

# Kindergarten, Grade 1



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## How to Create Your Own Homeschool Curriculum: K, Gr. 1

One of the things I hear a lot about our blog is that there is so much to take in, it can be overwhelming. That is especially true if you are a new homeschooler just starting out. I have set out to make a series of resource packets with ideas of what you could cover in your homeschool in K-1, 2-3, 4-5, and 6-8. I hope these resource packets are helpful.

I have three kids. All three of my kids have had a different experience as they've come up through the grades. That's partly while you'll find SO many options on our blog!

We do most of our units together, so my kindergartner and my 5<sup>th</sup> grader would have been doing the same units at the same time. The material might have been a stretch for my kindergartner. A few years later, though, we would cycle around and do our units again so the kids would get the material again on a different level. The reverse is also true. Sometimes we would do a unit geared more for my youngest like the States of Matter that we did this fall. My older two participated/reviewed the material. Then we went on into more depth (in this case with the Physical and Chemical Properties of Matter unit).

What I hope to do with this series is give you a framework of what we did. You can look at what we did and pick and choose what might work for your family. That's the wonderful thing about homeschooling, you create a curriculum path that works for you!

You can cover the material with purchased homeschool curriculum. Or, you can just borrow books from the library. You can do projects, lapbooks, or notebook pages. You can do experiments, crafts, posters, mini-research projects and all kinds of things to help your kids learn. You can read aloud non-fiction and fiction books. You can watch videos... anything from the Magic School Bus (for younger kids) to documentaries (for older students). In the right context, (fictional) movies can be very educational as well! You can go on field trips, to museums, and explore the online world. ... and much, much more!

My highest goals have been to make the learning creative and engaging for the kids. I want them to have the skills they need to write well (and creatively), to think critically, to be able to learn new things on their own, to be polite, kind people. I want them to value education and to see what it will do for them. I keep the end goals in mind... And that's *\*your\** first step. Decide what skills you want the kids to have at the end of the year and at the end of this homeschool journey. Then slowly work towards those!

In the early years, my goals were small - I wanted to work on the basics of reading, writing, and math. Yet, I wanted to take advantage of their wonder in the world. We did a lot with science and geography... and we learned about some places far away and times long ago. We didn't learn the \*facts\* of history (though we talked about them) ... the kids were introduced to our wondrous world through crafts and activities, stories and photos.

Keep in mind that you will not and do not have to cover "everything." If you purchase a curriculum, you do not have to cover every page. If you look at a checklist of curriculum options... you do not have to cover everything. Use those as a resource, not as to-do list (or a ball-and-chain)!!

All that was kind of a disclaimer. I want to offer you a starting point (if it helps), but want you to know the YOU can and will create an amazing homeschool experience!! You CAN do this!! You know your kids better than anyone else!!

So, let's jump into the meat of things - building a curriculum for Kindergarten and Grade 1:

When my oldest was in kindergarten, we were doing a LOT of Montessori activities. He has two younger sisters, so that type of material worked really well for us at the time. He worked with a lot of Montessori 3-Part cards; we did a ton of geography-related activities (especially working with pin maps); we did lots of "cool" science experiments; we did a lot of crafts; and we did a lot of activities circling around the holidays and seasons.

When my youngest was in Kindergarten, she had a different experience because her siblings are 2 and 4 years older than her. By the time she was in Kindergarten, we were doing more formal "unit studies." She was in Kindergarten, for example, when we covered Simple Machines... I included that here, but I also put that particular unit in the Gr. 2-3 part of this series.

I have included some of the (purchased) curriculums that we used at this age such as Handwriting Without Tears, All About Spelling, or Story of the World. Just know that there are TONS of homeschool curriculum options out there. You might want to order the HUGE catalog from Rainbow Resource Center (it's free) to look for curriculum that fits with your needs.

This first section is a handout I made for a homeschool conference recently. Then after that is the original Kindergarten-Grade 1 resource pack. There is probably some repetition. 😊

As always, if you have any questions for me, feel free to email me!

~Liesl

[Liesl@homeschoolden.com](mailto:Liesl@homeschoolden.com)

# How to Create Your Own Homeschool Curriculum Kindergarten/Grade 1

Creating a Homeschool Curriculum  
K-Gr 1

Language Arts	Math	Social Studies	Science	Holiday & Seasons and Themes
<b>Learning to Read</b> • Letters and Sounds • CVC Words • Sight Words • Phonics • Phonics Readers • Independent Reading (with Help Readers, etc.) <b>Read Aloud Books</b> We have always made reading about a high priority. <b>Handwriting</b> (Handwriting without Tears) <b>First Language Lessons</b> (by Susan Wise Bauer)	<b>We made math very playful at this age. We did a lot of Montessori Math, Daily Calendar Work, Math Games.</b> <b>Numbers and 1-to-1 correspondence</b> Number words <b>Addition and Dice Games</b> Number Families Addition Facts Subtraction Subtraction Facts <b>Resources we Used a Lot</b> <b>Games with Math by Peggy</b> <b>Right Start Math Games</b>	<b>*7 Continents</b> <b>Where Do I Live?</b> First Language Lessons (which is also listed under Language Arts) does a good job of introducing some of the U.S. states) *U.S. Geography Landmarks - USA Song about the mountains and rivers *World Geography, Landmarks, Animals *Country Unit Study/Legends We studied China (and did lots of crafts) and Africa. *Ancient History We used Story of the World and used a lot of children's myths. We took an entire semester studying ancient and ancient Egypt one year. Our study of Ancient Greece also took almost a semester because we did lots of crafts, read lots of myths, children's versions of the Odyssey, etc.	<b>Animal Classification</b> Montessori 3-Part Cards Living/Non-Living Vertebrate/Invertebrates Animal Characteristics Insects/Spiders Nautilus/Jellyfish Animals and their Groups Amino Acids World Animals (along with the 7 continents in 3's) <b>Fun Experiments</b> We did a series of science experiments when my son was in K. Units we Studied: Backs and Minerals Dinosaurs Astronomy and the Solar System Human Body Introduction to the Body: 5 Senses Bones/nerves Tracing their body on huge paper, drawing in the organs	Apples Halloween Fall Christmas Winter Valentine's Day Easter - We have a great Egg-Speriment Packet! Pinches Bats Bears Birds (Anything that interests your kids!)

Free Printable [homeschoolden.com](http://homeschoolden.com)

I have often been asked questions from my readers such as “**Where do I start? How do I know what to teach? What units did your kids do when they were in \_\_ Grade?**” The simple answer is every homeschooling family will have their own journey. And in fact, each of my three kids had a different homeschool journey as well! But I wanted to put together these guides to show you what our family did along the way. Maybe it will give you a few ideas as you forge your own amazing homeschool path!!

**Creating Your Own Homeschool Curriculum:** These are some resources I made that might be helpful as you create your own homeschool plans. These are somewhere between 30 and 50 pages and are **FREE** to download over on the website.

## Kindergarten/Grade 1: Overview

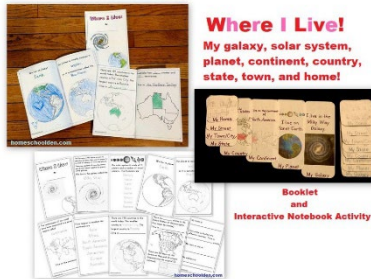
Language Arts	Math	Social Studies	Science	Holiday & Seasons and Themes
<p>Learning to Read</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Letters and Sounds</li> <li>2 Letter Words</li> <li>CVC Words</li> <li>Sight Words</li> <li>Phonics</li> <li>Phonics Readers</li> <li>Independent Reading (with Hello Readers, etc.)</li> </ul> <p>Read Aloud Books</p> <p>We always made reading aloud a high priority.</p> <p>Handwriting (Handwriting without Tears)</p> <p><a href="#">First Language Lessons</a> (by Jessie Wise)</p> <p>We started using <a href="#">All About Spelling</a> in Gr 1.</p>	<p>We made math very playful at this age. We did a lot of Montessori Math, Daily Calendar Work, Math Games.</p> <p>Numbers and 1-to-1 correspondence</p> <p>Number words</p> <p>Addition and Dice Games</p> <p>Place Value</p> <p>Activities</p> <p>Sunny-side-up Game</p> <p>Number Families</p> <p>Addition Facts</p> <p>Subtraction</p> <p>Subtraction Facts</p> <p>Skip Counting (by 2s, 5s, 10s)</p> <p>Clocks</p> <p>Counting Coins</p> <p>Resources we Used a Lot</p> <p><a href="#">Games for Math</a> by Peggy Kaye</p> <p><a href="#">Right Start Math Games</a></p>	<p>*7 Continents (and world animals)</p> <p>*Where Do I Live?</p> <p>First Language Lessons (which is also listed under Language Arts) does a good job of introducing some of the U.S. states)</p> <p>*Where do things come from?</p> <p>*U.S. Geography, Landmarks - USA Song about the mountains and rivers</p> <p>*World Geography, Landmarks, Animals</p> <p>*Country Unit</p> <p>Study/Lapbooks</p> <p>We studied China (and did lots of crafts)</p> <p>*Ancient History</p> <p>We used Story of the World and used children's myths. We took an entire semester studying Africa and Ancient Egypt one year. Our study of Ancient Greece also took almost a semester because we did lots of crafts, read lots of myths, children's versions of the Odyssey, etc.</p>	<p>Animal Classification</p> <p>Montessori 3-Part Cards:</p> <p>Living/NonLiving</p> <p>Vertebrate/Invertebrates</p> <p>Animal Characteristics</p> <p>Insects/Spiders</p> <p>Nocturnal/Diurnal</p> <p>Animals</p> <p>Animals and their Groups</p> <p>Above/Below Ground</p> <p>World Animals (along with the 7 continents in S.S.)</p> <p>Fun Experiments</p> <p>We did a series of science experiments when my son was in K.</p> <p>Units we Studied:</p> <p>Rocks and Minerals</p> <p>Dinosaurs</p> <p>Astronomy and the Solar System,</p> <p>Layers of the Earth</p> <p>Human Body</p> <p>Introduction to the Body,</p> <p>5 Senses</p> <p>Bones/x-rays</p> <p>Tracing their body on huge paper... drawing in the organs</p>	<p>Apples</p> <p>Halloween</p> <p>Fall</p> <p>Christmas</p> <p>Winter</p> <p>Valentine's Day</p> <p>St. Patrick's Day</p> <p>Easter - We have a great Egg-Speriment Packet!</p> <p>Pirates</p> <p>Bats</p> <p>Bears</p> <p>Birds</p> <p>Whales (Anything that interests your kids!!)</p>

# Kindergarten/Grade 1: Social Studies



World Map - We did a number of activities to get the kids familiar with the 7 continents (and the oceans). We made our own Montessori-style Continent Pin Map. (This material is included in the "Where I Live" Packet.)

We then moved on to World Animals (science/social studies topic)



Where I Live Activities - My galaxy, solar system, planet, continent, country, state, town, and home!

An activity to focus on where we live in the solar system right down to the city/town and street.

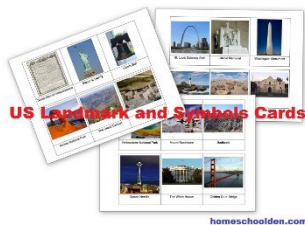


World Geography, Landmarks, Animals



Where do things come from? What's in Your Cookie? - Free Printable about Where Things Come From

We went over farmyard animals and animal families




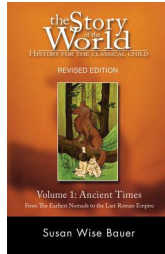
U.S. Geography, Landmarks - USA Song about the mountains and rivers

We used the landmark cards and placed them on a large USA map

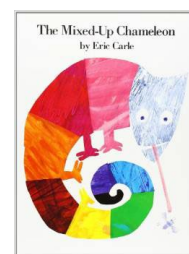


Country Unit Study/Lapbooks

We studied China (and did lots of crafts)

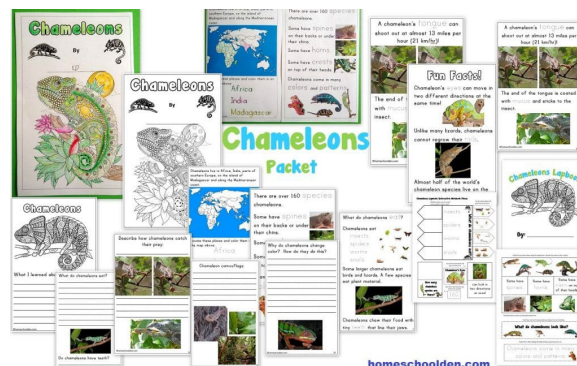
	<h2>Ancient History</h2> <p>We used Story of the World and used children's myths. We took an entire semester studying Africa and Ancient Egypt one year. Our study of Ancient Greece also took almost a semester because we did lots of crafts, read lots of myths, children's versions of the Odyssey, etc.</p>
	<h2>Story of the World</h2> <p>Our family really enjoyed the recorded versions of these books!</p>

- Apples
- Halloween
- Fall
- Christmas
- Winter
- Valentine's Day
- St. Patrick's Day
- Easter - We have a great Egg-Speriment Packet!



We often did mini-units that we paired with children's literature




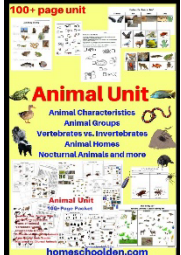
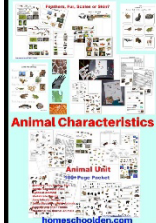

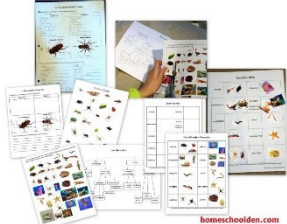


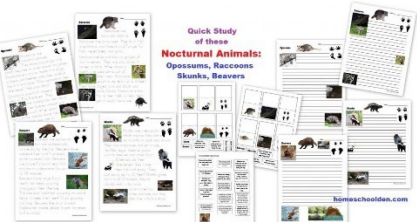


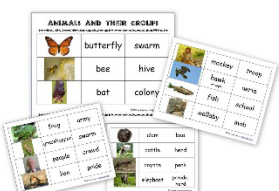
- Pirates
- Bats
- Wolves
- Chameleons
- Bears
- Birds
- Whales
- Sharks
- (Anything that interests your kids!!)

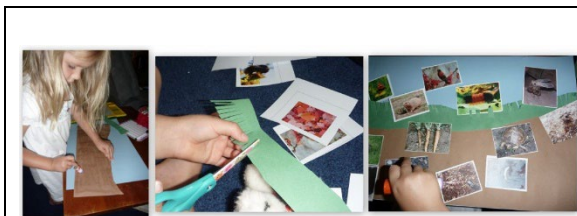


Some families do entire curriculum (such as Five-in-a-Row) based on literature books bringing in geography, history, culture, science, weather, arts & crafts, and more!

# Kindergarten/Grade 1: Science

## Zoology

 <p>Living Nonliving Free Living Nonliving Sorting Cards</p> <p>homeschoolden.com</p>	<p>Montessori 3-Part Cards: Living/NonLiving</p> <p>Free Living Non-Living Worksheets</p> <p>20+ Page FREE Packet</p> <p>homeschoolden.com</p>
 <p>Vertebrates vs. Invertebrates Animal Sorting Cards Animal Characteristics Worksheets Animal Groups and more</p> <p>homeschoolden.com</p>  <p>Vertebrate - Invertebrate Montessori Sorting Cards</p> <p>homeschoolden.com</p>	<p>Vertebrate/Invertebrates</p> <p>Vertebrate - Invertebrate Worksheets</p> <p>5 Animal Groups Worksheets</p> <p>homeschoolden.com</p>  <p>100+ page unit Animal Unit Animal Characteristics Animal Groups Vertebrates vs. Invertebrates Animal Homes Nocturnal Animals and more</p> <p>homeschoolden.com</p>
 <p>Animal Characteristics Animal Unit 100+ Page Packet</p> <p>homeschoolden.com</p>  <p>Animal Body Coverings Feathers, Fur, Scales or Skin? Part of the 20+ page Animal Packet</p> <p>homeschoolden.com</p>	<p>Animal Characteristics</p>
 <p>homeschoolden.com</p>	<p>Insects/Spiders</p>
 <p>What do Animals Eat? Herbivores Carnivores Omnivores Worksheets Notebook Pages Interactive Notebook Pages</p> <p>homeschoolden.com</p>  <p>Herbivores, Carnivores, Omnivores Worksheets and Activities</p> <p>homeschoolden.com</p>	<p>Herbivore, Carnivore, Omnivore</p>
 <p>Quick Study of these Nocturnal Animals: Opossums, Raccoons, Skunks, Beavers</p> <p>homeschoolden.com</p>	<p>Nocturnal/Diurnal Animals</p>  <p>Nocturnal Animals Opossums Raccoons Skunks Beavers Included in our 100+ page Animal Unit homeschoolden.com</p>  <p>Quick Study of these Nocturnal Animals: Opossums, Raccoons, Skunks, Beavers</p> <p>Nocturnal Animal Interactive Notebook Pages</p> <p>homeschoolden.com</p>
 <p>ANIMALS AND THEIR GROUPS</p> <p>butterfly swarm bee hive bat colony frog army monkey troop fish school goose flock deer pride lion pride wolf pack bird flock kitten litter puppy litter cub litter chick flock egg clutch goat herd sheep flock ant colony mole army squirrel group porcupine group kangaroo mob emu flock goat herd sheep flock ant colony mole army squirrel group porcupine group kangaroo mob emu flock</p> <p>homeschoolden.com</p>	<p>Animals and their Groups</p>



## Above/Below Ground



## World Animals (along with the 7 continents in S.S.)



## Experiments



## Simple Machines – Hands-On Unit



## Astronomy



## Human Body



## Magic School Bus Themed Science Units

# Kindergarten - Grade 1 Resource Packet:

## Table of Contents

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Page 26	Links to Language Arts Posts with Photos and Explanations
Pages 28	Links to Math Posts with Photos and Explanations
Pages 36	Links to Science Posts with Photos and Explanations
Pages 59	Links to Social Studies and Geography Posts with Photos and Explanations
Pages 64	<b>What Science Topics Should I Teach my 5-7 year-old?</b> A post I wrote on the website to help answer a reader question.

## Kindergarten/Grade 1 - Overview

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Here are some of the activities that we did, with clickable links to the posts. For photos and examples, scroll further down in this packet.

# Language Arts

## Learning to Read

- [Letters and Sounds](#)
- [2 Letter Words](#)
- [CVC Words](#) – Games and Activities
  - [Hearts -at word Matching](#)
  - [Whales -it and -in Word Matching Game](#)
  - [-at -it -ot -ut words – Free File Folder Game](#)
- [Sight Words](#)
- [Phonics – Early Reading Skills](#)
  - [sh ch th Word Sort Activities \(Free!\)](#)
- [Phonics Readers](#)
- [Handwriting Without Tears Kindergarten](#) (*affiliate link*)
- [Handwriting Without Tears Grade 1](#) (*affiliate link*)
- Independent Reading (with Hello Readers, etc.)
- We started using [All About Spelling](#) for the kids in Grade 1. (*affiliate link*)
- [First Language Lessons](#) (*affiliate link*) by Jessie Wise - We used this in Kindergarten and part of Grade 1.

## Read Alouds

- [25 Books for ages 4 to 8](#)
- [15 Chapter Books my 7-year Old Loved!](#)
- [Books and Series my 8 Year old has been Racing Through](#)
- [25 Books for 4-8 year olds; 25 Chapter Books for 8-12 year olds](#)
- [10 Books \(and Series\) My Kids Love \(Ages 9, 11\)](#)
- [10 Australian Picture Books we Love!](#) (The kids were all born in Australia.)
- [15 Children's Books Your 4-7 Year Old Shouldn't Miss](#)
- [Encourage Independent Reading with This Cute Idea](#)
- [10 Books My 4 and 6-Year-Old Love](#)

# Math

## Math Resources:

**K-2 Math BUNDLE** (we have a huge bundle of math resources with more than 300+ pages of addition, subtraction, geometric shapes, intro to fractions, calendar work and more! There are 20+pdfs in this inexpensive bundle.)

[Montessori Math,](#)

[Daily Calendar Work,](#)

[Math Games.](#)

Numbers and 1-to-1 correspondence – We did a lot of grid games... first rolling one die and covering the board. Then when they were ready, using two dice and adding them together to cover that number of spaces. We used different grid games to go with different seasons. Here's an example of an [apple grid board \(above\) that is free](#) on the blog:

[Fill in the Missing Numbers](#)

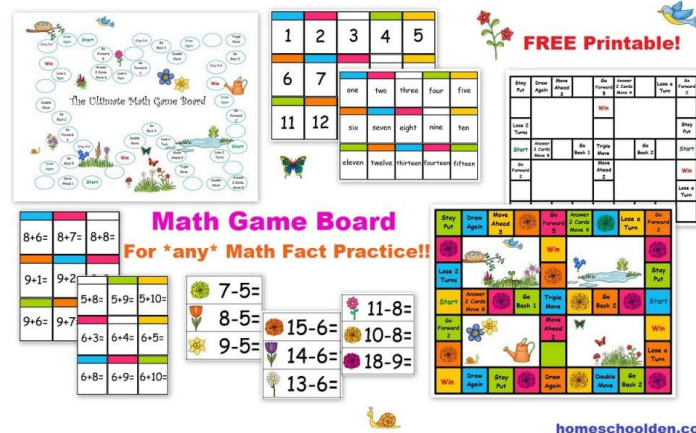
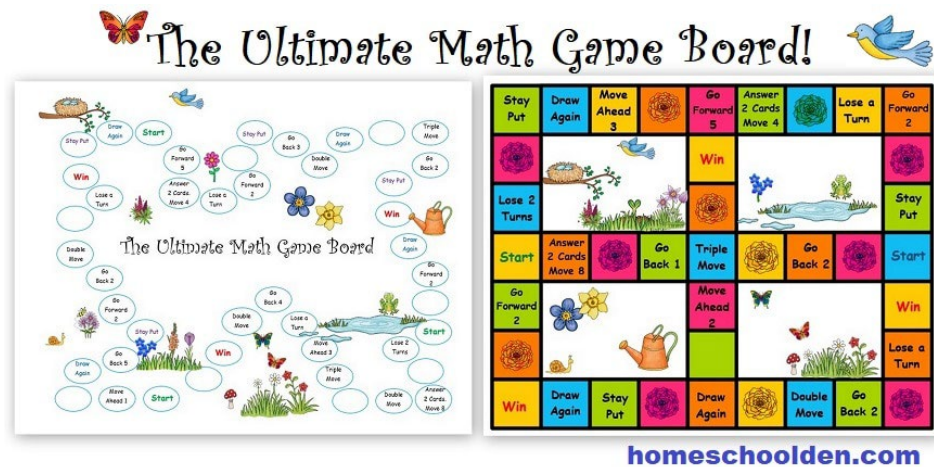


[Fill in the Missing Numbers St. Patrick's Day](#)

[Number words](#)

Addition and Dice Games –

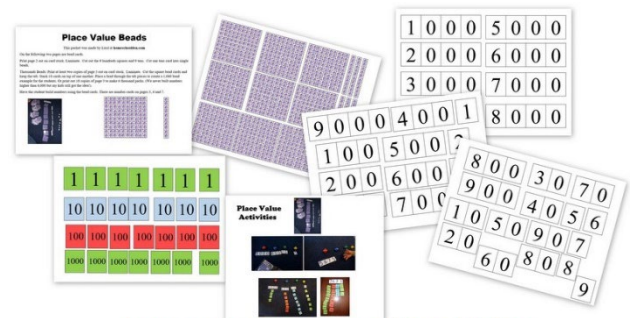
Along the way, we played lots and lots of math games! :) Grab the beautiful [free Math Game Boards](#) here:



## Place Value Activities

### [Sunny-side-up Game \(free\)](#)

[Place Value Printables](#): We have place value printables and a short video that shows how I worked with the kids on place value at this post.



[homeschoolden.com/PlaceValue](https://homeschoolden.com/PlaceValue)

## Number Families: [Addition Facts: Fact Family Games and Worksheets](#)

©homeschoolden.com

30+ page packet including 16 game boards

**Why learn the number families?** Knowing their fact families helps a lot as kids start to work on their subtraction facts. They know that  $6+7=13$ , so  $13-7$  becomes

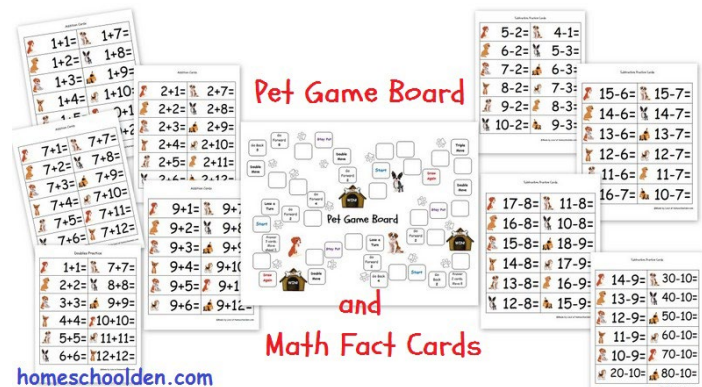
easy! These games help kids learn their math facts in a fun way! My kids always begged to play “just one more game!”



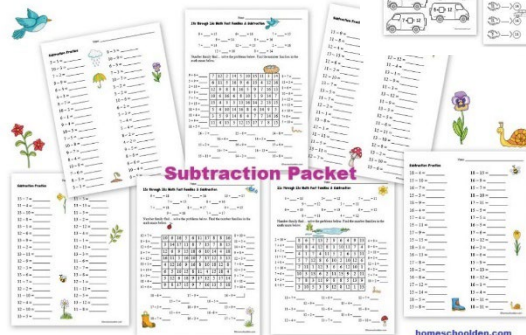
## Addition Facts

We have a Addition-Subtraction Pet Pack you might want to check out: [50+ Page Addition Subtraction Pet Pack](#)

We also have a fun [Pirate-Theme Math Pack](#), with math activities for ages 4-6



## Subtraction Subtraction Facts



## Skip Counting (by 2s, 5s, 10s)

- [Free Fall-Themed Skip Counting Mazes](#)
- [Free Thanksgiving Skip Counting Mazes](#)
- [Free Holiday Skip Counting Mazes](#)
- [Free Winter Skip Counting Mazes](#)
- [Free Valentine's Day Skip Counting Mazes](#)
- [Free Valentine's Day Skip Counting Mazes – Addition – Multiplication Practice](#)
- [Free Easter Skip Counting Mazes](#)
- [Skip Counting by 6s – Song and Clapping Game](#) – ED and DD really enjoyed learning the 6s; they did this clapping game a lot when ED was in 1st grade.
- [Free Skip Counting Mazes – Minecraft Themed](#)
- [Active Skip Counting Chalk Game](#) ED had fun skip counting by running around this huge chalk circle. DD reviewed her multiplication facts and LD worked on order of operations!
- [Skip Counting Card Game](#) – We also had the card game (made by a fellow homeschooling mom!), [Speed!](#) (*affiliate link*) ED and I played many rounds of these games. Find out how to play those card games at this post: [First Grade Math – Games for Math Fact Practice](#)

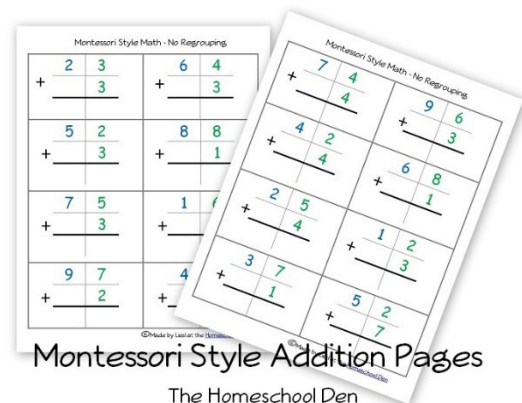
## Clocks

- [Free Skip Counting by 5s Activity and Clock Printable](#)

## [Coin Counting File Folder Game](#) (Free)

## Montessori Addition Pages (Introducing Double Digit Addition without carrying, with carrying)

- [Montessori Style Addition Sheets \(No Regrouping/Carrying\)](#)
- [Montessori Style Addition Pages \(With Regrouping/Carrying\)](#)
- [Montessori Style Subtraction Pages with Borrowing](#)
- [Montessori Style Addition – Hundreds Packet with Regrouping/Carrying](#)



## Winter-Themed Math

- [Penguin Addition Worksheets and Games](#)
- [Montessori Style Addition Pages – Winter Theme](#)
- [Free Winter-Themed Addition Worksheets](#)
- [Free Winter Skip Counting Pages](#)
- [Free Winter Division and Multiplication Worksheets](#)

**Math Resources we used a lot. I highly recommend both of these books.**  
(These are affiliate links.)

[Games for Math: Playful Ways to Help Your Child Learn Math, From Kindergarten to Third Grade](#) by Peggy Kaye

[Math Card Games](#) by the Right Start Curriculum

**Math Curriculum (That you can purchase.)** – There are LOTS of different math curriculum options available. We used games and the Spectrum math workbook series for most of elementary. Other homeschoolers speak highly of these options:

- Singapore Math
- Math Mammoth
- Saxon Math
- Abeka Math
- Right Start Math – At this age, we used many of the ideas in this Montessori-based math curriculum though we used as an extra resource, not as a solo curriculum.

# Science

## Science Experiments

- [Science Experiment Packet](#) – Free printable with the series of science experiments we did when my son was in K (and the girls were younger)
- [Science Experiments](#) – A few more science activities that the kids enjoyed in preschool (I think LD was about 5 when we did these)
- [Science Egg-speriment Packet](#) – All egg related activities!

**5 Senses** – sight, hearing, touch, feel, taste (This could continue on into a unit on the human body.)

- [Five Senses Unit](#)
- [taste activities](#),
- [smell matching](#),
- [sound bingo](#)



**Animals/Zoology:** Some zoology topics you could cover:

- [living and non-living \(and the characteristics of living things\)](#) (free printable sorting cards)
- [vertebrates-invertebrates](#)



- [the 5 classes of animals: animals and their characteristics](#), (fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds, mammals)
- [Animal Packet](#) (classification, domestic vs. wild animals, animal tracks, etc.)
- Invertebrates: [Hands-On Study of Earthworms](#), [Planarian](#) (a type of flatworm that regenerates), [Mealworms](#) (that turn into darkling beetles)
- World Animal Cards
- [Amphibian Mini-Unit: Frog Life Cycle, Amphibians; animals of the world](#),
- [Nocturnal and Diurnal Animals](#) (we also talked about what makes day and night)
- the parts of the animal,
- animals and their babies,



- [animals and their group names](#)
- animals and their biomes (such as the rain forest, desert, [forest](#)), ([we did a study of the biomes here](#) – arctic, tundra, deciduous forest, boreal forest, rain forest, deserts, etc.) ©homeschoolden.com
- [animal tracks](#),
- where do animals live?
- [Where do things come from? What's in your cookie? \(where do things come from?\)](#)
- [above ground-below ground](#),
- ocean animals: [Ocean Unit Freebies](#) [Layers of the Ocean](#) [School of Fish Activity](#) [Ocean Animals and Their Groups](#) [Whale Unit \(and the Arctic\) — Icebergs, Blubber experiment, Buoyancy and more](#) [Whale Unit - Migration, Echolocation, Baleen vs. Toothed Whales](#)
- [Whale Unit - How salt water affect buoyancy - Drawing whales and dolphins](#)
- [Unit on Dinosaurs](#),
- [Unit on Birds](#)

## Plants/Botany

- parts of plants,
- [parts of a flower](#),
- plant life cycles - germinating seeds,
- [fruits and vegetables](#) (free sorting cards here),
- [plant nutrition \(colored carnations and slurping celery\)](#)
- [Rainforest Plants s](#) (from around the world),
- [Plants and Symmetry](#);
- [Vascular vs. Non-Vascular Plants](#)
- [2 types of roots](#): fibrous roots (like grass) and taproots (like carrots)
- [Carnivorous Plants Lapbook](#)
- Where does my food come from?

## Simple Machines

- [Simple Machine Packet](#)
- Hands-On Activities About: [Lever](#), [wheel and axle](#), [screw](#), [pulleys](#), [wedge](#), [ramp](#)

# Rocks and Minerals

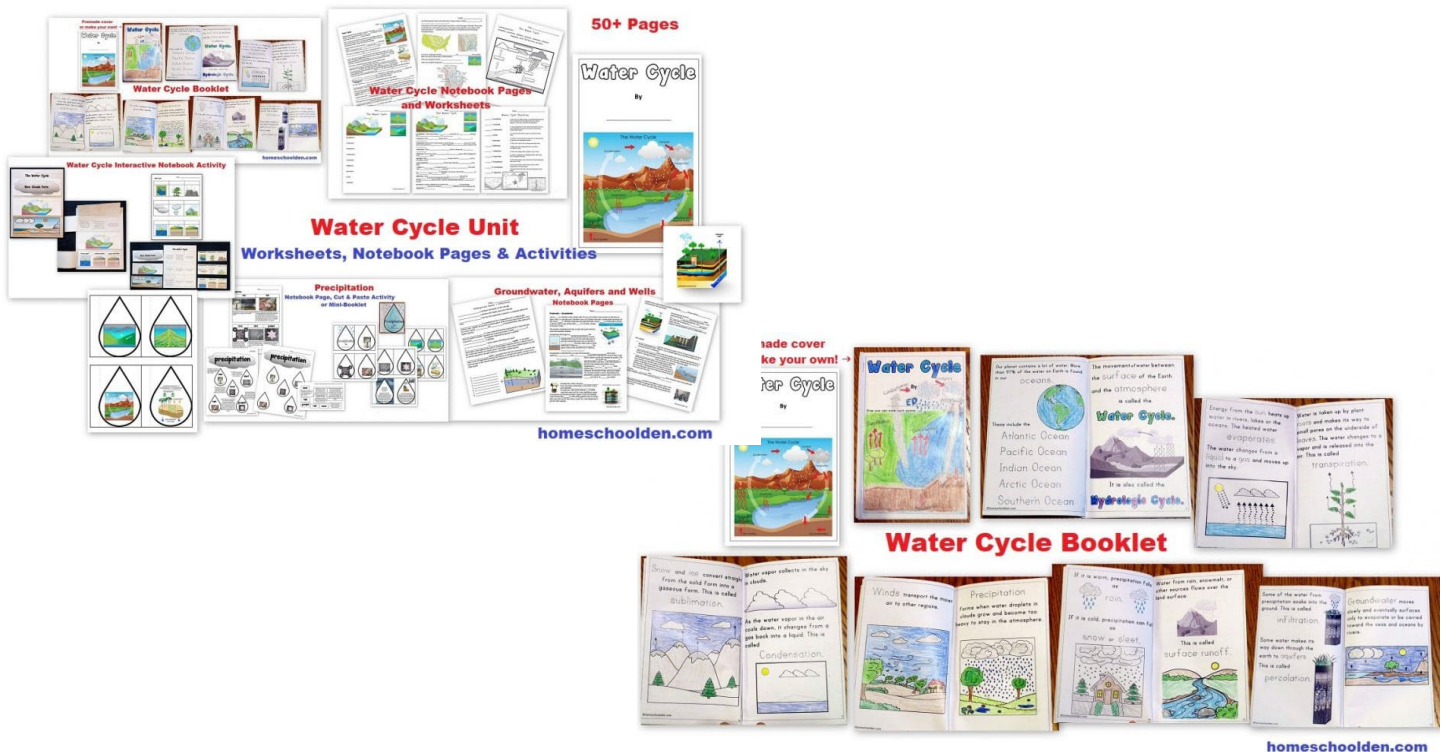
- [Rocks and Minerals Packet \(Free\)](#)
- [3 Types of Rocks \(Free Printable\)](#)
- [Igneous Rock Activities](#)
- [Sedimentary Rock Activities](#)
- [Sedimentary Rock Activity](#) (much older post, using sand)
- [Metamorphic Rock Activities](#)
- [Metamorphic Rock Activity](#) (another older post, where we took “core samples,” excavated and examined this baked rock — a cupcake!)
- [Minerals: Our Hands-On Activities and Seeing the BIGGEST Diamond in the World](#)
- [Earth-Space Science: Topographic Map](#)

# Human Body

- [the five senses](#): taste activities, smell matching, sound bingo
- [the bones of the body](#) (This post has various PreK-K ideas),
- (we also did tons of other activities about [how blood circulates](#) and [how food is digested](#) that my youngest really enjoyed with my older kids.

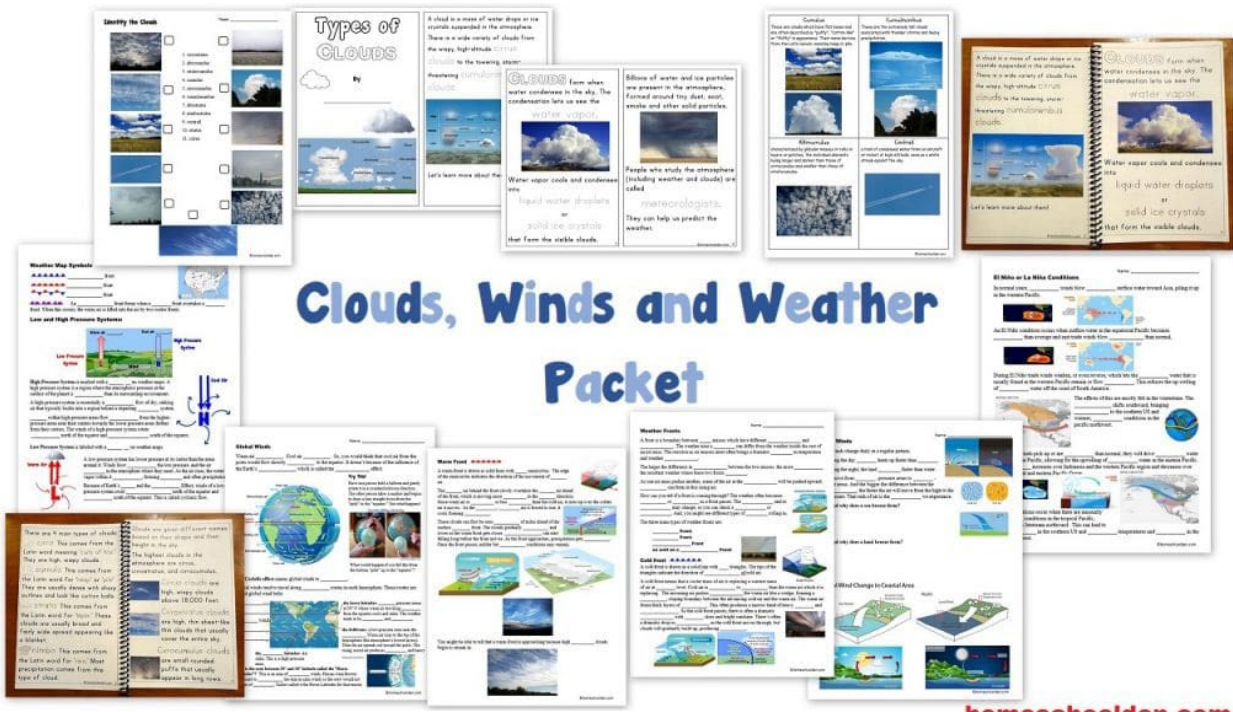
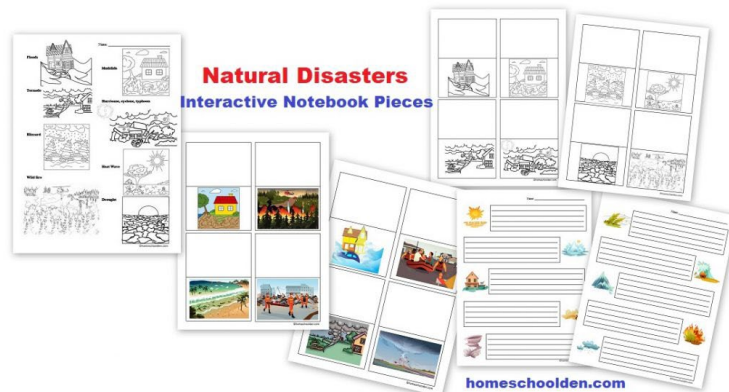
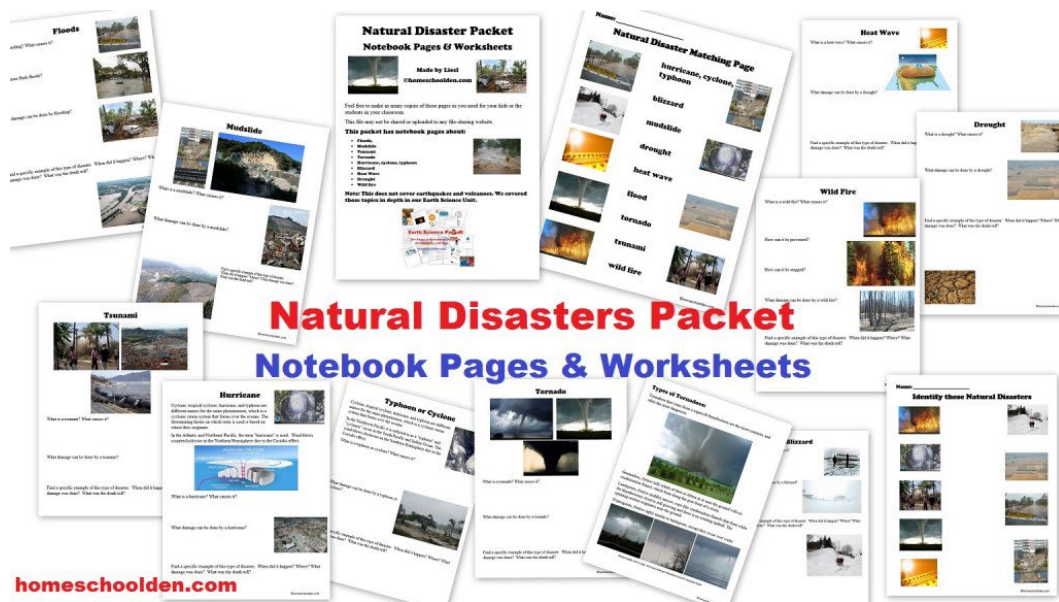


# Water Cycle Unit



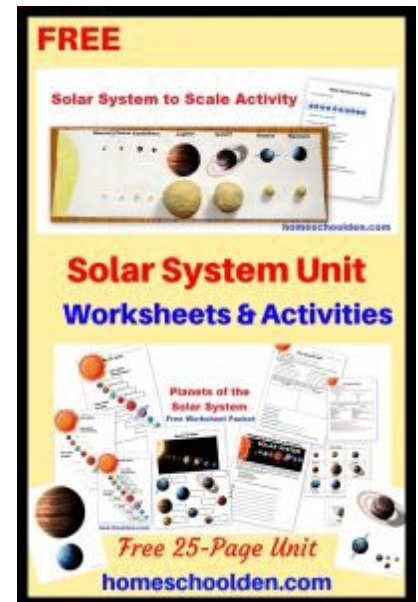
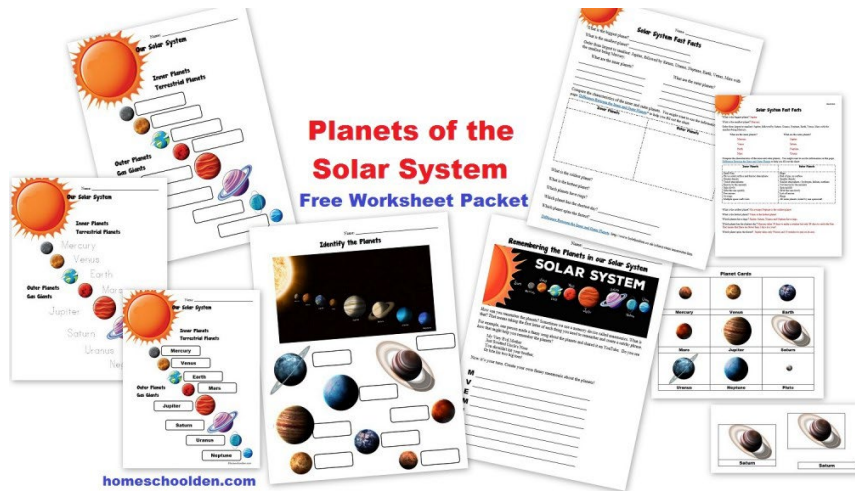
## Natural Disasters

We did a unit on Natural Disasters when the kids were younger and then later (another year) went on to study clouds, weather & more.



# Astronomy and the Solar System

## Solar system Activities and Free Solar System Printable



States of Matter Packet with fun hands-on activities!



# Social Studies

## 7 Continents

- Where I Live Activity Packet: My galaxy, solar system, planet, continent, country, state, town, and home! Help the kids understand the concepts city/town, state, country, continent, world, solar system
- Learning [the 7 Continents](#)
- [7 Continent Song](#)
- World Animals

[U.S. Geography, Landmarks](#) – USA Song about the mountains and rivers

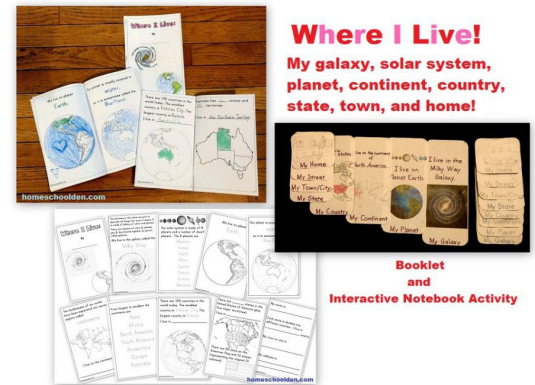
World Geography, [Landmarks](#), [World Animals](#)

Country Unit Study/Lapbooks

We studied China (and did lots of crafts) and Africa.

## Ancient World History

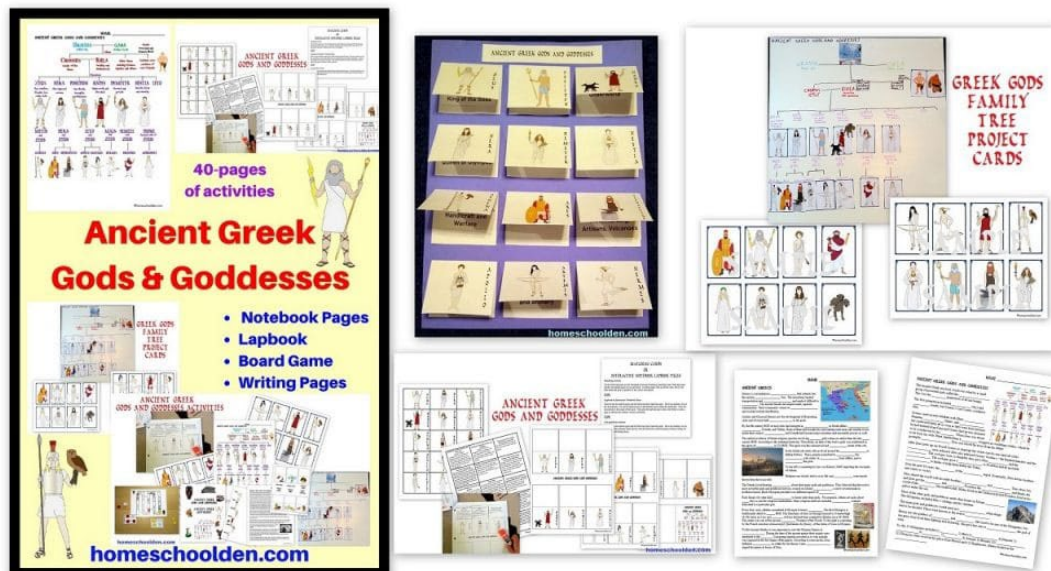
- [Ancient Egypt](#)
  - We loved these resources. These are *affiliate links*.
  - [Ralph Masiello's Ancient Egypt Drawing Book](#)
  - [The Gods and Goddesses of Ancient Egypt](#) by Leonard Fisher
  - [Egyptian Treasures: Mummies and Myths](#)
  - [Great Ancient EGYPT Projects: You Can Build Yourself](#)
  - [Pyramids!: 50 Hands-On Activities to Experience Ancient Egypt](#)
  - We have a new Ancient Egypt Packet [here](#):  
[homeschoolden.com/ancient-egypt/](https://homeschoolden.com/ancient-egypt/)



- Ancient Greece

We loved these resources These are *affiliate links*.

- [\*The Gods and Goddesses of Olympus\*](#)
- We've read [Perseus and the Monstrous Medusa](#), [Odysseus and the Wooden Horse](#), [The Secret of Pandora's Box](#). There is also [King Midas's Goldfingers](#).
- The Magic Tree House, [\*Hour of the Olympics\*](#).
- [Tales from the Odyssey, Part 1](#) and [Tales from the Odyssey, Part 2](#).
- [\*D'Aulaires' Book of Greek Myths\*](#) (*affiliate link*)
- [Classical Kids: An Activity Guide to Life in Ancient Greece and Rome](#)
- [\*\*Ancient Greek Gods and Goddesses Packet\*\*](#)



# Language Arts

## Here are some free printables:

- CVC Words – Games & Activities



- Hearts -at word Matching



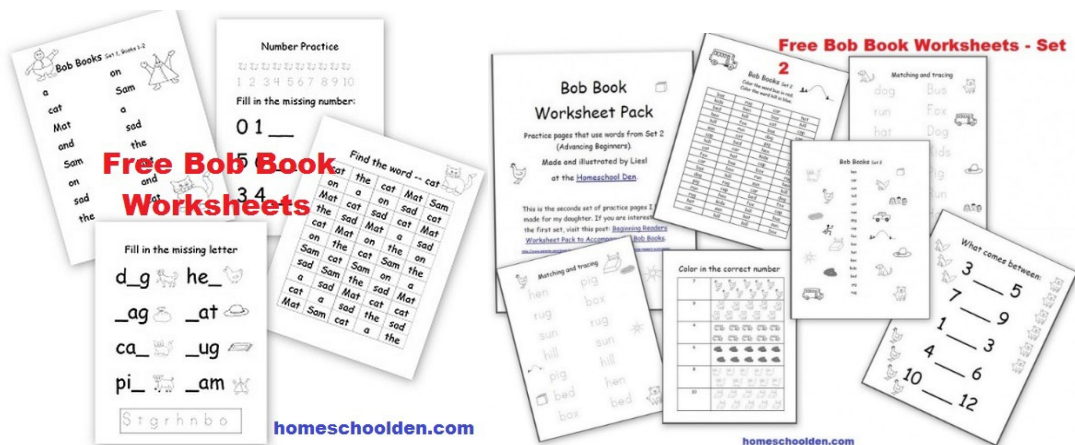
- Whales -it and -in Word Matching Game



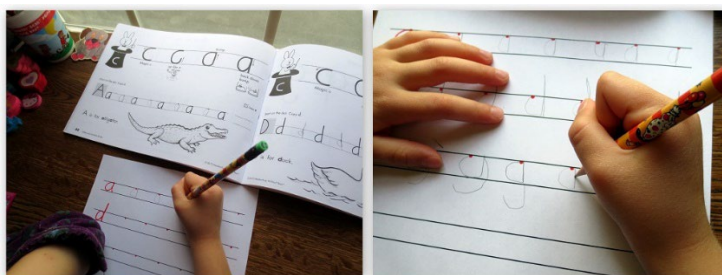
- [Sight Words](#)
- Phonics
  - [sh ch th Word Sort Activities \(Free!\)](#)



- [Phonics Readers](#)
- [Free Bob Book Worksheet Packs](#)



- [Handwriting Without Tears Kindergarten](#) (*affiliate link*)
- [Handwriting Without Tears Grade 1](#) (*affiliate link*)



We started using [All About Spelling](#) for the kids in Grade 1. (*affiliate link*)

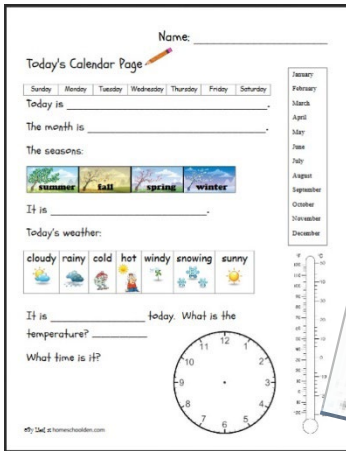
[Long A Spelling Sort](#)

[ow ou oy oi aw au Word Sort Activities](#)



# Math K-1

## [Daily Calendar Work – Free Printable](#)



Today's Calendar Page

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Today is \_\_\_\_\_

The month is \_\_\_\_\_

The seasons: \_\_\_\_\_

It is \_\_\_\_\_

Today's weather: \_\_\_\_\_


cloudy rainy cold hot windy snowing sunny

It is \_\_\_\_\_ today. What is the temperature? \_\_\_\_\_

What time is it? \_\_\_\_\_

January February March April May June July August September October November December

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12



Today's Calendar Page

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Today is \_\_\_\_\_

The month is \_\_\_\_\_

It is \_\_\_\_\_

Today's weather: \_\_\_\_\_

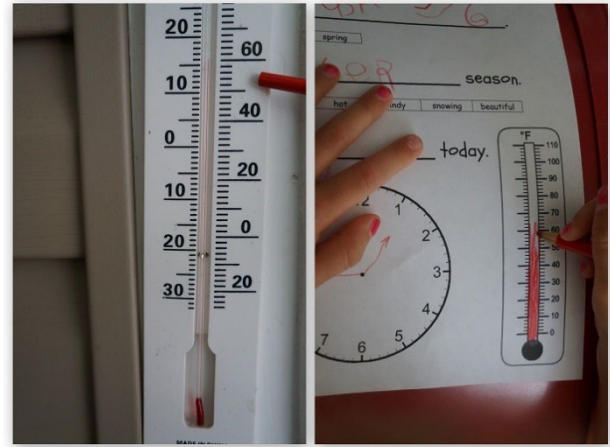
cloudy rainy cold hot windy snowing sunny

It is \_\_\_\_\_ today. What is the temperature? \_\_\_\_\_

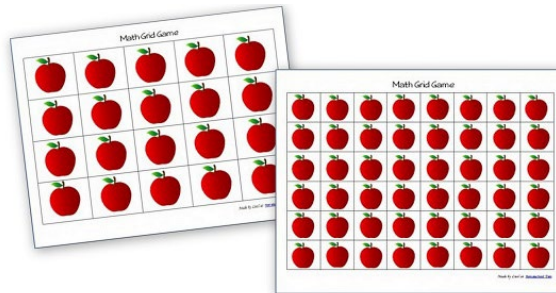
What time is it? \_\_\_\_\_

January February March April May June July August September October November December

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12



Numbers and 1-to-1 correspondence – We did a lot of grid games... first rolling one die and covering the board. Then when they were ready, using two dice and adding them together to cover that number of spaces. We used different grid games to go with different seasons. Here's an example of an [apple grid board that is free](#) on the blog. Here is a [St. Patrick's Day Grid Game](#).



## [Fill in the Missing Numbers](#)



# Fill in the Missing Numbers, Number Words -- St. Patrick's Day

Matching Numbers with Number Words

four	3
seven	1
one	5
nine	9
two	7
ten	10
five	8
three	2
six	4
eight	6

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SHIP COUNTING

©www.homeschoolen.com

**K-2 Math BUNDLE**

20+ pdfs, 300+ pages of worksheets, games & math activities

Addition & Subtraction, fact families, shapes, fractions, temperature, time/clocks, calendar work & more!

homeschoolen.com

I made a \*lot\* of math worksheets sets and games for the kids over the years. You can find out more about the [K-2 Math BUNDLE](https://www.homeschoolen.com/K-2-Math-BUNDLE). In addition and subtraction to TONS of worksheets, **games** and **activities**, there are also files that cover the

- fact families,
- shapes,
- fractions,
- temperature,
- time/clocks,
- days of the week, months of the year

There are lots of **seasonal packets** from Fall themed pages to holidays, winter math fun, Valentine's Day, Jelly Beans and more!

**Froggie Addition**

No Carrying

With Carrying

Jelly Bean Game

homeschoolen.com

Addition and Dice Games, Math War

Place Value Activities (in

Sunny-side-up Game

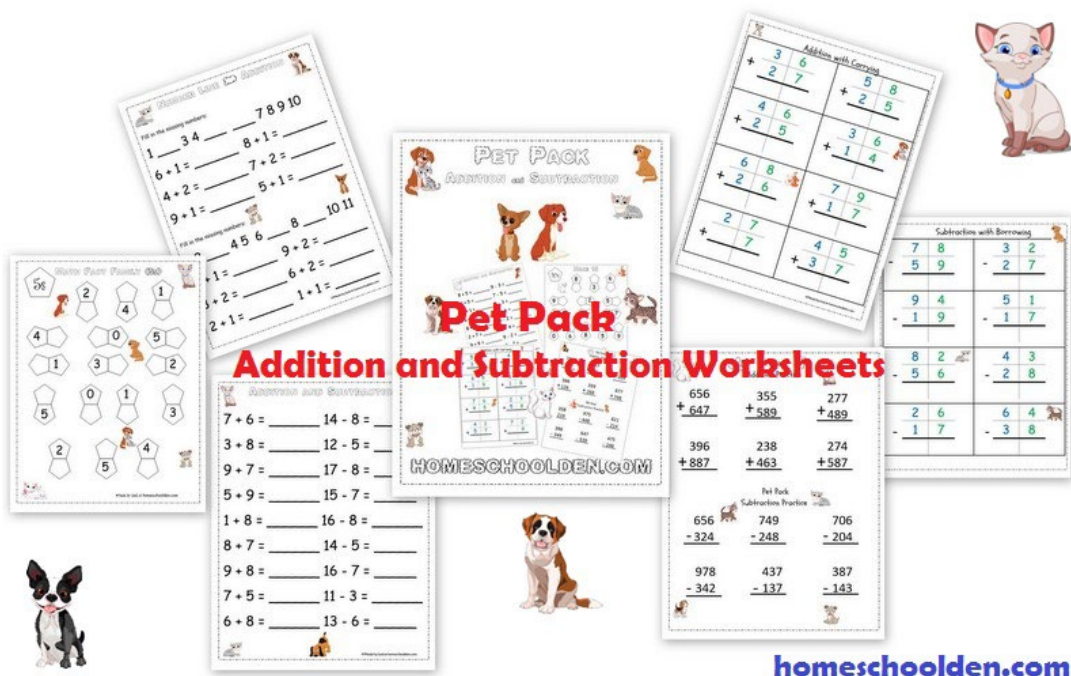


Number Families

Addition Facts --

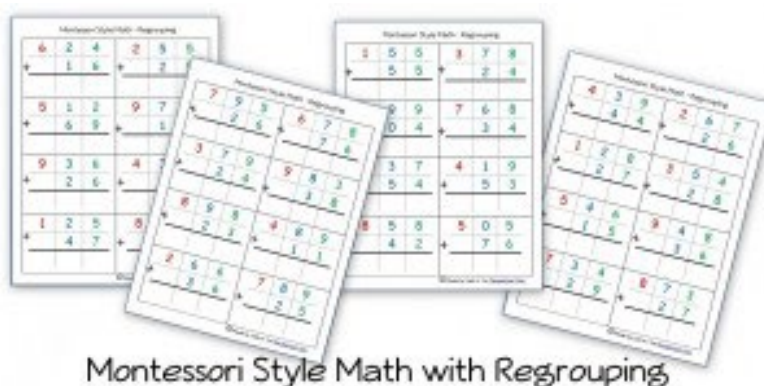
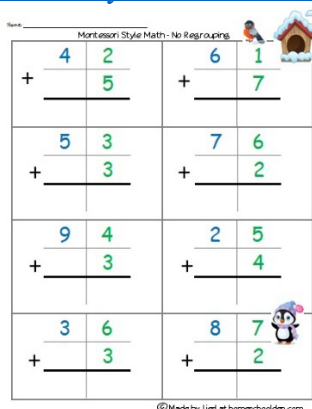
This was a packet I made that work on some of the addition facts and number families (ie.  $0+5=5$ ,  $1+4=5$ ,  $2+3=5$ )

[Pet Pack: Addition Subtraction](#)



Montessori Style Addition Sheets These are some free pages that helped my kids as they started to learn to borrow.

- [Montessori Style Addition Sheets \(No Regrouping/Carrying\)](#)
- [Montessori Style Addition Pages \(With Regrouping/Carrying\)](#)
- [Montessori Style Addition – Hundreds Packet with Regrouping/Carrying](#)



Subtraction – [Montessori Style Subtraction Pages with Borrowing](#)



Skip Counting (by 2s, 5s, 10s)

- [Free Fall-Themed Skip Counting Mazes](#)
- [Free Thanksgiving Skip Counting Mazes](#)
- [Free Holiday Skip Counting Mazes](#)
- [Free Winter Skip Counting Mazes](#)
- [Free Valentine's Day Skip Counting Mazes](#)



Visit the Homeschool Den

- [Free Valentine's Day Skip Counting Mazes – Addition – Multiplication Practice](#)
- [Free Easter Skip Counting Mazes](#)
- [Skip Counting by 6s – Song and Clapping Game](#) – ED and DD really enjoyed learning the 6s; they did this clapping game a lot when ED was in 1st grade.
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- [Active Skip Counting Chalk Game](#) ED had fun skip counting by running around this huge chalk circle. DD reviewed her multiplication facts and LD worked on order of operations!
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## Clocks

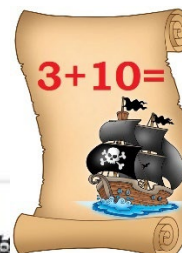
- [Free Skip Counting by 5s Activity and Clock Printable](#)



## [Coin Counting File Folder Game \(Free\)](#)



Pirate Math Packet: This is another math packet for K-1 we have available.



**Pirates**  
**Doubling**  
**&**  
**Doubling +1**  
**Activities**



# Winter Theme

- [Penguin Addition Worksheets and Games](#)



- [Montessori Style Addition Pages – Winter Theme](#)



- [Free Winter-Themed Addition Worksheets](#)

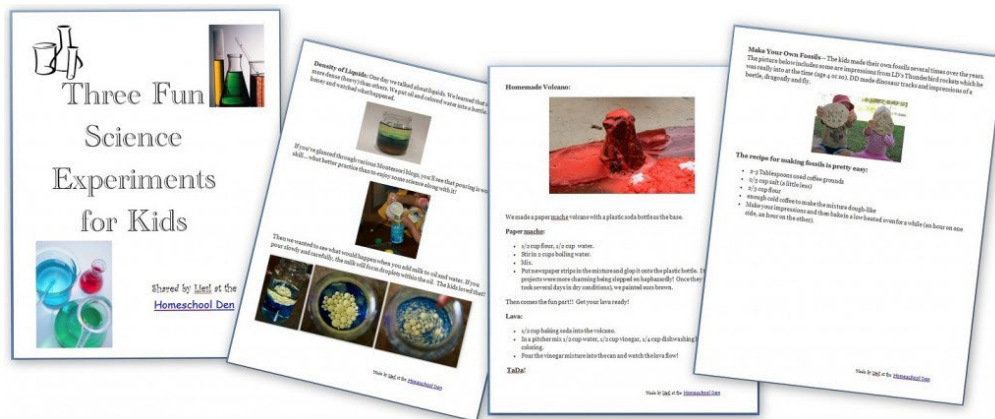


- [Free Winter Skip Counting Pages](#)
- [Free Winter Division and Multiplication Worksheets](#)

# Science

## Science Experiments

- [Science Experiment Packet](#) – Free printable with the series of science experiments we did when my son was in K (and the girls were younger)
- [Science Experiments](#) – A few more science activities that the kids enjoyed in preschool (I think LD was about 5 when we did these)



- [Science Egg-speriment Packet](#) – All egg related activities!



# Zoology

Science in the early years should be as hands-on as fun as possible. Kids are natural learners and love exploring their world. What better way for young children to learn about the world around them than to go outside and explore?! Of course, you can take kids to zoos, the local reptile center; botanical gardens, the beach, and local nature parks, ponds and lakes. But, even the playground and walks around the neighborhood were opportunities for exploration.

Set up a birdfeeder and help the kids identify the birds that come each day. You might take photos of the birds, print them out, laminate them and label them for your kids to match with the live birds that they see in your backyard.



There are times, though, when the kids and I were inside for long stretches (being too cold or too hot outside or because of the other kids' nap schedules). For that reason, we tried to bring in a broad array of activities for the kids when they were preschool age.

## Nature Table:

Set up a tray, shelf or table with a magnifying glass and various objects from the living world: shells, feathers, leaves, pine cones, rocks, nests, fossils, bark, sheep's wool, bark, etc. For young kids, display just a few items each day. Objects should be changed frequently to keep the kids' interest.

**Hands-On Activities:** Have the kids do leaf rubbings. Create pieces of art with the objects on the tray. Incorporate natural items into counting, sorting or tonging activities.

Put the tray away when the kids are done with it as many of these may be choking hazards.



**"It" Box:** Decorate a shoe box and allow the kids to collect their favorite treasures. Our kids collected feathers, fossils, "beautiful" rocks, snake skins, bark and all kinds of things. It was useful to have a designated spot for their beloved finds.

## Living and NonLiving:

**Ask the kids:** What makes something alive? Why is a rock not alive? Some suggested answers:

- living things grow and develop
- living things take in nutrients
- living things obtain and use energy
- living things reproduce
- living things respond to their environment
- living things adapt to their environment
- living things move in some way
- living things get rid of waste

**Activity:** Have an assortment of items on a tray for the kids to explore. If possible collect both living things such as a leaf, snail or bug (in a jar), moss, mushroom, carrots - and non-living things -- a rock, hair brush, socks, etc. Talk about whether these items are alive or not... some things can be classified as "once living" but are no longer living because they no longer can grow/reproduce/adapt to their environment, etc.

**Sorting Cards:** Use some Montessori-style sorting cards and have the kids separate them into living and non-living columns. You can find [free Living – Non-living Sorting Cards](#) here.



For more advanced children, print out 2 copies of a Montessori-style card. Leave one card uncut, cut the other card into two pieces (the photo and the word.) Have you child match the photo and word to the uncut card.

This helps build reading skills as well.



[Mealworms:](#) My kids really enjoyed studying mealworms. This really made the topics of invertebrates come alive (pun intended!!). More about invertebrates in general in a few pages. Mealworms are available at local pet shops.

We talked a lot about what makes something living. Living things

- eat
- drink (need water)
- breathe
- grow
- reproduce

We've been observing mealworms for the past couple weeks. We saw evidence of their growth because they shed their exoskeleton. We watched them for several weeks as they transformed into darkling beetles.



Here are some of the things we explored over the course of the week:

### What do mealworms like to eat?

We placed a sliced apple, ground oatmeal, rice and raisins in a container. Most of the mealworms wound up in the ground oatmeal.



### Wet or Dry Conditions:

We placed a wet paper towel and a dry paper towel in a container. Most of the mealworms actually wound up under the dry paper towel. Maybe this says more about light/dark!

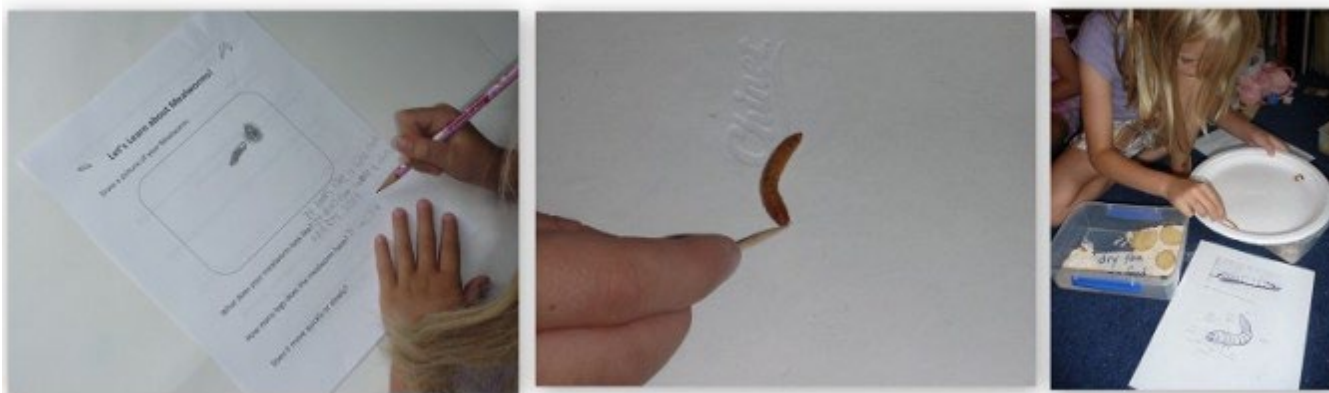


## Wet Food-Damp Food:

On a similar vein we placed an apple on top of ground oatmeal and had plain oatmeal in another corn. The majority of mealworms wound up in the plain oatmeal.



How do mealworms react when you lightly touch their antenna with a toothpick?



## Living Things Grow:

One spring we planted sunflowers in our garden and kept track of how quickly they grow:

We kept track of the growth of three sunflower plants out in the garden. Our sunflowers have grown an inch every day so far. We water them every day.



In two weeks (above) ED's sunflower grew nearly a foot! (Below



To this morning when the sunflower towered over her head!



**If it is winter-time try this activity instead:** Place pumpkin seeds or peas on a damp paper towel. Place them into a baggie and seal it tight. Hang it in a window that gets afternoon sun. Check on it each day and watch as the seed sprouts and grows. You can also do the same things with Indian corn... just keep decorative Indian corn damp and watch it sprout and grow!



# Vertebrates and Invertebrates:

[Vertebrate – Invertebrate Sorting Cards](#)

[Free Montessori 3-Part Cards: Amphibians, Frog Life Cycle Notebook \(and lapbook\) Page](#)

[Animal Unit: Vertebrate-Invertebrate Animals Worksheet Packet \(40+ Pages\)](#)

## Ask the kids:

What would we look like if we had no bones? Suggested answers

- We would look strange. We might look like a blob of skin. It would be hard to move.

What would happen if you had no backbone? Suggested answers:

- We would not stand straight. We could not twist around. We wouldn't be able to bend over. We might be very rigid.

**Have the kids find their own backbone:** Run your fingers on the back of your head and run your fingers down your neck as far as you can. Then try to find the bumps in the middle of your back. That is your backbone!

Your backbone is an important part of your body. It covers your nervous system. This network send signal from your brain all around your body. Do you know what these nerves tell us?

- When we touch something hot -- we suddenly pull our hand away because our brain sends a signal to jerk our hand away.
- When we want to run -- our brain sends messages to our legs to move the muscles.

A lot of animals have a backbone like we do. They are called **vertebrates**. Can you give some examples of animals that have a backbone?

- dogs, cats, mice, snakes, frogs, fish, birds, etc.

But not all animals have a backbone. Does a slug have a backbone? What about an earthworm, does it?

Those are called **invertebrates**.

For the adult: Here's a simple chart of vertebrates and invertebrates:

Vertebrates	Invertebrates
Fish	Sponges
Amphibians	Jellyfish, corals and their relatives
Reptiles	Worms
Birds	Snails, slugs, animals with inner or outer shells
Mammals	Animals with jointed feet, insects, lobsters, spiders, etc.
	Spiny skinned animals like starfish and sea urchins

**Activity Suggestions:** Have the kids sort cards into vertebrates and invertebrate columns. Be sure to use the proper terminology! Gather plastic animals (such as toob animals) and have them sort them into the different groups.

Have the kids sort animals into their various groups. You'll find these **card free** here: [Vertebrate-Invertebrate Sorting Cards](#).



At this age, I had the kids do some notebook activities ([from our Animal Packet](#).) about the different animal characteristics:



**Herbivores vs. Carnivores** Use cards or plastic play animals to sort animals into plant eaters and meat eaters. If possible, bring in a skull from each type of animal. You might have your child explore her dog or cat's teeth and compare that with their own teeth. Point out the different function

## Wild vs. Domestic



## Animals of the world:



## Invertebrate Classification, Spiders vs. Insects



**Animals and their babies:** You can do this with any unit you are studying (ocean animals, animals of the forest, etc.). You can do this with simple matches for younger kids (pig-piglet; goat-kid, chicken-chick) For older kids you can do with family groups. For example, farm animal families might include:

- boar-sow-piglet;
- billy-goat, nanny-goat, kid,



When the kids were little, we often studied different units. I would gather books from the library on topics such as the ocean, rain forests, China, deserts, Africa... Then we would study animals and their group names. Here is an example of cards I made when we did a unit on the ocean. I would try to fit this in naturally as we did fun activities about the ocean:

Where do animals live? above ground-below ground, farm animals, ocean animals

Here's a quick activity we did to study where things lived.

C

Above and Below



Create a template for sorting the animals into the three areas you might find animals. We used blue, brown and green construction paper.

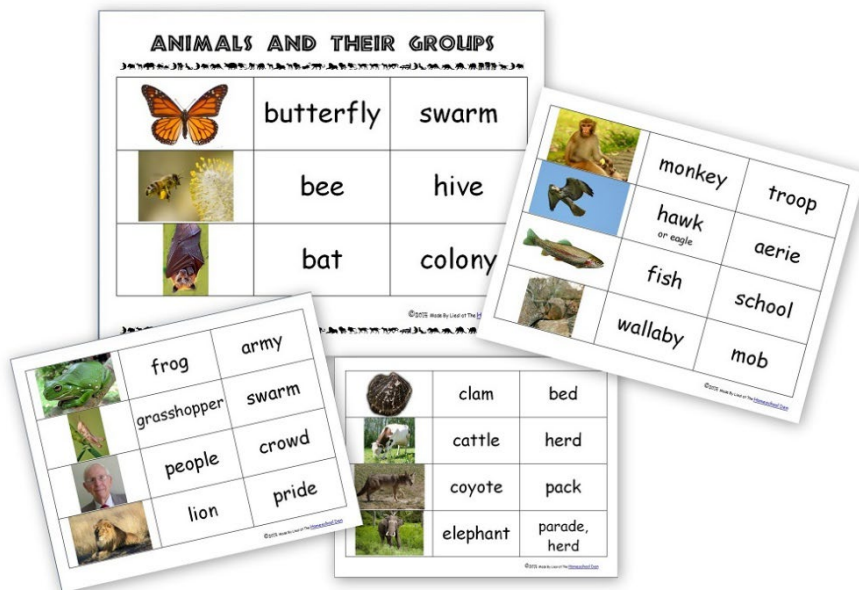
Sort the animals and plants on the following pages to the appropriate spot. Some animals can dwell both above and below ground.



**Above Ground:** robin, prairie dog, groundhog, woolly caterpillar, snail, bumble bee, ladybug, fall leaves, butterfly, turtle (or below), cicada (or below)

**Below Ground:** grub, Bess beetle & earthworm, ants, carrots, earthworm, baby rabbits in their burrow, turtle (or above), cicada (or above)

[Animals and their group names](#): We also went over various animals and their group names from time to time. You'll find these cards in the other packet.



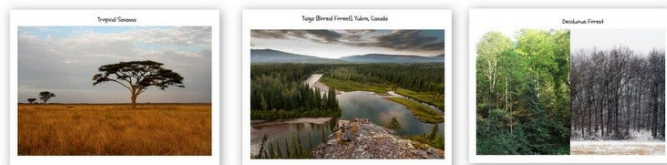
**animals and their biomes:** (such as the rain forest, desert, forest),

We studied each of the biomes. We would read books and do crafts on each of the different animal habitats. I made a [biome pin map](#) that the kids used a lot in those years as well.



## Biome Worksheets and Picture Cards

We also have biomes cards in our [biology pack](#).



8 x 11 Printable Photos of the 9 Biomes  
(or print 4-per-page for smaller cards)

Part of our 70-page  
Biology Packet

[homeschoolden.com](http://homeschoolden.com)

## animal tracks:

I found that when my kids were younger, they were intrigued by the different animal tracks they made.



We got sets of animal track stamps. We used matching cards from Montessori for Everyone and we played an animal tracks game we purchased from Learning Resources:

Each player spun the spinner. Then they had to guess which animal habitat the animal lived in and had a couple of guesses to pick the proper animal tracks. I'd give it two thumbs up (especially if you've been doing animal habitat studies). It fit into our unit really well!

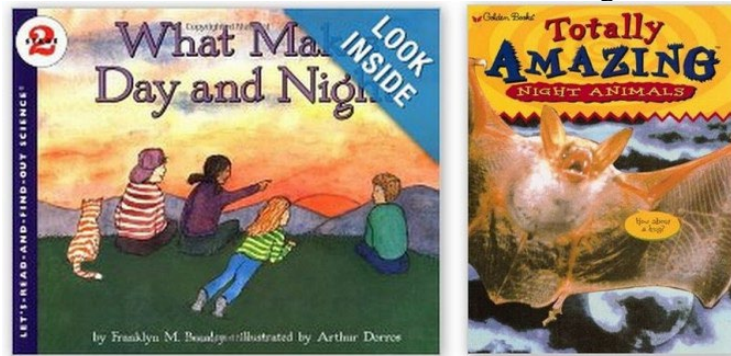


**Where do things come from?** [Montessori for Everyone](https://www.montessoriforeveryone.com) has some great cards that show how things are connected. The kids had to match wheat-flour-bread or cow-milk-cheese, wood-pulp-paper, sheep-yarn-sweater.



## Nocturnal and Diurnal Animals

One week my daughter and I read [What Makes Day and Night](#) and [Totally Amazing Night Animals](#). ([affiliate links](#)) She really enjoyed both of them and we added in some activities to go with these books.



After we read through *What Makes Day and Night*, we spent a lot of time in the dark bathroom! First I held the flashlight and shined it at her as she spun around like Earth. Then we got out the globe and we spun it around as she watched:



Then we spent several days reading through the really fun book, *Totally Amazing Night Animals*. It has little snippets about all kinds of night critters. It's an amusing book with great pictures and cute cartoon type drawings on each page. My kids have TOTALLY loved this entire series (though you'd have to buy it used at Amazon).

I couldn't find quite what I wanted free out on the web, so I quickly made a set of Montessori type cards of Nocturnal and Diurnal animals. All of the kids took a turn sorting through the cards. ED also matched the names of the animals to the cards once she had sorted them. If your child is younger, you can have them match the pictures as well, but ED didn't have any interest in doing that this time round. You will find these cards are in the other packet.

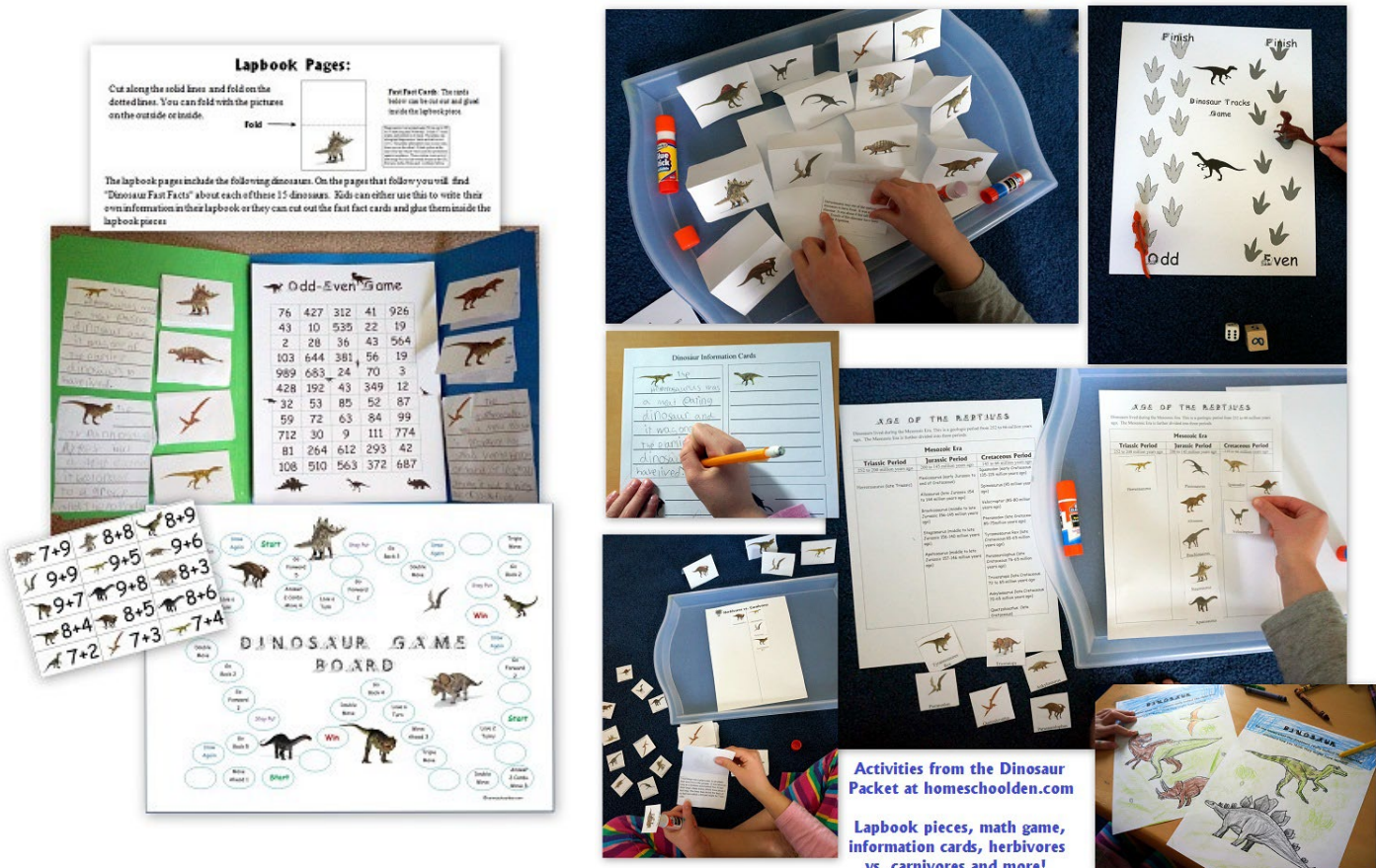


[Free Nocturnal-Diurnal Cards](#) (pictured above right)

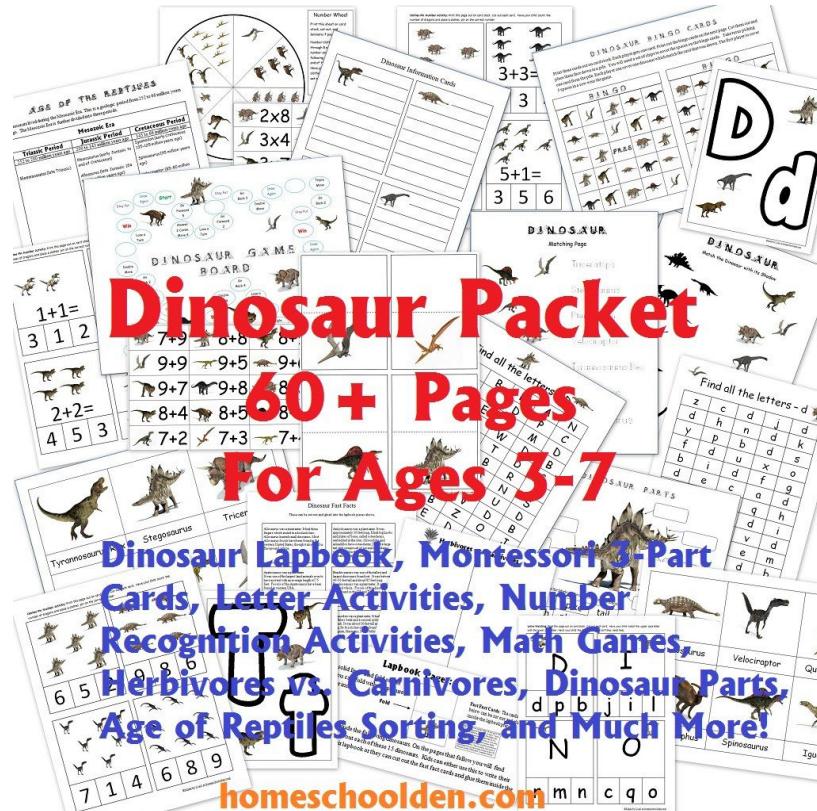
## Dinosaur Theme Time Table:

When the kids were little, we had a low table that we used for school-related things. Once a week after the kids went to bed, I would decide upon a theme. I did tables on bears, fairies, firemen, space, trucks, princesses, doctors and more. I'd gather various books, puzzles and games and display them nicely on the table. When the kids got up the next morning they would be SO excited for a new set-up! In this case, we gathered dinosaur books, puzzles, and plastic animals. I added in a puppet, board game and added in dinosaur themed math activities for my older kids.

**One of my daughters did a large dinosaur unit when she was 7. She did a [dinosaur lapbook and various dinosaur activities](#). Find out more about our Dinosaur Packet [here](#).**



## Dinosaur Notebook Pages (with Tracing)



## Dinosaur Fossil Activity:



At the beginning of our activity we looked at this real fern fossil (from Pennsylvania). We talked about how ferns have been around for millions of years and fossil records indicate they were around well before dinosaurs (we referred back to the chart we have on [“what came first”](#) from a previous day.) Then we went into our woods and looked for different kinds of ferns for making our own fossil imprints.



We gathered our ferns and looked closely to see which one looked most like the shale fossil we had.

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Using this cute coffee-clay recipe (below), we made impressions. After a lot of tries, the kids decided ferns just didn't make a very good impression. We talked about how conditions really had to be right for a fossil to be made.



Then we went on to make dinosaur tracks and trilobite impressions (I bought a plastic trilobite at the LaBrea Tar Pits in Los Angeles earlier this summer.) Of course I pointed out to the kids that trilobites and dinosaurs were not around at the same time (and once again we looked at the chart of “what came first.”) ED especially enjoyed this activity and spent well over an hour making dinosaur tracks again and again!



Lots of people probably know about this “rock” clay recipe which is great for making fossils, but it’s worth sharing again here:

- 1/2 cup salt
- 1 cup flour
- 1/2 cup coffee
- 1 cup used coffee grounds

(I drank all my coffee that morning, so instead I put some coffee into a pot on the stove, brought it to a boil, let it cool a bit then added salt and flour. I didn’t follow the recipe exactly as written.)

Since we now live in a more humid area, I opted to bake our fossils slowly at 325 for 45-60 mins since we have it hanging around while we do our dinosaur unit. (But warning—it’s smelly!!)



## human body

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**the bones of the body:** We talked about the bones of the body at least once a year when the kids were little. We had a wonderful large puzzle that the kids put together:



I found a lot of excellent ideas in [Everybody has a Body](#). (*affiliate link*) It has such a wonderful array of hands-on activities for young kids.

ED has been putting this skeleton puzzle together for several days now. The book that comes with it has really intrigued her too -- so we've actually talked about digestion, the heart and things like that as well.



[Look Into Your Body All About You From the Inside Out with Floor Puzzle Skeleton](#) (*affiliate link*)

We liked this x-ray activity. My daughter made "x-rays" of her hand. First she made handprints, then we cut them out -- and we looked at some real x-rays we have.



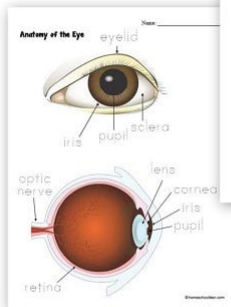
When ED was little, she really wrestled with this concept that she has bones inside her hand... she kept asking why she can't take off her skin to see the bones... how neat to watch them think about new concepts (and how is it that I hadn't talked about bones/skeletons with her much before this? The poor third child!!!).



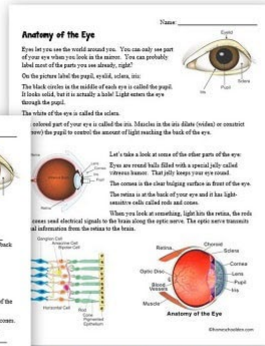
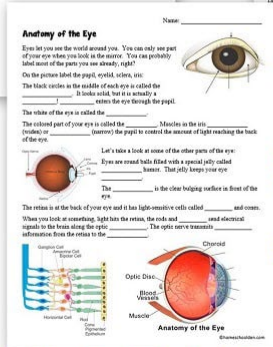
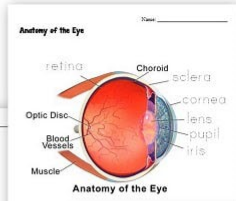
Somewhere there's an x-ray of my hand. I broke my pinkie finger playing field hockey a few years back, but I couldn't find that. :(

# the five senses: taste, smell, hearing, sight, touch

## Anatomy of the Eye



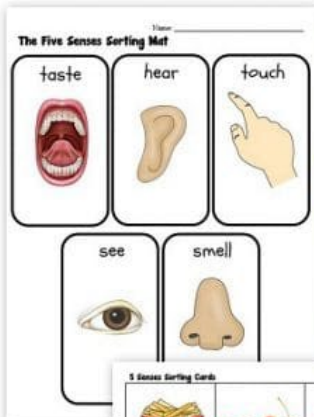
Tracing Pages



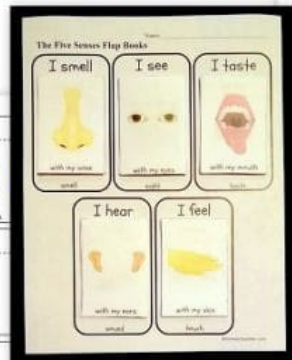
Independent Reading  
(or Teacher Page)

Fill-in-the-Blank Student Page

[homeschoolden.com](http://homeschoolden.com)



## Five Senses Sorting & Cut-and-Paste Activities



[homeschoolden.com](http://homeschoolden.com)

## Sink or Float Activities

### Part I:

There were a heap of different objects I gathered from around the house and outside (enough for all three to be able to have LOTS of turns!). Before putting their object into the water they had to decide whether it would sink or float. I told them they had to make a hypothesis about whether the object would sink or float (I used that term and then told them it means to guess/predict).

### Part II:

Next, they had to go around the house and gather five things they thought would sink and five objects they thought would float. Then they had to test their objects. If the kids were older I would have had them record their predictions and findings.



**Magnetic and Particle Attraction:** Occasionally I set up a Science Table with various magnet activities set up. We had a magnet play set which had some pretty fun activities (bouncing magnets, iron filing, etc.). There was a tray with various objects that said, "Are these objects magnetic? Yes No

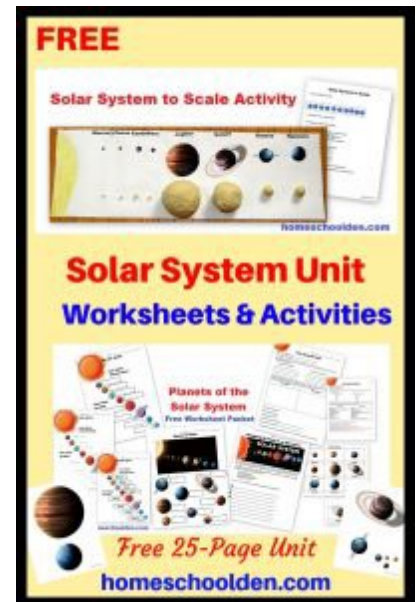
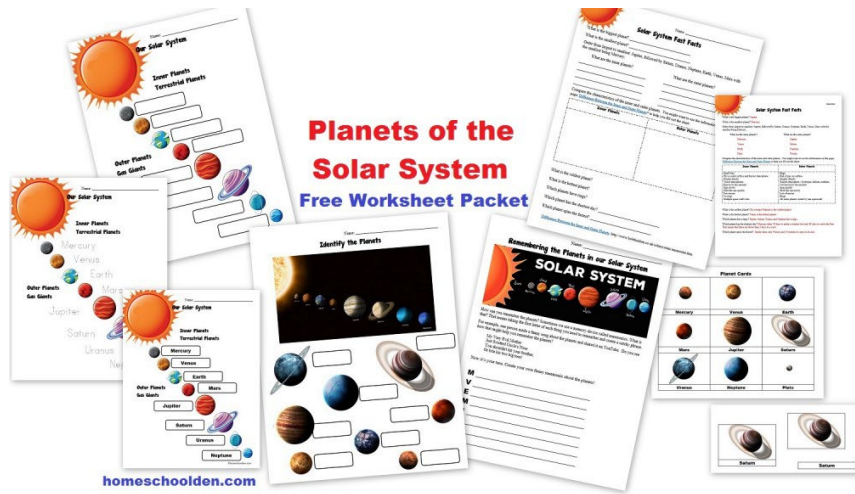


I had a magnetic maze, which was a gift from a former kindergarten teacher.



# Astronomy and the Solar System

## Solar system Activities and Free Solar System Printable



## The Moon



Inner and Outer Planets — Activity – ED still has this in her science notebook. We took it out and looked at the inner rocky planets and our gas giants... and the asteroid belt.



The [Phases of the Moon Activities](#) (plus a homemade oreo cookie recipe at that post!!)



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[States of Matter Packet](#) with fun hands-on activities!

**A fun, hands-on 50-page unit.**

**States of Matter Unit**

melting, freezing,  
evaporation,  
condensation,  
sublimation, deposition

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**Notebook pages,  
worksheets, lapbook  
(interactive notebook)  
pieces, sorting cards,  
cut-and-paste activities  
and more!**

**homeschoolden.com**



# Social Studies K-1

\*Where I Live Activity Packet: My galaxy, solar system, planet, continent, country, state, town, and home! Help the kids understand the concepts city/town, state, country, continent, world, solar system

Learning [the 7 Continents](#)



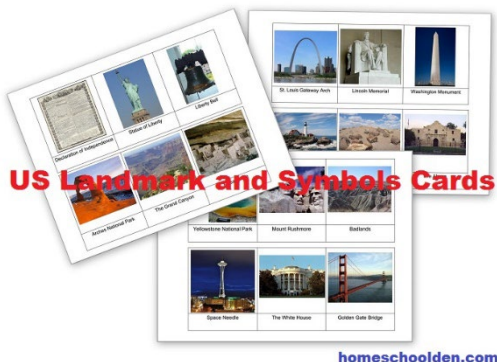
[First Language Lessons](#) (*affiliate link*) (which is also listed under Language Arts) does a good job of introducing some of the U.S. states)

\*[U.S. Geography, Landmarks](#) – USA Song about the mountains and rivers



[Free U.S. Landmark Cards](#)

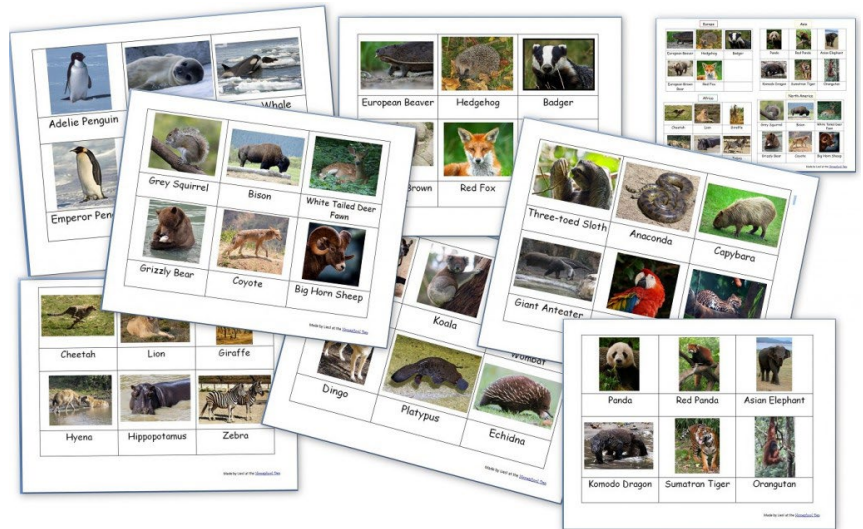
[Free World Landmark Cards](#)



## \*World Geography, Landmarks Craft Projects,



## World Animal Cards



## \*Country Unit Study/Lapbooks

We studied [China](#) (and did lots of crafts) and Africa.

## Chinese New Year Activities



## \*Ancient History

We used [Story of the World, vol. 1](#) and used a lot of children's myths. We took an entire semester studying Africa and Ancient Egypt one year. Our study of Ancient Greece also took almost a semester because we did lots of crafts, read lots of myths, children's versions of the Odyssey, etc.

- [Ancient Egypt](#)

We loved these resources. These are *affiliate links*.

- [Ralph Masiello's Ancient Egypt Drawing Book](#)
- [The Gods and Goddesses of Ancient Egypt](#) by Leonard Fisher
- [Egyptian Treasures: Mummies and Myths](#)
- [Great Ancient EGYPT Projects: You Can Build Yourself](#)
- [Pyramids!: 50 Hands-On Activities to Experience Ancient Egypt](#)
- We have a new Ancient Egypt Packet [here](#)  
[homeschoolden.com/ancient-egypt/](http://homeschoolden.com/ancient-egypt/)



- [Ancient Greece](#)

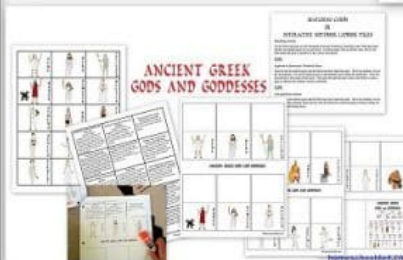
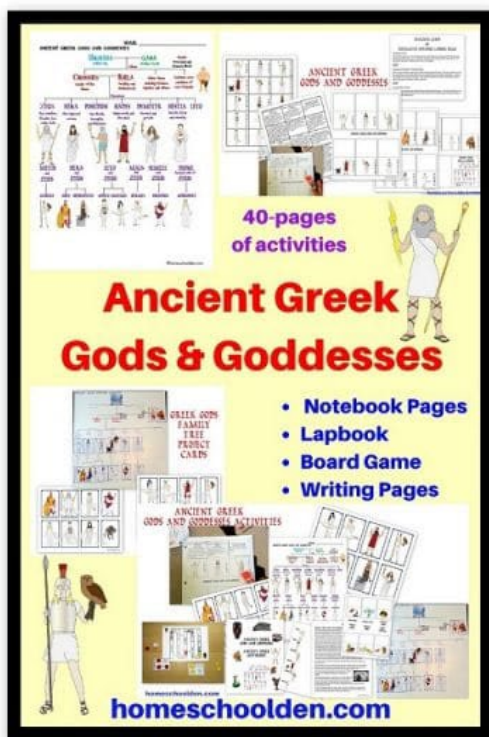
We loved these resources These are *affiliate links*.

- [The Gods and Goddesses of Olympus](#)
- We've read [Perseus and the Monstrous Medusa](#), [Odysseus and the Wooden Horse](#), [The Secret of Pandora's Box](#). There is also [King Midas's Goldfingers](#).
- The Magic Tree House, [Hour of the Olympics](#).
- [Tales from the Odyssey, Part 1](#) and [Tales from the Odyssey, Part 2](#).

- [\*D'Aulaires' Book of Greek Myths\*](#)
- [\*Classical Kids: An Activity Guide to Life in Ancient Greece and Rome\*](#)



## [Ancient Greek Gods and Goddesses](#)

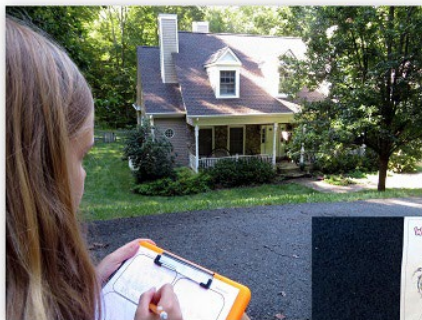


## Geography Projects for Ages 4 to 10

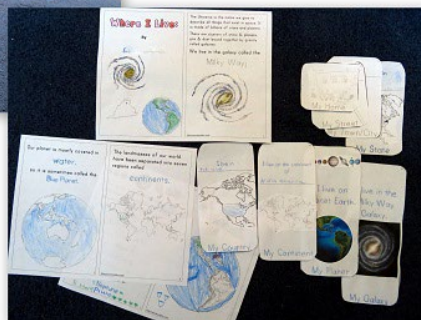


## Geography Activities for 4-6 year olds

### Where I Live Activity Packet



### **Where I Live Activity**

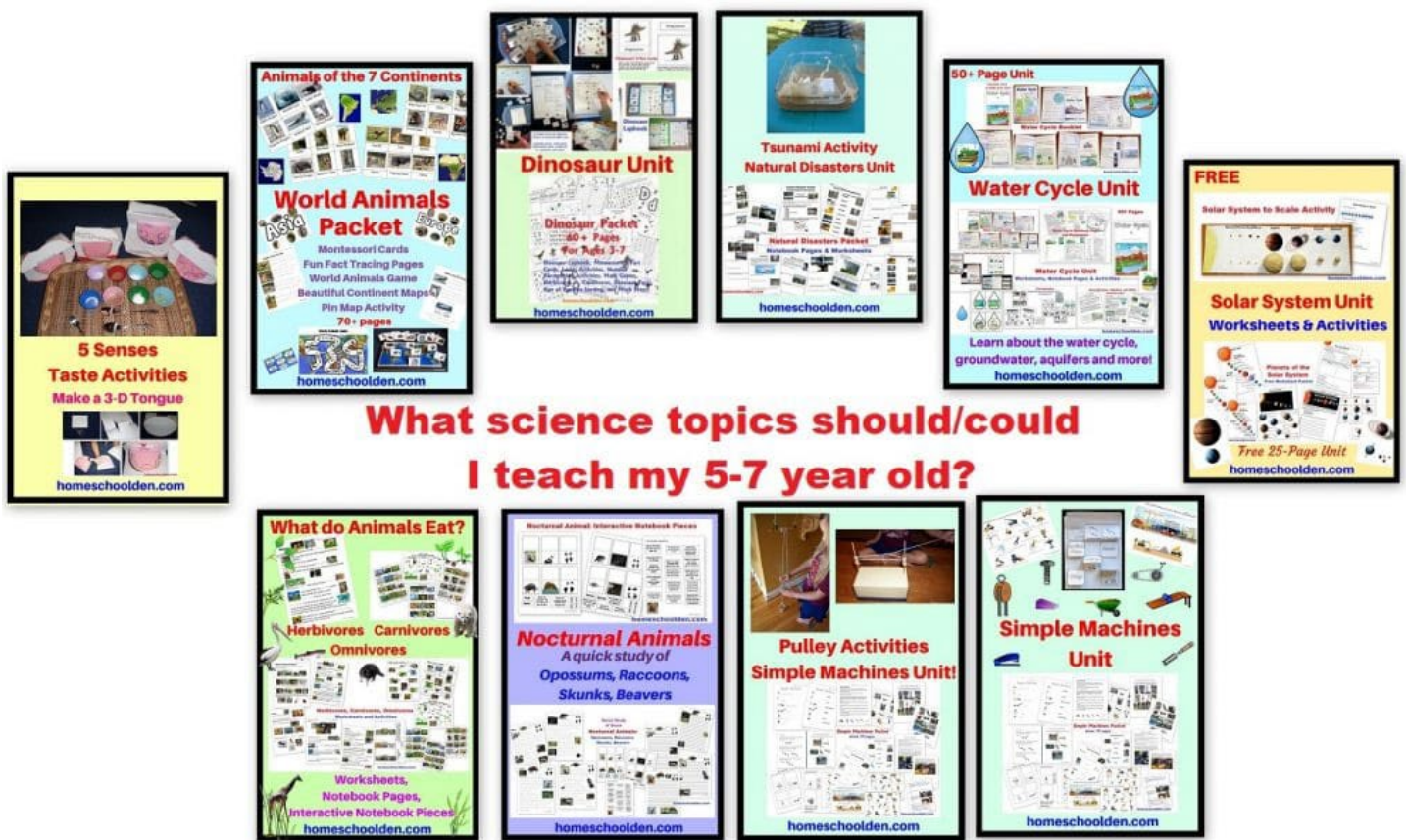


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# What Science Topics Should I Teach my 5-7 year-old?



**What science topics should/could  
I teach my 5-7 year old?**

I had a reader ask what topics that a Kindergartner/1st Grader (ie. 5-7 year old) might learn for science. I've gotten this same question several times in the past month or so, so I thought I might share with you some of the topics we explored when the kids were in early elementary.

As you'll see below, there are SO many things you *could* do with your kids. Just ask them what they are interested in learning and go with that! Borrow lots of books from the library and dive in! 😊

My kids *\*loved\** science because there are so many wonderful, hands-on activities to do!!

As homeschoolers, there is nothing you *\*have\** to cover with your kids at this age. I had a general science checklist that I want to cover from K-8 and keep that I kept in mind over the years. When I noticed a hole, then we'd do a unit on that. You can grab the [free Science Checklist for elementary and middle school here](#).

I'll share many of the units that we did, but please don't be overwhelmed! I have THREE kids, so this represents *years* of fun science exploration! I'm just pulling out the units that your early elementary student might enjoy!

As I said, above explore the units/topics that you think your kids would enjoy the most! So, while my family did TONS about zoology/animals, maybe yours will explore geology/rocks & minerals in depth or will want to learn about tornadoes & other natural disasters! 😊

When the kids were little, we did as many hands-on, engaging activities as we could. Sometimes, these were one-off experiments that captivated their imaginations and made them wonder, “*Why did that happen?!!*” Things like this [colored milk explosion](#) or [oil and water fireworks](#):



### [Make a Color Explosion in Milk](#)

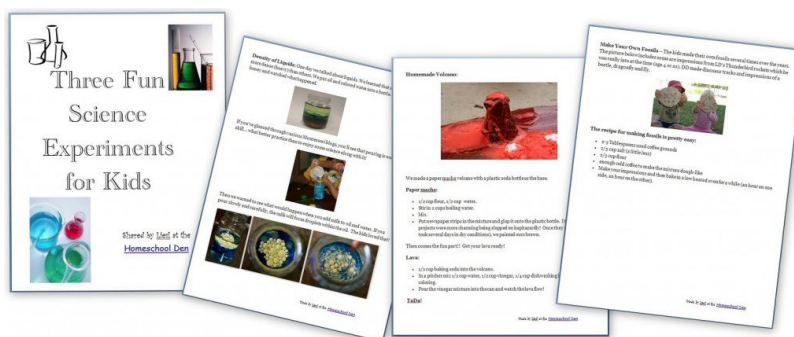


These were some of our very favorite, fun science experiments when the kids were younger:

### Free [Science Experiment Packet](#)



At this post you'll find [three more science experiments and another free printable](#).



### Other times we would explore topics in more depth.

When the kids were little, we generally spent somewhere around 2 or 3 weeks on a unit before moving to a different unit. I always played it by ear and switched it up when the kids weren't quite as engaged.

Then I might come back to a unit to review that material again later in the year or a year or two later and would add to what we had already learned.

## Zoology

We did a lot with zoology in early elementary. We studied animals most every year in one way or another! We covered basic animal classification, for example. We started with living-non-living and then went on to talk about invertebrates-vertebrates, the five animal groups. Other years we talked about nocturnal-diurnal animals, animal shelters, wild vs. domesticated animals, herbivores vs. carnivores, and more!

- We have a free living-nonliving packet here.



- From there we generally went on to review basic animal classification and other animal topics. As I mentioned above, our [Animal Packet](#) explores vertebrates-invertebrates, animal characteristics, nocturnal animals, herbivores vs. carnivores, animal homes and shelters and more).
- We also studied the [Life Cycles](#) of various animals and critters over the years. Of course, lots of early elementary students study the life cycle of the frog and the butterfly. We also talked about the life cycle of mosquitoes, ladybugs, chickens, dragonfly, bee, mouse... and others! 😊
- We also studied [World Animals](#) from time to time (and tied that in with basic world geography activities). This might go well with the [Where I Live Activity Packet](#) which helps kids see where they live from their galaxy, solar system, planet, continent, country, state, town, right down to their home! It also has activities for learning about the seven continents.



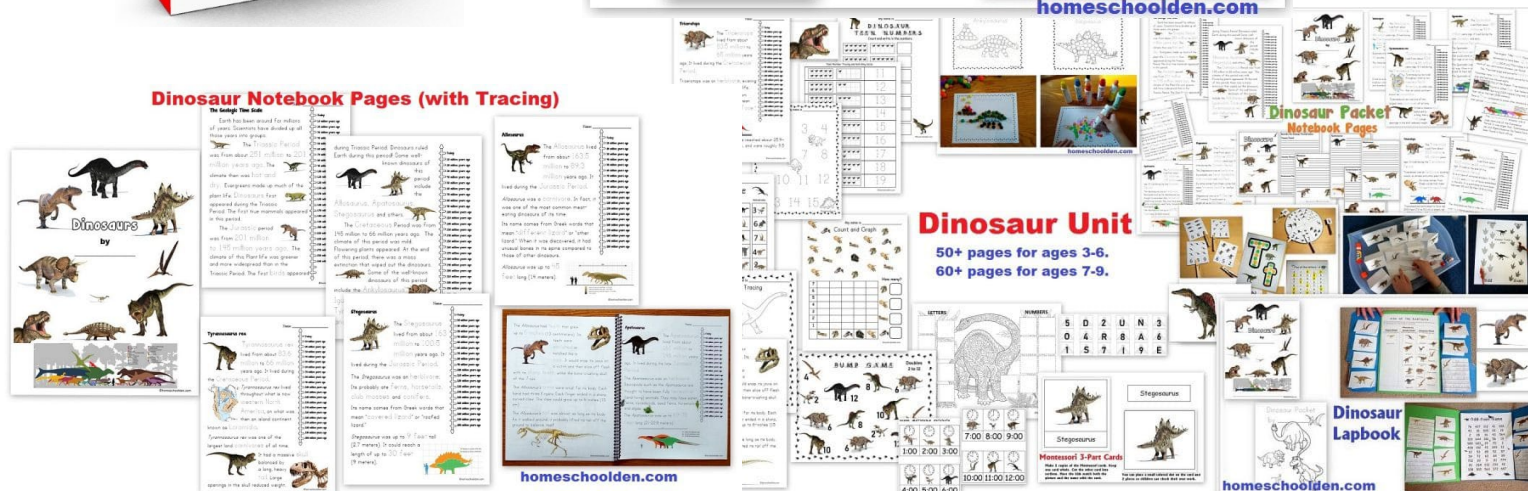
## Big Animal Bundle



For example, after we studied the 7 Continents for world geography, we went on to talk about [Animals around the World](#) (which is sold separately or included in our [Big Animal BUNDLE](#))



- Of course, all of my kids loved [Dinosaurs](#) at one point or another, so we studied that when the kids were interested!



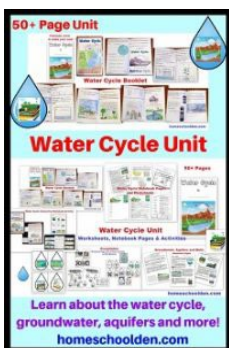
Another year we talked about [the Rainforest](#) (rainforest animals, insects and things like that!)



## Space – The Solar System

We also talked about the Solar System at this age (and in later years too!)

- Be sure to check out this post about various [hands-on Solar System activities](#) and grab the [free Solar System packet!!](#)

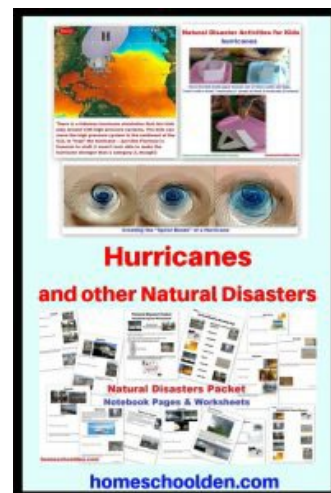


## Earth Science – Weather, Water Cycle

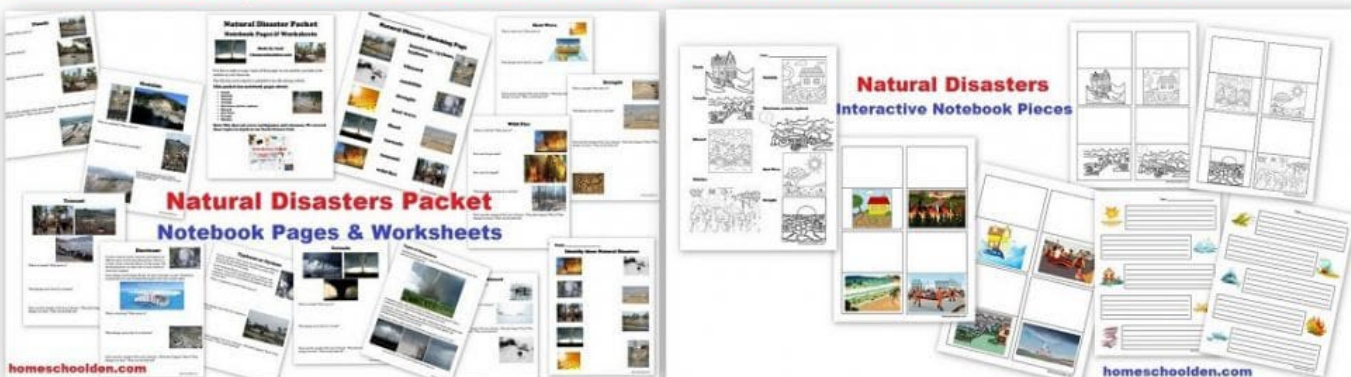
We did some basic Earth Science units when the kids were little. For example, we talked about [Rocks and Minerals](#). There's a [free Rocks & Minerals Packet](#) here (I know it had some material for my youngest who was about 5 at the time.)

In first or second grade, I think we talked about the Water Cycle for the first time. We also did some fun experiments about air and the Weather. (I have 3 kids and we did science together for years and years, so the kids were different ages when we covered these!) We have some units/activities here at these posts:

- [Water Cycle Unit](#)
- [Weather hands-on activities](#)
- The kids were also fascinated by Natural Disasters, so we talked about those about every other year or so! There's a [Natural Disasters Packet](#)



## 2 pdfs: Clouds, Winds & Weather Packet AND Natural Disasters Packet



- We also did a lot of exploration with **magnets** from time-to-time! There are lots of neat hands-on activities kids can do as they explore how magnets work. We did a [magnetism unit](#) last year, but this unit is probably better for slightly older kids (though younger kids will enjoy all the hands-on activities!)

## Human Body

We did units on the Human Body at this age too. We did a unit on the **Five Senses**. There are a lot of hands-on activities you can do in this unit. You can find the packet here: [Five Senses Unit](#)



Another unit we did early on was the [Skeletal System](#). We started first with fun, hands-on activities and the kids learned many of the names of the bones. Note: we came back to this again & again through the years! (Then in later years, we went on to talk about the Digestive System, Circulatory System and things like that.) My kids really loved doing the hands-on activities you see down below. 😊



See our [Human body BUNDLE here](#). We would usually review the Human Body Systems (as a whole) each year and then we would study one of the body systems in depth each spring. (skeletal, digestive, circulatory, muscular, nervous system etc.)



## Simple Machines

Another fun unit for this age was the [simple machines unit](#) – This was a super fun, hands-on unit with TONS of hands-on activities my kids enjoyed!

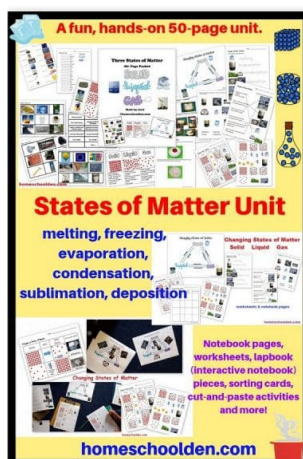
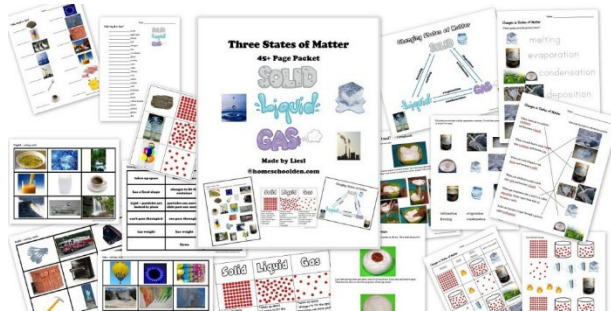


My kids also have had a lot of fun with various STEM projects we've done over the years. This post has some good ideas: [7 Fun STEM – Engineering Projects for Kids](#)



**Build a Post-It Note Tower!**

[States of Matter Packet](#) with fun hands-on activities!



**Environmental Studies: Trash and Recycling Unit** [Quick Preview](#) or [visit post](#) or [view image](#) I'm just adding this unit in here because it's close to Earth Day!



# Water Cycle Unit

**50+ Page Unit**

**Water Cycle Unit**

Learn about the water cycle, groundwater, aquifers and more!

**homeschoolden.com**

**50+ Pages**

**Water Cycle Unit**

Worksheets, Notebook Pages & Activities

**homeschoolden.com**

**Water Cycle Notebook Pages and Worksheets**

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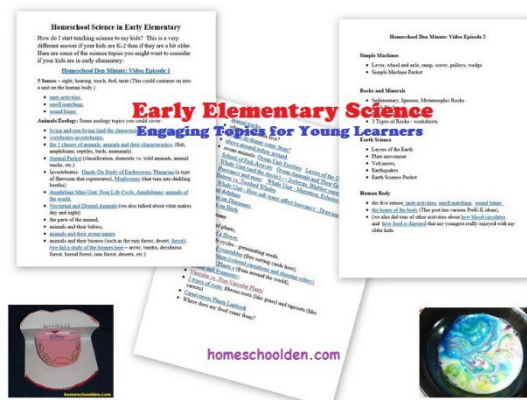
**Water Cycle Booklet**

**homeschoolden.com**

We also did a unit on the [Layers of the Atmosphere](#), which we referred to as we talked about the various types of clouds, the jet stream and things like that, but this is probably more for ages 7-10 or so.



*This FREE* printable has a **list of topics** we covered in the early years: [Homeschool Science in Early Elementary](#)



Thank you so very much for reading to the end! You rock!

Enjoy your homeschool journey!

Happy Homeschooling!

Liesl

If you found this resource helpful (or even if you didn't), I'd love to hear from you! I always appreciate honest feedback.

And, if you ever have any questions, you can reach me via email:

Liesl@homeschoolden.com

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