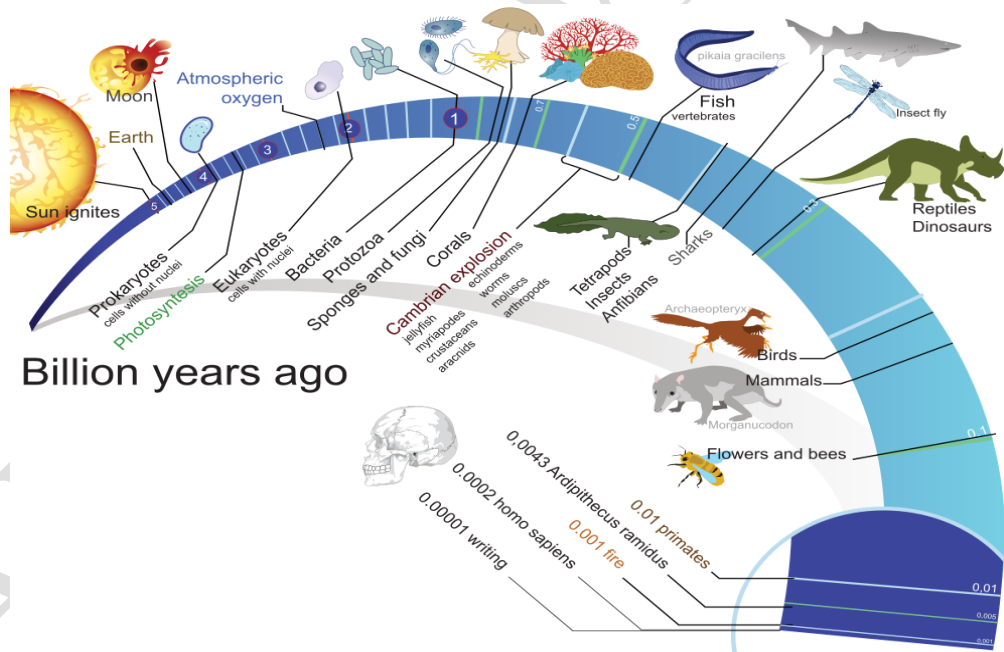


Level 9

(Grade 9 - Ages 14-16)

Prehistoric World



Written by:
Emily Cook

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 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 books that are used more than a few weeks. It will save you much aggravation to not have to deal with library fees and such.

All these books are also listed with hyperlinks at the Build Your Library website on the Level 9 Product Page: <https://buildyourlibrary.com/purchase-level-9-curriculum/>

History:

Prehistoric Life: The Definitive Visual History of Life on Earth by DK Publishing (spine Week 1)

Evolution: The Human Story by Dr. Alice Roberts (spine Week 22)

The Story of Life in 25 Fossils: Tales of Intrepid Fossil Hunters and the Wonders of Evolution by Donald R. Prothero (spine Week 3)

A Brief History of Earth: Four Billion Years in Eight Chapters by Andrew H. Knoll (Week 1)

Sapiens: A Graphic History Volume 1: The Birth of Humankind by Noah Yuval Harari (Week 22)

Sapiens: A Graphic History Volume 2: The Pillars of Civilization by Noah Yuval Harari (Week 30)

Science:

A Short History of Nearly Everything by Bill Bryson (spine)

Janice VanCleave's A+ Projects in Earth Science (spine)

The Practical Geologist by Dougal Dixon (Week 1)

The Brilliant Abyss by Helen Scales (Week 17)

The Stuff of Life: A Graphic Guide to Genetics and DNA by Mark Schultz (Week 29)

How to Change Everything: The Young Human's Guide to Protecting the Planet and Each Other by Naomi Klein (Week 33)

Poetry:

Poetry 180: A turning Back to Poetry by Billy Collins (spine)

A Poetry Handbook by Mary Oliver (spine)

Introduction to Literary Analysis:

How to Read Literature Like a Professor: A Lively and Entertaining Guide to Reading Between the Lines by Thomas C. Foster (spine)

Figuratively Speaking worktext by Delana Heindrich and Bev Armstrong (consumable spine)

Literature:

Binti: The Complete Trilogy by Nnedi Okorafor (Week 1)

Life as We Knew It by Susan Beth Pfeffer (Week 3)

The Lord of the Rings trilogy by J.R.R. Tolkien (Week 5)

Memory of Water by Emmi Itäranta (Week 11)

The Taming of the Shrew by William Shakespeare (Week 13)
Ashfall by Mike Mullin (Week 15) Alternate: [Dry by Neal Shusterman](#)
Raptor Red by Robert T. Bakker (Week 18)
Evolution, Me, & Other Freaks of Nature by Robin Brande (Week 20)
A Bone from a Dry Sea by Peter Dickinson (Week 22)
Eva by Peter Dickinson (Week 23)
The Last Cuentista by Donna Barba Higuera (Week 25)
Braiding Sweetgrass for Young Adults: Indigenous Wisdom, Scientific Knowledge, and the Teachings of Plants by Robin Wall Kimmerer and Monique Gray Smith (Week 27)
The Kin by Peter Dickinson (Week 30)
Legendborn by Tracy Deonn (Week 33)

Survival Skills Elective:

Bushcraft: Outdoor Skills and Wilderness Survival by Mors Kochanski (Spine Week 2))
Edible Wild Plants: A North American Field Guide to Over 200 Natural Foods by Thomas Elias and Peter Dykeman (Week 23)

Art:

You Can Draw in 30 Days by Mark Kistler (Weeks 1 – 15)
The First Signs: Unlocking the Mysteries of the World's Oldest Symbols by Genevieve von Petzinger (Weeks 24 – 34)
OPTIONAL: *Cave Art* by Bruno David
Material: Sketch Pad

Optional Books and Resources:

Smithsonian Handbooks: Rocks & Minerals (Smithsonian Handbooks)
Smithsonian Handbooks: Fossils
Keeping a Nature Journal: Discover a Whole New Way of Seeing the World Around You by Clare Walker Leslie (Might be useful for working on your Survival Journal)
DK Smithsonian Dinosaurs and Prehistoric Life
The Age of Dinosaurs: The Rise and Fall of the Worlds Most Remarkable Animals by Steve Brusatte
Make Your Own Dinosaur out of Chicken Bones: Foolproof Instructions for Budding Paleontologists by Christopher McGowan
The Cartoon Guide to the Environment (Cartoon Guide Series) by Larry Gonick
Every Bone Tells a Story: Hominin Discoveries, Deductions, and Debates by Jill Rubalcaba
A Field Guide to Eastern Trees: Eastern United States and Canada, Including the Midwest (Peterson Field Guides)
The Hidden Life of Trees by Peter Wohlleben
The Hunting & Gathering Survival Manual: 221 Primitive & Wilderness Survival Skills by Tim MacWelch

Prehistoric World

Week 1

	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5
History: <i>A Brief History of Earth</i> <i>Prehistoric Life</i>	Prologue	Pg. 12 – 15		Pg. 16 – 19	
Science: <i>A Short History of Everything</i> <i>A+ Projects in Earth Science</i> <i>Practical Geologist</i>		Read introduction	Pg. 73 – 77	Pg. 6 – 9	
Literature <i>Binti: The Complete Trilogy</i>	<i>Binti</i> Pg. 1 – 29	Pg. 29 – 56	<i>Sacred Fire</i>	<i>Binti Home At Home</i>	<i>Binti Home The Root – Destiny is a Delicate Dance</i>
Intro to Literary Analysis <i>How to Read Literature Like a Professor</i> <i>Figuratively Speaking</i>		Intro – Chapter 1			Lesson 1 Denotation and Connotation
Poetry: <i>Poetry 180</i>	Poem 001	Poem 002	Poem 003	Poem 004	Poem 005
Writing and Composition				Dictation	
Art <i>You Can Draw in 30 Days</i>		Lesson 1		Lesson 2	
Survival Skills					

Prehistoric World

Week 1 - Day 1

History Reading:

A Brief History of Earth – read Prologue: An Invitation

Key Idea/Topic – The author seeks to show you more about the ingredients that make up the Earth, and the ways in which our home planet has been altered by our species. By learning our planet's history, we can better understand the changes that have happened.

Literature:

Binti: The Complete Trilogy – read *Binti* pages 1 – 29

Notes and Vocabulary:

pariah

ballistic

coefficients

bioluminescent

diminish

stellated

inert

- Why had Binti left home? How did she feel about it? Why didn't her friends and family want her to leave? Have you ever done something that you knew was right for you but that others might not agree with?
- What do we learn about the Himba people in just the first few pages of the book? How do the Himba differ from the Khoush?
- How did Binti describe the edan? Where did she find it? What made it special?
- What does it mean to "tree?"
- How did the Meduse arrival change the course of Binti's life? How did Binti protect herself? How did they treat her?
- There are many fascinating technologies in this story. Describe the one you find the most interesting. Imagine you were an inventor in this world. Create a technological advancement and write a detailed paragraph describing it. Include an illustration.
- What is Otjize? Why was it so important to Binti and the Himba? What happened when Okwu touched Binti's otjize?

Dictation Passage:

It happened fast like the desert wolves who attack travelers at night back home. One of the Meduse shot towards me. I watched it come. I saw my parents, sisters, brothers, aunts, and uncles, all gathered at a remembrance for me – full of pain and loss. I saw my spirit break from my body and return to my planet, to the desert, where I would tell stories to the sand people.

Poetry:

Poetry 180 – read page 3, *Introduction to Poetry* by Billy Collins.

Prehistoric World

Week 1 - Day 2

History Reading:

Prehistoric Life – read pages 12 – 15

Key Idea/Topic – Exploring the Earth’s past and the origin of the Earth

History Activity:

Sketch: Sketch and label a diagram showing the Nebular Theory of formation of the Solar System. (Use the graphics in *Prehistoric Life* on pages 14 – 15)

Science:

A Short History of Nearly Everything – read the Introduction.

Science Activity:

The author poses some questions that he considered when he was young, as well as the ones that made him want to write this book. Write a list of “Big Questions” that you have about the world and how it works.

Literature:

Binti: The Complete Trilogy – read *Binti* pages 29 – 56

Notes and Vocabulary:

copiously

chitinous

miniscule

undulating

sterile

provocation

stoic

prestige

infamy

demarcation

callous

- What did Okwu say set Binti apart from the other humans aboard the ship?
- Define the words gain and purpose. Okwu claimed that the Meduse only kill for purpose and never for sport or gain. What is the difference between gain and purpose? Why did Binti think they were the same? Do you agree or disagree with her? Explain.
- What was the Meduse purpose in taking the ship and killing those aboard?
- Why did Binti offer to help the Meduse when they arrived at Oomza Uni? Why did she think she could prevent more violence?
- Retell Binti’s meeting with the Meduse chief. What did it ask of her before she could be their ambassador?
- Why was Binti able to understand Meduse speech without the edan? How did this ability change her?
- How did the professors of Oomza Uni surprise the Meduse chief?
- What did the professors ask of Okwu? Why?
- In what ways did Binti help the Meduse? Why did she think that the Meduse respected her? How did she think she had failed Okwu? Had she?

Week 1 - Day 2, continued

Dictation:

Study the dictation.

Intro to Literary Analysis:

How to Read Literature Like a Professor – read the Introduction – chapter 1

Complete the Study Guide sections for the reading. (Study Guide can be found on pages 304 – 338 of this guide)

Poetry:

Poetry 180 – read page 4 – *Selecting a Reader* by Ted Kooser

Art:

You Can Draw In 30 Days – complete lesson 1

Prehistoric World

Week 1 - Day 3

Science Activity:

Janice VanCleave's A+ Projects in Earth Science – Complete the Earth's Layers project on Pg. 73 – 77 and write a lab report about the experiment. (The Lab Report template can be found on pages 340 - 341 of this guide.)

Materials Needed:

drawing compass
metric ruler
6 inch (15 cm) square of cardboard
3 lemon-sized pieces of modeling clay in yellow, red and blue
12 inch (30 cm) piece of string

Literature:

Binti: The Complete Trilogy – read *Binti: Sacred Fire*

Notes and Vocabulary:

gelatinous

resonated

livid

acclimating

accosted

dissipate

arid

- What difficulties did Binti experience in her first weeks at Oomza Uni?
- Describe Haifa. What did she say she and Binti had in common?
- What is the difference between the words transition and align? How did Haifa describe herself? How would Binti's culture say it?
- How did students at school react to Okwu? Why? How did they treat Binti because of her relationship with Okwu?
- Why did Binti insist on going to the desert? Who accompanied her? What does the desert symbolize for Binti?
- What is the Sacred Fire? Why was it important to Binti?
- Binti uses mathematical equation and numbers to help calm herself down. It becomes a sort of meditation for her. What do you find soothing? How do you calm yourself when you are stressed out or upset?

Dictation:

Study the dictation.

Poetry:

Poetry 180 – read page 5 – *Not Bad, Dad, Not Bad* by Jan Heller Levi

Prehistoric World

Week 1 - Day 4

History Reading:

Prehistoric World – read pages 16 – 19

Key Idea/Topic – The First 500 Million Years

Science Reading:

Practical Geologist – Introduction – read pages 6 – 9

Literature:

Binti: The Complete Trilogy – read *Binti Home* – At Home

Notes and Vocabulary:

stellated

undulating

prostration

sonorous

dissonance

girth

bulbous

hinterland

- What is a pilgrimage? Why did Binti feel she needed to go home and make a pilgrimage? Why did she agree to bring Okwu along?
- What is post-traumatic stress disorder? What caused Binti to suffer from it? What symptoms did she have?
- What made the journey home difficult for Binti? Why wasn't Okwu affected by it?
- How was Third Fish different?
- What techniques did Binti use to help her get through the trip?
- Why was it such a big deal for Okwu to land on Earth? How did Binti help to prepare him?
- Why did the Khoush and Meduse wage war against each other?
- How did the Khoush react to Okwu stepping off the ship?

Dictation:

Complete dictation passage.

Poetry:

Poetry 180 – read pages 6 – 7, *Singing Back the World* by Dorianne Laux

Art:

You Can Draw in 30 Days – complete lesson 2

Prehistoric World

Week 1 - Day 5

History and Science Activity:

Choose a topic from this week's readings and write a 5 paragraph, one page report. You'll want to guide your child in narrowing down a topic, writing an outline and then using their outline to write their report.

Literature:

Binti: The Complete Trilogy – read *Binti Home: The Root – Destiny is a Delicate Dance*

Notes and Vocabulary:

edifice

raucously

eluded

labyrinthine

- How did Binti's family treat her now that she was home? What did they expect her to do now?
- What had changed at home in her absence? How had she changed?
- What did water represent to the Meduse? How did Okwu react to seeing the lake?
- What was expected of a good Himba girl? How did the other Himba look at Binti differently now?
- Describe the Desert People. What made them different from the Himba? How did Binti and her family think of them?
- Retell how Binti found the edan. What did the Desert People call it?
- Why did Binti think she was meant to find the edan? How had finding it changed her life?

Intro to Literary Analysis:

Figuratively Speaking – Complete Lesson 1 on Denotation and Connotation

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