

Level 0

(Kindergarten - Ages 4-6)

Around the World



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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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SAMPLE WEEK

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!



See appendix for a list of the optional books mentioned throughout the lesson plans.

All of these books are also listed with hyperlinks at the Build Your Library website on the Level 0 Product Page: <https://buildyourlibrary.com/purchase-level-0-curriculum/>

Geography:

Lonely Planet Amazing World Atlas by Lonely Planet Kids (Spine)
Children Just Like Me: A Celebration of Children Around the World by DK (Spine)
Cooking Class: Global Feast by Deanna F. Cook (Spine)
National Geographic Kids World Atlas Sticker Activity Book (Consumable spine)
DK Flags Around the World Ultimate Sticker Book (Consumable spine)
Me on the Map by Joan Sweeny (Week 1)
The Great Kapok Tree: A Tale of the Amazon Rainforest by Lynne Cherry (week 7)
Africa is Not a Country by Mark Melnicove and Margy Burns Knight (week 20)
Sophie Scott Goes South by Alison Lester (Week 28)

Tales:

A World Full of Animal Stories by Angela McAllister (Spine)

Literature:

How to Make an Apple Pie and See the World by Marjorie Priceman (week 1)
The Very, Very Far North by Dan Bar-El (Week 2)
Carson Crosses Canada by Linda Bailey and Kass Reich (Week 3)
A Boy Called Slow: The True Story of Sitting Bull by Joseph Bruchac (Week 4)
Dear Primo: A Letter to my Cousin by Duncan Tonatiuh (Week 5)
Tales our Abuelitas Told: A Hispanic Folktale Collection by Alma Flor Ada (Week 6)
Along the Tapajos by Fernando Vilela (week 7)
Biblioburro: A True Story from Colombia by Jeanette Winter (week 9)
The Children of Noisy Village by Astrid Lindgren (week 10)

Katie in London by James Mayhew (week 12)
Linnea in Monet's Garden by Christina Björk and Lena Anderson (Week 13)
The Mitten by Jan Brett (week 14)
Babushka Baba Yaga by Patricia Polacco (week 15)
The Year of the Dog by Grace Lin (week 16)
Malala's Magic Pencil by Malala Yousafzai (week 17)
Mela and the Elephant by Dow Phumiruk (week 18)
Snow in Jerusalem by Deborah Da Costa (week 19)
Jambo Means Hello: A Swahili Alphabet Book by Muriel Feelings (week 20)
The Storyteller by Evan Turk (week 21)
Nelson Mandela's Favorite African Folktales (week 22)
Why Mosquitoes Buzz in People's Ears by Verna Aardema (week 23)
Audrey of the Outback by Christine Harris and Ann James (week 25)
Mr. Popper's Penguins by Richard and Florence Atwater (week 28)

Science:

National Geographic Kids Wild Animal Atlas (Spine)
A Drop Around the World by Barbara McKinney (Week 16)
African Critters by Robert B. Haas (Week 22)
Why Are the Ice Caps Melting? The Dangers of Global Warming by Anne Rockwell (week 28)
On the Same Day in March: A Tour of the World's Weather by Marilyn Singer (Week 30)

Poetry:

National Geographic Book of Animal Poetry (Spine)

Art:

Global Art: Activities, Projects, and Inventions from Around the World by MaryAnn Kohl (Spine)

Optional Science Book:

Janice Van Cleave's Science Around the World (This book is 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.)

Note: See appendix (pages 241 – 244) for a list of all the optional books scheduled throughout the lesson plans.

Note to Parents:

This is a 30-week program geared to introducing your young child to the world around them. It is a gentle introduction to schooling. There are no phonics lessons or math lessons and very little handwriting. If you want to include those things in your school day, you can. My goal was to give you a fun and gentle plan to teach your children about world geography using a variety of beautiful stories, art projects and meaningful activities.

The **map work** at this level is very simple – they are just coloring in a map of each continent and looking up the places they read about on a map. They do not need to label anything (but if they want to that's excellent!), but rather, get acquainted with what maps are, what they are used for and the location of the 7 continents. You will want to have a wall sized map available for your child to spend time looking over. In addition to that, if you are using this program with an older child, you may want to have them print out a blank world map with country borders (this is a good one: http://www.freeusandworldmaps.com/html/World_Projections/WorldPrint.html) and rather than just looking up the countries being studied as assigned, you can have them color the countries in on their map. At the end of the school year they'll have a great visual of the places they studied over the course of the school year.

You will also create a **passport booklet**. This is a booklet you will create with paper folded in half to create a book. I have provided you with a graphic you can use on the cover page, as well as titles for pages (see pages 195 - 196 of this guide). At the end of each continent study, your child will add a "Passport Sticker" to their passport book. Encourage them to include drawings or pictures printed from the internet/cut from magazines to enhance their book. When they have completed this course, they will have a full passport book to show the places they have learned about as well as lots of craft projects (I recommend that you take pictures and create a scrapbook of their projects, otherwise they will take over the house!) that they will want to show off.

The science focus is on zoology as your child learns about animals around the world. There is a research aspect, however, at this age, you will be doing the bulk of the research alongside your child. For each continent studied, your child will be asked to complete an **Animal Profile** notebook page (found on pages 238 – 239 of this guide). Just have your child choose an animal from that continent (it doesn't have to be one mentioned in the Atlas, but it can be) and help them to learn more. You can go to your local library and peruse the shelves or use the internet. This is a fantastic website to aid you in your research:

<http://kids.nationalgeographic.com/kids/animals/creaturefeature/>.

I hope you enjoy this fun tour of the continents with your children as much as I enjoyed writing it!

Around the World

Week 1

	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5
Geography <i>Me on the Map</i> <i>Amazing World Atlas</i> <i>World Atlas Sticker and Activity Book</i> <i>Children Just Like Me</i>	Read book	Pg. 6 – 7	Read book	Pg. 18 – 19 Pg. 2 – 3	Read book Pg. 20 – 21 Pg. 5
Tales					
Literature <i>How to Make an Apple Pie and See the World</i>	Read book		Read book		Read book
Science <i>Wild Animal Atlas</i>	Pg. 4 – 5		Pg. 6 – 9		
Art				Prepare Your Passport	
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 will notice that I’ve scheduled it to be read 3 times. Read the whole book each time, repetition is important. It is 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. It can be as simple or as detailed as they like. Have them walk around the house first and remind them to think about the layout of the house – what room is beside the kitchen, where their bedroom is, etc.

Literature:

How to Make an Apple Pie and See the World – read the book today.

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 this week. Choose a few varieties of apples to try out.

Science:

Wild Animal Atlas pages 4 – 5

Key Idea/Topic – 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:

Amazing World Atlas – read pages 6 – 7

Key Idea/Topic – This spread discusses the Earth’s place in space.

Geography Activity:

Use the activity page found on page 207 of this guide and have your child color the Planet Earth coloring page.

Poetry:

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

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:

How to Make an Apple Pie and See the World – read the book again today.

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 (Honey Crisp)? If you could name the apple, what would you call it?
- If you would like to add in some math, count the seeds found in each apple and compare them. Which had more seeds? Which had less?
(NOTE: Save some of those seeds for tomorrow's activity!)

Science:

Wild Animal Atlas read pages 6 – 9

Key Idea/Topic – 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:

Amazing World Atlas – read pages 18 – 19

Key Idea/Topic – This spread explains the different ways we have mapped the world.

World Atlas Sticker Activity Book – read pages 2 – 3

Key Idea/Topic – This spread covers the world. Help your child to name the 7 continents.

Geography Activity:

Begin the “Me on the Map” flipbook found on pages 208 – 215 of this guide.

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. (Save one of your apples for next week’s art project!)
- Discuss the life cycle of an apple. You can watch this short animated video: [Apple Tree Life Cycle Animation | LifeForBeginners](#)
- Plant a few of the apple seeds you saved! <https://www.instructables.com/id/Growing-Apple-trees-from-seed/>
- Optional Reading: You might like to read about Johnny Appleseed. There have been many books written so explore the selection at your local library. These are a few you might want to look out for:

Johnny Appleseed a Tall Tale Retold by Stephen Kellogg

Who Was Johnny Appleseed by Joan Holub

Johnny Appleseed by Reeve Lindbergh

Art Project:

Today your child is going to create a passport. You will need 6 pieces of white paper folded in half to create a booklet. If you want a sturdier book, I recommend using cardstock for the outside page of your booklet. Staple them in the middle at the spine of the booklet to hold together. You can use the activity pages on page 195 – 196 of this guide to set up your passport. I have also included titles you can cut for each continent page, as well as reading log where you can track the books you read this year! 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 page 197 of this guide) into their passport. You can encourage them to include drawings or pictures they find in magazines or on the internet to decorate their passport. At the end of the year their passport will help remind them of what they learned.

Around the World

Week 1 - Day 5

Geography Reading:

Amazing World Atlas – read pages 20 – 21

Key Idea/Topic – This spread discusses the different ways we can use maps.

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

Children Just Like Me – read page 5

To discuss: 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:

How to Make an Apple Pie and See the World – read the book for the final time today.

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>

BuildYourLibrary.com

SAMPLE WEEK