today.

Geography Activity:

Today, you are going to color your state map and mark your city or town with a star. You can find your state map to print out here:

<http://www.yourchildlearns.com/megamaps/print-usa-maps.html>

Literature Activity:

- Taste test your apples today – find out why they are named as they are, is it because of where they are grown (as the Empire Apple is named) or because of its taste? If you could name the apple, what would you call it?
- If you'd like to add in some math, count the seeds found in each apple and compare them which had more seeds? Which had less?

Science:

Animal Atlas read pages 6 – 9

This spread is all about ecosystems around the world. Discuss the different ecosystems and figure out which one you live in.

Around the World

Week 1 - Day 4

Geography Reading:

World Atlas read pages 6 – 7

This spread explains how a round world is made flat on a world map.

Adventures Around the Globe – read pages 2 – 4

This is an overview of the book.

Geography Activity:

Begin the “Me on the Map” flipbook found on pages 205 – 212

The back flap of Adventures Around the Globe is a punch-out model of a globe. This project ties in very nicely with the World Atlas reading about how a globe is made flat for a map. By doing this project, they will take a “flat map” and turn it into a globe!

Literature Activity:

- Take a trip to the store today to find the ingredients to bake an apple pie. (You can have them prepared beforehand if a trip to the store isn't a possibility). Discuss what you learned in the story about each of the items.
- Discuss the life cycle of an apple. You can watch this short video:
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=chNwmpgSa78>

Art Project:

Around the World Art and Activities page 7

Today your child is going to create a passport. This project is important as they will be using it the rest of this school year. When you finish studying a continent, they will paste a “Passport Sticker” (found on pages 203 – 204) into their passport. At the end of the year their passport will be full of stickers to remind them of what they learned.

Around the World

Week 1 - Day 5

Geography Reading:

Read *Me on the Map* for the final time today.

Read Children Just Like Me page 5

Discussion topic: Talk about what your child might like to do to help make a difference and change the world.

Geography Activity:

Complete the “Me on the Map” flipbook.

Literature Activity:

Today you are going to use the ingredients you purchased yesterday to bake an apple pie!

You can use this recipe:

<http://allrecipes.com/Recipe/Sundays-Apple-Pie/Detail.aspx>

SAMPLE