



PEPPERMINT STICK LEARNING COMPANY INC.

2026 Catalogue



<https://www.peppermintsticklearningco.com>

(Nova Scotia, Canada)

"...lessons that stick with a refreshing touch of sweetness!"

2026 Catalogue Sections –

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Catalogue Information

PSLC means “Peppermint Stick Learning Company Inc.” This company is both a publisher and a distributor of educational-related products. Joy Delmore is the main author of PSLC-published curriculum and owns the company with her husband, Rob. For many years, they lived in Ontario, Canada. Then they moved to Margaree Valley, Nova Scotia.

The slogan relates to the name “Peppermint Stick” in that we purposely choose products that teach *“lessons that stick with a refreshing touch of sweetness!”*

This catalogue contains a SELECTION of our product-line. Some are physical products; others are downloadable and printable resources. We provide curriculum resources for multi-levels – preschool, elementary, secondary.

We sell to parents, teachers, and the general public. Marketing is accomplished by word-of-mouth, through our website and social media pages, and advertising at a few homeschool conferences sometimes. [You may also choose to join our newsletter subscriber list.](#) (You can sign up for that on our home page.) Years ago we would attend a few of our province’s homeschool conferences and occasionally back then and since, Joy has been a workshop speaker, especially on the topic of teaching young children. However, we stopped travelling to these conferences for health reasons. To keep things simple in our business, we do not pay people to review our curriculum so you won’t likely find out about PSLC in those sorts of places; nor do we enable comments on our product pages to have to moderate. But if you have questions or comments about a specific product, please feel welcome to email us. And, if you appreciate using our PSLC curriculum and let others know about our website(s), we say “thank-you” for sharing about us!

🍁 is a symbol to show (at least some of the) products that have Canadian authors and/or are about Canadian subjects Our curriculum focus is intentionally Canadian (or for resources which can easily be adapted for use to be relevant in other countries instead of being country-specific).

Copyrights: The written content within this catalogue is all copywritten material and may not be duplicated for distribution in part or in whole without written permission. The copyrights are held by either Peppermint Stick Learning Company Inc. or by our suppliers, used by us with their permission.

Cover Design: Cover design by Joy Delmore. Photograph by “Bachelor Button” (web name), used by permission. Yes, we watched the caterpillar that had spun a cocoon in our yard, hatch into this butterfly which dried its wings one afternoon and took flight.

Privacy Policy: We do not share your name, address, telephone number, or e-mail with any other companies or organizations, unless required by law to do so.

End-User Licence Agreement for Electronic Resources (EULA) – We also have an EULA for our downloadable curriculum resources. (You can see it at that link.) In a nutshell, it means that if you download our curriculum, you get to reproduce it for single family or single classroom use. You can’t resell it or give it away to other families or other classrooms without our written permission.

Price and availability of products are subject to change. Please also refer to our [Terms and Conditions](#) webpage. Any errors and typos in our 2026 catalogue selections are not intentional. In case of a difference between the website and this printable catalogue, the website description and price will be used. It will be the most up-to-date.

[Ordering and Shipping Information](#) – Please see the current information on our website. Prices are listed in Canadian currency.

Help for planning a school year: 😊 😊

We offer a number of planners on our website! There are [free planners at this link](#) in our blog section, “[Simply Organizing Home and School](#)”, where you can find other tips for planning! One of those is added to the back of this year’s catalogue too! And then there are printable lesson planning books or charts available for purchase in [our online shop!](#) And, if you’re looking for ideas on what resources our family likes to use for homeschooling (K-12) - both the items we sell and other things we don’t, we’ve been listing these on the page called, “[What Resources Do You Use For This Subject?](#)”

“Our Twist” – What is our style/approach for homeschooling?

PSLC is **NOT** traditional, eclectic, Charlotte Mason, integrated unit studies, unschooling, or classical. So what is a “Peppermint Stick” style/approach to education? It is perhaps best described as a “Minimalist Approach”. But even that isn’t a very common name of a style. So what is *that*?

It is a style of education where the wide array of choices for “what to include in a normal day” is purposely limited and prioritized for a simpler lifestyle and for a greater practicality of use.

Families might aim for fewer physical supplies within a learning space, fewer subjects to focus on at a time, the choice of multi-use or reusable items, and/or the careful planning of how often and how much depth or detail per topic (or even if they think it is worthwhile to include at all). The idea is to provide a great educational experience which is not dependent on “all the bells and whistles” marketed in the education world.

The result is often a more **relaxed** way of homeschooling. It seeks to take steps to avoid overwhelm. It aims to use time and possessions better and not waste them on something that isn’t of personal interest if it is not helpful or needful, in order to free up greater time, space, or energy for things which benefit, encourage, and/or are important for the present or future life.

We began Peppermint Stick Learning Company Inc. when our oldest child was young. As a homeschool mom, I (Joy) wanted lessons that truly stick for the long-term (without unnecessary repetition, wasting of time), were refreshing for a “real life” mom like me to use, and have sweet simplicity and practicality to them!

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We’re right in the midst of a home environment with children when our PSLC curriculum is designed. I’m not on an adult team in an office in a big city company and I’m not retired from homeschooling. Our children are near me and almost always test it out first before it gets published for sale. Yes, we DO use much of what we sell! And our children critique it and make suggestions – they are a very important part of “my team”! ♥ Most of our homeschool years have included a baby or toddler as well; I understand what “real life” is like! | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Of course, our resources can be used in a classroom setting. But they have been originally developed to work well at the homes of families. My mom taught in both classrooms and at home – and in similar fashion in both situations. She made the lessons “stick well” and enjoyed much by her students, regardless of the place in which she taught. • My mom not only taught me how to read, etc. but she was someone who taught me how to teach effectively and creatively, and to aim for the ‘sweet and simple’ as a mom! (I was homeschooled for a year and then attended public school also taught by some very good teachers.) |
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It was many years after our family had been homeschooling with our “Peppermint Stick style” that I heard of the name “Minimalist Homeschooling”. It has fit the closest to what we’ve been doing and there are a couple of blog posts on our website about it.

First, I just want to clarify a couple of things about trying to be more minimalist. Glancing over the surface of this idea, one might think that this means “less homeschooling”, rather than a neat way of “managing homeschooling effectively”.

But it doesn’t necessarily mean “less time”, although it should mean that in the sense of less redundant busywork or less studying on topics which aren’t a priority.

Minimalistic shouldn’t mean that we’re eager to check off a “school done for the day” box after only an hour. **Education** should be something that remains a priority and we should expect it will take significant amounts of time. But **how** that time is spent, matters.

And while there is definitely an aspect of decreasing the amount of “stuff for homeschooling”, having “nothing in the budget” for educational resources is extreme and in my opinion, not recommended. (We don’t do that in the kitchen. Keep reading.)

A good homeschooling style should be about **what choices** can we make to be **more effective in teaching good things** so that they “stick” and are **beneficial overall to the growth of our children....**

...The kitchen example –

So think with me for a moment about our kitchens: Now, too much of prepared junk food, bean cans, tumbling boxes and bags of cereal selection, way too many dishes, small appliances, and the “must-have” gadgets, can be quite overwhelming and difficult to

work with and around. And sometimes our homeschool life might feel like it's like that kind of kitchen – we want to ignore the time needed to sort through the messy situation and go for the “take-out”! That might relieve for the short-term but we know that isn't a good plan for long-term. Somehow, that kitchen needs downsizing and it needs “the mom” to make it less confusing – not necessarily perfect but at least some resemblance of order.

Well, what could we do? We could make a kitchen “very minimalistic” with the exact amount of dishes needed (but none for inviting company over). The food we could offer from a kitchen could just be bland ingredients (e.g. cornmeal mush) or the inexpensive kind, easy-to-prepare food like those little packages of flavoured noodles eaten by college students. I mean, that IS “minimalistic” for sure. But is that really a “good” solution for the long-term? Most of us would say, “Of course not! It's missing good, balanced nutrition. That's too stark.” There must be a healthy balance to experience an appealing sense of simplicity!

So let's instead think more in terms of *useful/effective tools* and *nutrient dense* ingredients. Sure, sometimes, using inexpensive foods can be very helpful and nutritious or just fun to enjoy for an occasional snack. But for the bulk of the meals, we generally would want to aim for nutrition with tastiness, something that requires a bit of *thought* on our side of things. And so it's good for us to *think, ponder, explore “what ifs” and “what if nots”, and then we can work through simplifying things, trimming choices in big steps or little by little.*

As pruning encourages growth and beauty by carefully choosing branches to cut or train/shape (rather than allowing all to grow wildly or cutting a bush down too much), minimalist homeschooling very purposely prunes and shapes aspects of education for the purpose of benefiting the individual family.

(Continue read the blog post here: [Minimalist Homeschooling Part 1 \(How to Prune\)](#))

Homeschool parents have chosen to both parent and to homeschool their child(ren). (Parts A and B)

A: SCHOOLWORK:

Curriculum is a tool to help YOU provide some direction and structure to your child's learning. It provides guidance and helps to reduce time and effort in gathering or coming up with one's own lessons. (And often, for good curriculum, there will be a cost. Effective stuff with creative human thought behind it, isn't usually free.)

Some features we look for and offer at PSLC -

- The products we sell tend to be **adaptable for use within almost any of the common educational styles/approaches** that you may have heard of. While our “Peppermint Stick” style is **unique** in a sense and sometimes has some different characteristics compared to typical curriculum, it is also very **flexible** in how it can be used to meet the needs of today's families! Our customers come from varied styles/approaches (e.g. Traditional, Charlotte Mason, Eclectic, Unschooling, etc.), sometimes just for one subject area.
- We also highly value the concept of **multi-level learning** for at least some topics – where the topic might be able to be generally organized as the same for a wider age range while the depth and/or skills can be different. (Multi-level/multi-grade teaching was a method that worked very well historically in one-room schoolhouses with eight grades and one teacher – both of Joy's parents and an aunt taught in this kind and many ideas put into PSLC curriculum come from them.)
- We love using different methods of learning – hands-on, visual, written, and verbal activities – and variety works! Learn with projects, real life experiences, notebooks, meaningful worksheets, presentations, age-appropriate instructions, easy-to-read layouts/font-sizing, and simple pictures!
- Much of our curriculum can be rearranged as desired without difficulty and is self-paced.
 - We recognize each family and each school classroom has individual needs, interests, and abilities. Our undated curriculum enables our customers to make choices as to “what” is studied in their homes “when” and in “what order”, although we do provide a suggested order.
 - We want to inspire children to explore and soar and not hold them back, even if that means learning to read before memorizing the alphabet, if that is what they end up doing. We desire to see children grow in knowledge, skills, and wisdom at any age and believe they have the potential of learning so much and loving it too!

- Focused learning in **chunks**, bite-size pieces of the stuff in the same category. Our unit chunks do not last all year; instead think of a few days, a week, a month, depending on the topic. Nor are they units that keep the same topic for all subjects, all month long. (You can have a different topic for each subject.)
- How our curriculum is designed helps to train students to grasp the important skill of independent learning, including some project-based assignments!
 - Independent learning is not just about being able to “read and retell” on your own. It goes beyond that to understand enough to be able to also *apply* what was learned to a different or new situation or related topic. This includes following a pattern of modelled writing, making summary notes, organizing thoughts and plans, knowing how to use reference materials and so on.
 - If students can grasp independent learning skills, they will –
 - gain confidence in their knowledge
 - be equipped to help younger siblings
 - delight in deeper studies of interest
 - thrive on both “together-groupwork” time and “on-own” time because they have a freedom to accomplish a significant amount of stuff at their own pace.
 - Do you desire your children to grow strong as eager lifelong learners? Spoon-feeding them, entertaining them with mainly flashy and fluffy trivia, or keeping everyone together at the same pace for everything isn’t going to help much, in my opinion. Independent learning needs some guidance along the way and it is a very important part of education that is often overlooked.
 - If this skill is not encouraged in the home *gradually*, it is more challenging to begin just at older levels or when other family responsibilities increase (e.g. new baby, etc.) to expect a student to suddenly manage well with their education. So PSLC seeks to begin that skill in primary levels, in contrast to what many other homeschool companies do.
- Teach lessons which are relevant to a child’s world and understandable in a child’s language.
 - Relax in the freedom to teach with own choices of literature! (Again, we give suggestions on our website and within curriculum but we generally did **not** want curriculum that depended on a certain book list.)
 - “Twist” together what you learn with your daily life! We like lessons that are practical for a child’s life either now and/or in the future. Lessons can use commonly-found “around-the-home” materials. (Example: “Pinch clothespins around a hand towel before today’s printing lesson. This exercise warms-up finger muscles.”)
 - **The “Surprise Factor”**: Not every lesson has to be predictable in layout/structure or the method of learning. We all like surprises! Picture a bored student in mid-winter who is soooooo used to a routine of “Do this page the same way you have the previous pages of this book for the past few months, subject after subject.” Resources should not just to “cover the content” with a boring template or “blank” fancy writing paper; they should have at least some thoughtful design!
- Most of our curriculum is **reusable** or **reproducible**! Coming from the perspective of parents of a large family, if you can reuse curriculum, it should be easier to plan and overall, less expensive. We try to cut down on the amount of paper and ink used (and amounts stored in basements). We want you to have the opportunity to keep *a meaningful record of learning*, rather than a wad of scattered printouts from “wherever” or stacks of consumable workbooks in a portfolio box.
- **“SPECIAL NEEDS” Students**: To see if our curriculum might be able to help with teaching “special needs” students, please [go here](#).
- **A COMPARISON**: We often have been asked to describe our style by comparing it with other more-common approaches to education. If this is of further interest to you, please go to [this link here](#) for that.
- **ABOUT INTEGRATING THE BIBLE**: Some books that we publish have very little or no Biblical content. Almost all of our academic curriculum can easily be used in a variety of home school, private school, or even public school settings. However, we do not compromise our [Statement of Faith](#) do write from such a Christian perspective when issues arise.

B: PARENTING: Real sweetness of a home comes from building good relationships with one another and exalting Jesus Christ. We encourage families to learn together daily from the Bible which is refreshing to our lives and “sweeter also than the honey and the honeycomb” (see Psalm 19:7-10, 119:103, 138:2c).

- Most of our curriculum does not give specific direction for Bible readings or spiritual conversations. We believe that the parents have this responsibility, instead of the academic curriculum writer, to choose Bible verses and related conversations which are best suited to their individual family. But, we definitely encourage families to be students of God's Word, not just "schoolwork".
- We see "homeschooling" as a different task from "parenting" or "discipleship", even though of course, these tasks often can be combined. All parents should "parent" their child(ren). But homeschooling parents also provide academic schooling to their kids, and are not just parenting them. Homeschooling families who only do discipleship or parenting tasks can end up with students who struggle with academic skills more. And homeschooling families who are only looking after academic studies/sports groups, can end up with students who are disconnected for knowing good relationships both with people and spiritually.

The ultimate success of education is not a particular style/approach. It instead rests on the quality of relationships. This is why parents and students find that interacting together in home education becomes more satisfying compared to online learning all day in front of a virtual teacher or game app. "Canned" lectures or cartoon characters are devoid of a good relationship with the learner. Online school-at-home is not the same as real homeschooling. Successful homeschooling is more than just providing study material. Don't just think about how to get a topic presented quickly with the least bit of effort by anyone and then you're all done for the day in just a couple of hours. Think about what you're sharing and exemplifying to your kids. Guide their studies in such a manner that they can enjoy most of their education instead of enduring it!

You'll generally get whatever you put into something. If you've decided to homeschool, then you are saying that you are desiring to now to take on additional responsibilities to also have "the teacher role" to guide their studies (even if you arrange for some subject areas to be taught or supplemented with other resources).

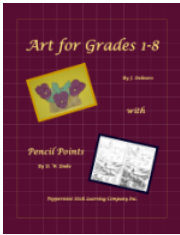
OUR BIBLICAL PHILOSOPHY OF EDUCATION: We follow some guidelines for how we choose our product-line. As owners of Peppermint Stick Learning Company Inc., we believe:

1. Parents have the primary responsibility to teach and train their children to know the truth and encourage them to make wise choices in life.
2. Teaching and training of godly values in the home is a Biblical directive for the godly parent, whether or not a Christian parent also provides a child's academic education. This involves:
 - teaching the Bible (for example, in daily family devotion time(s) and in life situations throughout the days and years) (Deut. 6:7, 11:18-21, Isaiah 38:19, Psalm 78:2-8, 89:1, 103:13, 145:4-7, Proverbs 10:1, 22:6, 29:15, 31:1, 26-27, Eph.6:4, Col. 20-21, 1 Thes.2:11-12)
 - living a holy life (1 Corinthians 1:2, 2 Corinthians 7:1, Titus 2:11-12, Hebrews 12:14, 1 Peter 1:15-16, 2:11-12, 2 Timothy 1:9)
 - being prepared to respectfully tell people God's truth and of the hope we have in Jesus Christ. (Proverbs 15:28, 1 Peter 3:15, 2 Timothy 2:24-25)
 - not allowing the ungodly values of the world to squeeze us into its mold (for example, in entertainment choices) (Romans 12:2, James 3:13-17, 1 John 2:15-17, 1 Peter 4:1-7, 2 Peter 3:14, 17, James 1:27c)
 - not learning details of pagan religious practices. Although a very basic understanding of other philosophies can be of benefit to know how to respectfully share with others the good news of Jesus Christ, care needs to be taken as to what information is taught and how much time is spent on it compared to other topics. And the incorporation/blending of humanistic psychology and philosophy in trying to teach spiritual truth from the Bible

(e.g. in curriculum or literature choices) is a troubling mixture that confuses rather than clarifies. (See Deuteronomy 12:30, 7:26, Jeremiah 10:2, Matthew 6:13, Romans 15:17, 19b, Psalm 101:3, 6-7, John 14:23, 1 Corinthians 1:20, 2:4-6, 13-14, 3:19, 2 Corinthians 1:12, 1 Timothy 6:20).

- avoiding sin and doing what is right (Matthew 22:37-40).
 - being a thankful and grateful people in the home, in the world, and in their regular gathering together as believers, bringing honour and praise to their Lord and Saviour. (1 Thessalonians 5:18, Psalm 147:1, Titus 3:8, Hebrews 10:25)
3. Parents need to make the best education choice they can for each of their children, taking into consideration family values, learning styles, special needs, and other individual and personal matters. We believe that homeschooling is a choice, not a Biblical mandate.
 4. Education should be considered a blessing and enjoyed as much as possible by the teacher and student! A daily dose of unhappy attitudes in "just get your schoolwork done quickly and then you can play" leads to a poor work ethic of living only for the weekend. While diligence is needed, a teacher needs to help a child enjoy learning as much as possible, rather than teaching that school is something to be endured. Academic schooling therefore should incorporate a variety and combination of effective and interesting methods for a student to take in information and present their knowledge. "Fun" should be part of all learning styles!
 5. In today's Canadian society and workplace, there is a general call to be especially literate in reading, science, communication, and mathematics. Most home-based businesses or outside employment for future graduates will likely involve these fields of study and, should the Lord tarry, they should be prepared to be generally literate in these fields, even if some are employed in other areas of work and ministry.

Arts



Art for Grades 1-8 with Pencil Points

Peppermint Stick/David Emke

Learn to use crayons, paint (finger-paint, tempera, watercolour), chalk, oil pastels, pen and ink, glue and scissors, wood, recycled items, natural items, wax, string, kinds of papers, etc. Activities with sketching, stamping, enlarging, collages, mosaics, 2-D and 3-D paper construction, molding containers, shadows, mixing, using colour, line, texture, and design, artistic printing, photography, etc. "Pencil Points" are basic sketching tips by Canadian artist, D.W.

Emke – handouts from a past grade 4 classroom presentation. Weekly lessons are arranged for easy multi-grade teaching by focusing on the same or similar art supplies but varying with the skill level. Tips and patterns, lists, sample photographs of art projects, past seminar notes for arts and crafts in Christian ministry settings (e.g. church, camp)... A packed-full resource with eight (8) YEARS of projects, especially written with a busy mom in mind!

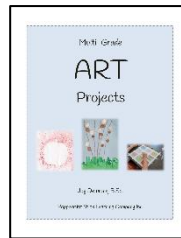
ARTPP18 - \$52.00 (while quantities last, printed with full-colour pages)

Multi-Grade Art Projects

Peppermint Stick

Art for Grades 1 to 8 was updated with a few changes. It does not include the "Pencil Points" drawing lessons. It also rearranged the photos of the art lessons to be in with the lesson rather than compiled in pages at the back of the book. This version is only available as a downloadable, printable e-book - for YOU to print and put in a binder. But the lesson ideas generally remain identical to the above resource. This resource is designed to help introduce and develop a variety of art skills at growing levels so that you can enjoy being artistic together as a family! Less mess, more accomplishments, lots of sharing time and freedom for personal expression!

MART18 – \$40.00

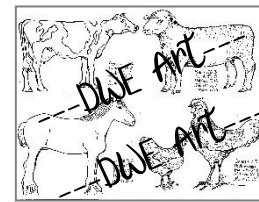


Scripture Colouring Sheets



Spring Scene

Black and white picture on 8½ x 11" cardstock. Verse: Psalm 96:1. Shows blossoms, birds, horse...(b&w) DWES - \$2.00



Farm Animals

A few farm animals to colour on one 8½ x 11" cardstock sheet with Scripture references. (b&w) DWEF - \$2.00

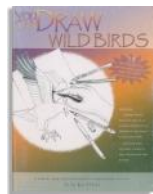
Full page Christmas Illustrations

Idea: Use these for giving to your special family and friends instead of traditional Christmas cards. They can be displayed year after year. Black and white picture on 8½ x 11" cardstock.

DWERBW - \$2.00 each picture

Scene choices:

- A: Birds and Tree
- B: Covered Bridge and Church
- C: Picture within Large Star



You Can Draw Wild Birds

Judy Kauffman, Nature Friend writer for "You Can Draw"

Ever wished you could sketch a wild bird but didn't know just how to begin? Well here's the book for you! With step-by-step instructions, you'll have yourself a beautiful drawing. Included in the back of the book are blank sheets of paper to use. Geared for upper grades but all ages can do it.

1P- 411278 – See website for pricing

Nature Book to Colour

Written description for each picture and lines easy for primary/junior children and yet detailed enough for even teens to colour or paint; birds, flowers, woodland animals, marine life...

NP03338 (This item sometimes is not available.)



Birds Color-By-Number

Colour the correct colours for a clearly drawn painted bunting, yellow warbler, cardinal and more! 64 pgs.

BP03414 – (This item sometimes is not available.)

David W. Emke's Artwork:

(Use for crafts, Bible Memory Work, etc.)

The Gospel Train

Paper model building for Gr.3+; 10 cars (engine, coal, caboose, passenger car, etc.), each having a Bible verse with the word "gospel" in it. Six black and white pages for you to colour with instructions.

DWEG6 - \$12.00 complete set



Looking for ideas for teaching music? Check our "Encouragemints" blog –



Psalm 121 Chapter Panorama

All verses are illustrated in order for entire chapter. The sheet is then to be cut into 4 strips, aligned, and attached to make one long scene. Available as black and white for you to colour (PCBW) or in beautiful full-colour format, pictured below (PCFC). It's hard to pick a favourite of his artwork but this would be one of ours! KJV
 DWE-PCBW - \$2.00 each sheet
 DWE-PCFC - \$6.00 each sheet



Scripture Texts in Full-Colour

Six to twelve unique paintings on a sheet (8 1/2 X11"). Cut them apart to use in your Bible memory program or to make crafts such as greeting cards, magnets, bookmarks, wall-hangings, etc. for gifts or for yourself. These nature and old-fashioned paintings with verses are exquisitely beautiful! KJV

DWE-STFC - \$6.00 each sheet

- A: Maple Leaf Shape – 9 cards per sheet
- B: Running Deer and Maple Leaf designs – 6 deer, 3 leaf – 9 cards per sheet
- C: Oval-Shaped
- D: Butterfly, Moose, Maple Leaf designs – 12 cards per sheet
- E: Old Mills
- F: Screen Door framed scenes – mountain/gazebo, church in winter, farmhouse/geese (not pictured, similar to "G")
- G: Screen Door framed scenes – Dutch windmill, lighthouse/ships, sheep/ barn.
- H: Pathways – 6 scenes of "paths"
- I: 12 Winter Birds – with Scripture and name of each kind of bird on the back
- J: Oval-framed designs – 8 cards per sheet (with different pictures than "C")
- K: "Sweet Memories": Painter's palette illustrations to remember "sweet memories" from the Bible.



Scripture Text Bookmarks to Colour

Eight unique bookmarks in black and white on each cardstock sheet (8 1/2 X11"). These may be reproduced for noncommercial use (e.g. in your own family or Sunday School class). 19 different sheets are available individually (our choice of sheet) or by the complete set of 19 sheets for \$28.00. (That is 152 bookmarks!!).

DWE-STBW - \$2.00 each sheet



Teaching Tips for Art ...

It is helpful, especially for teaching K-6, to have one spot and/or container to store all of your art supplies together such as a large multi-pocketed diaper bag (or a hanging cosmetic travel bag), stored behind a cupboard door. Pockets and elastics in these can hold paint bottles, paint brushes, zippered compartments can have small baggies of tissue paper squares, googly eyes, etc. and wide pockets for specialty papers. Various sizes of construction paper and drawing paper can sit on a separate shelf in the cupboard too. Wooden sticks and shapes are stored in a shoebox and play dough stuff in a basket or plastic container. If you have things together in one spot, it is easier to do art lessons AND find things quickly for hands-on projects in other subjects such as science or social studies.

A list of art supplies that are commonly used in grades K-4:

- Finger paint – at least in the colours of red, blue, yellow, and white
- Thick brushes – one per colour of sloppy paint
- Tempera paint blocks – 6 colours with a water dish and a thick paint brush
- Apron, small plastic tablecloth (or an easel)
- Crayons (thick and thin), pencil crayons
- Glue – white liquid non-toxic glue and a glue stick
- Tape – masking tape and transparent tape
- Split pins, stapler, string or yarn
- Scissors – appropriate for child's skill level and handedness
- Fabric scraps, feathers, cotton balls (sheep, clouds, snow)
- Sponge, clothespins (sponge painting)
- Drinking straw (blow painting)
- Magazine pictures, tourism brochures, old calendar pictures (Separate pictures into envelopes by theme such as "Animals", "Structures", "Landscape", "People", "Transportation".)
- Pipe stem cleaners, pom poms
- Googly eyes, paper lunch bags (for puppets), paper plates
- Multi-coloured construction paper – all colours, separated by colour
- Cardstock and/or cardboard
- Large white drawing paper and/or manilla paper and newsprint
- Tissue paper (variety of colours – some cut into 1" squares for mosaics, etc.)
- White paper (letter size – 8 ½ x11")

Things to think about when using art to teach a lesson:

Colour: What "tools" could be used to colour a picture? (paint, crayon, chalk, etc. brush, sponge, straw, etc.) Will we mix our own colours? Will we limit colours to only "hot" or "cool" colours or monochromatic shades? Will the background paper be light or dark?

Shape: What shape could the craft have (i.e. not always a rectangular piece of paper)? Will it be all flat or be 3D with parts that are folded, rolled, fringed, etc.?

Line: Will it use thick or thin lines? Will it have text on it such as a verse or saying (type and size of font)?

Texture: Is there texture I can add to the craft by using different types of paper or other materials (e.g. sugar for snow, cinnamon, grass, twigs, sand, pressed flowers, fabric scrap representative of clothing, coloured cellophane, feathers)?

Movement: Is there any moveable parts that can help retell the lesson? (e.g. puppets, string pulls, split pins, fold-ups, window flaps)

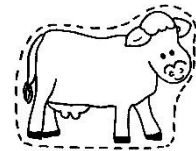
Beginner Scissors Skills

Let your child snip the colours on paint chips/strips you bring home from your local home paint store.

Continue learning to cut more strips, waves, circles, spirals, corners, flaps, and simple pictures.

Take an old but attractive calendar picture and mark out 4-12 large puzzle-piece shapes for the child to cut and reassemble. (Idea: Beginning with a corner piece, have the child also paste one piece at a time on a plain, colourful paper, as a reward for accomplishing a chore or giving great effort in a school day!)

For cutting pictures in school projects that have too much detail inside the shape, dash a new and simpler cutting line around the outside for students to follow like this:

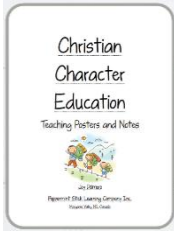


Find it on our "Encouragemints" blog!



Usefulness: Can this be displayed in our home or given away to someone we love? Can it be stored easily in a school portfolio box? Does it have connection/meaning to the main point of the lesson (i.e. not just "busywork")? Is it at an appropriate level for the child doing it (e.g. safety, skill level) or does the adult have to do the majority of the work? How messy will this be to clean up (e.g. fine glitter, stains on clothing, a place to dry the painting out of reach of toddler/lunch prep, etc.)? Can it be used for play/retelling what was learned, for décor, or for household use? Lots of ideas can be found in [Art for Grades 1 to 8 with Pencil Points](#) or [Multi-Grade Art Projects!](#)

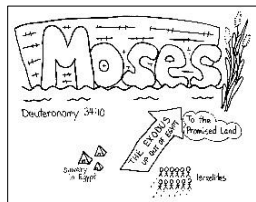
Bible and Christian Education



Christian Character Education Teaching Posters and Notes

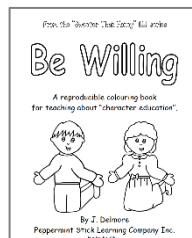
Peppermint Stick
Our PSLC resource for teaching Christian character education is a set of teaching posters with a handful of notes to accompany them! In this set are both the black and white AND the full-colour posters – so that you can choose which version you'd like to use! (Or use both – one to display and the other for students to colour their own set as they learn!) A multi-grade resource, this is a very visual way to explain and remind kids about valuable character traits as well as basic concepts relating to a relationship with God and with others!

\$32.00 (downloadable, printable format)



Pictorial Bible History Cards

Peppermint Stick
Teach Bible history in Sunday School or family Bible time with these unique hand-drawn picture cards to colour, highlighting major people and events in chronological order. Hang them on an indoor clothesline across a room like a time-line or hole-punch and store in a binder. All ages – preschool to adult. Two versions: Reproducible 27 white cards, unbound (while quantities last: \$20.00 cards) or downloadable/printable format: \$10.00



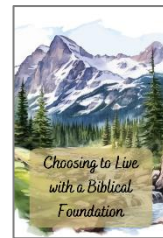
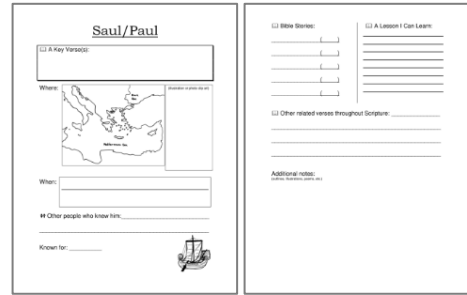
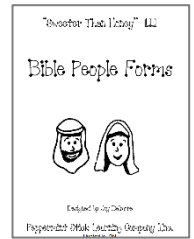
Be Willing Colouring Book

Peppermint Stick
Be Honest, Be Humble, Be Helpful, and other pages teach, with a simple drawing to colour and a few Bible verses on a parent's page, about attitudes/character mentioned in the Bible. For young children. 35 pages.

\$5.00 (downloadable, printable)

Bible People Forms

Peppermint Stick
Fill in these forms as you study more than 100 Bible characters in the Old and New Testaments. Keep a record of where and when each lived, what they did, what they were known for (e.g. courage, love, joy, patience, gentleness or lack of...), lessons for us today, and practice cross-referencing skills throughout Scripture. Charts, maps, plus simple graphics add visual interest to your Bible study. About 210 pgs. \$5.00 (downloadable, printable)



Choosing to Live with a Biblical Foundation

Peppermint Stick
This is a newer item. We are starting to offer printable posts of some parts of our blog "Encouragements". Selected posts are put into a nicer format for easier use in personal or small group studies for teens/adults. See website for more information.

Fun Pads – Bible Stories

Scribble with pencil over the pages to reveal the picture on the glossy white pages. These are nice to take along to church or camp or for Sunday School rewards. Two titles: Old Testament Stories, New Testament Stories. See website for pricing



Let Me Die in Ireland (audio story)

This is an authentic account of the man that many know as St. Patrick, a great missionary. His life is a testimony to the power of the gospel when preached and lived by a man of integrity. He gave up a comfortable life as an upper class citizen of Roman Britain to live in poverty and constant danger in Ireland. He brought Christ's love to the enemies of his people, to the nation who had once kidnapped and enslaved him. This is an excellent story to listen to with children or teens! Author: David Bercot. Produced by Hurst Publications. Contains 2 audio CDs. See website for pricing.

Regular Diameter Pencils:

with written Scripture along each pencil. See website for pricing. (While quantities last.)



Style 1: [Wordless Book/Plan of Salvation verses](#)

Style 2: [Psalm 23](#)

Characteristics of the "Let Me Read" and "Reading Sticks" Series



The story behind this program begins back in the 1940's in our family. Little Grace was a beginning student at an old-fashioned rural school when she became very ill and had to miss most of her grade one year in the classroom. Her teacher sent home long lists of words to learn and Grace was very bored. Well, as she grew up to become a primary teacher herself, she thought that there HAD to be a better way of teaching reading skills! As a full-time schoolteacher in the 1950's and '60's, she worked in both the one-room schools teaching all grade levels and the then-newer public schools in Grade 1. Reading and Art were her favourite subjects to teach and like most teachers of her day, she developed a large part of her curriculum by hand. The methods of teaching reading that worked for her classes, her children who were home schooled for a year before entering public school and some of her grandchildren, are the basis for most of the techniques used in the "Let Me Read" reading program. Grace is my mother, and helped me substantially as I updated and enhanced her methods. Even in her senior years, artwork, children's stories, and early literacy, remained an interest and she never learned to be overly content in sitting still for long – something that she said made her fit right in with the grade 1 classroom! But now, a younger generation teaches... A few years ago, her 14 year old grand-daughter took the time to teach a bouncy 4 year old brother how to read over the summer using the "Let Me Read" curriculum. And yes, it was easy and fun for both of them!

- Learn to Read and Enjoy It:

When are children ready to start reading? Often it is between the ages of 2-5 years old, so let's encourage their interest and teach them! Think of them saying "Let Me Read!" © This program is not to be frustrating or "pushing" the child to read but rather used when a child shows interest in wanting to learn new words and shows a curiousness about their world and printed materials such as books, cereal boxes, signs, etc.. They will probably be asking you often what various words say or try to tell a story in a favourite book by "reading" the pictures. We believe that early learning should be enjoyed, not endured. Wiggles and giggles are welcome!

- Learn to Read by Reading:

Three Kinds of Readers (Books)

1. **Integrative Readers** (also called "Levelled Readers" or "Pre-Emergent/Emergent Readers")
 - Most popular in public schools
 - Thin books, each on a single topic.
 - Written to integrate literacy with other subjects such as history, math, or science.
 - Words are learned by "context" – seeing a picture on the page and guessing the word.
2. **Phonics Readers**
 - Most popular with traditional schools and homes
 - Basic, straightforward sentences reinforce the sounds of letters or groups of letters. Example: "A fat cat sat on a mat." A few phonics readers also have an interesting plotline rather than just isolated sentences.
3. **Story Readers**
 - Most popular in public schools during the 1940's-1970's and in some Mennonite schools.
 - Characters in short stories remain the same in early grades to motivate readers to keep reading to find out "what happens next".
 - Words are learned by phonics rules and sight words developed into vocabulary lists for each short story.

In this curriculum, reading is learned primarily by practicing reading in contrast to typical programs which tend to primarily teach reading by writing words and other activities requiring a pencil.

This curriculum is flexible and works well with various readers or other kinds of reading material. It is YOUR choice of which readers or storybooks to purchase or use from your personal library of children's literature. If you want help to choose some good reading material, check the suggestions on our website under the top tab called "[LISTS](#)".

There is a debate around as to whether to start with easy-read picture books and simple readers or to avoid them and teach with only "great" classics that have no pictures, only paragraphs of text. Our perspective is that the "great books" are not so great to teach young children to read. We have had customers who have tried that method and have come to us for help because their "grade 3" child can't read properly yet and they don't feel comfortable moving them on to the junior grades. Yes, there are some readers that lack the zip of a storyline – avoid those because someone will not want to read boring pages of text. But please - consider teaching a child how to read with stories that have pictures and simple, relevant sentences in large print! Many of these books are not "twaddle" and will not "damage your child for life". These books break up the ideas and sentences into manageable steps, similar to a good mother putting food into bite-sized pieces for her child. Applesauce is especially good for little children; adults also enjoy applesauce occasionally even though they also likely eat whole apples with the peel on!

- Learn to Read Without Sequential-based Mastery Requirements:

Some typical reading programs available on the market take the approach that alphabet sounds must be learned and mastered first, followed by word list drills (often timed). When the child has shown that they have mastered these steps, they can move on to reading simple sentences and sounding out or guessing at words they have not learned in their drilled lists. The word lists begin with only one syllable; then when these are mastered, bigger words with more syllables are given. The initial reading practice involves reading sounds often in combination of non-words such as “sa”, “ba”, etc. The initial reading of whole words may be only in a string of words together that follow the same “phonics rule”. The “Let Me Read” program is NOT LIKE THIS!!! Rather it is more flexible and non-sequential – YOU choose the order of letter sounds or themes and let the children keep going in the next week’s lesson, even if not all words are mastered. There is repetition built-in so he or she will meet up with the words again sometime and can try to learn more then. No child likes to be held back from a new poster page or weekly theme. We allow (and encourage) children to learn big words as well as little words, We list words according to pictures, fun themes, or interesting stories. And they learn to read in SENTENCES right from the start, using pictures and words (otherwise known as “rebus” sentences).

Reading Tip: Fluency

To prevent “jumpy” reading of sentences, don’t point to words with your finger. Slide smoothly instead or keep a bookmark without movement under each line of text.

- Learn to Read With Relevant Material:

Our material is relevant to a child’s day-to-day world, after all, childhood experiences should be already delightful to him or her. We also don’t teach “A is for Alligator” since that could result in changing the lesson focus about the sound of the letter to a science lesson in having to explain what an alligator is. To encourage confidence and avoid distraction, we choose examples that are easily understood by children (in Canada) such as A is for an airplane, an apple, etc..

Four Ways People Learn Words

- **Phonics** (sounds of words)
- **Visual Memory Cues** (e.g. shapes of words)
- **Spelling Patterns** (e.g. little words within big words)
- **Context** (e.g. guessing the word in relationship to a picture)

- Learn to Read Early + How to Teach Reading After Grade 1:

The idea is that by the end of Grade 1, most children who began in JK or SK will be reading fluently enough to not need a separate “reading” (literacy) curriculum other than phonics units, spelling lessons, reading comprehension work, and *plenty of reading material to practice with* such as storybooks, information books, and/or readers. Their reading vocabulary is already large enough to read most primary-level literature, they have already been taught the skills involved in deciphering future new words, and are confident to read the most frequent words used.

Since I was doing a second edition of the original JK-grade 1 program, updating some graphics and expanding it a bit, I also have been working to expand the “Let Me Read” series to offer more guidance to parents and students of the grade 2+ levels. This is being done simply by combining some lessons from our phonics units, spelling, reading comprehension topics while briefly reviewing the literacy concepts taught in the earlier levels. Over the years, a number of our customers have indicated a need for this to be addressed, for example, if their students are older, have never used our “Let Me Read” program, but not reading fluently yet. To do this, I’m working on one more year under the “Let Me Read” title which bridges the gap between the early literacy foundation and the student work in the “Reading Sticks” series for fluent readers.

Because our “Let Me Read” program is so flexible, any student, including “special needs” children and those with a “delayed start”, can begin, continue, and end according to their own pace. If a child begins to learn the alphabet sounds in grade 1, it might take longer than a year to finish the program but it still offers a very solid foundation for future grades. Back in the days when kindergarten was not as popular, my mom’s grade 1 classroom students were enjoying stories in their readers by Christmastime while the other grade 1 classroom was still learning letters/sounds and sight words using a traditional sequential method. If a “grade 3” student cannot read well, the Step 2 material is usually where I’d suggest he or she starts. You can see more about reading on our website, including a free printable about teaching older students how to read and about placement, at [“Our Twist on Reading and Writing”](#).

Manipulative Tip: Flat or Chunky?

Letters are fun to arrange into words. While “flat” cardboard letters are “OK” and inexpensive, chunky ones (even tiles from board games) are easier for small hands to grasp.

We use a variety of hands-on, auditory, visual, and written methods within the program to teach literacy.

The sooner your child learns to read confidently and loves it, the easier your work as a teacher will be!



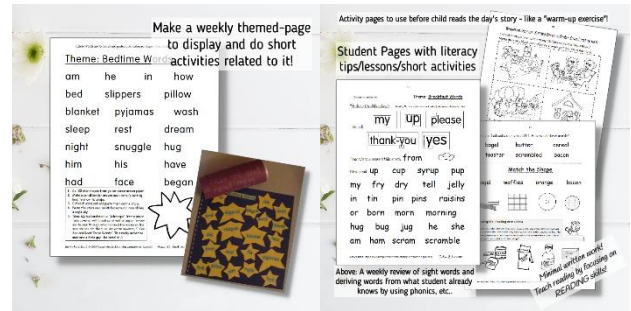
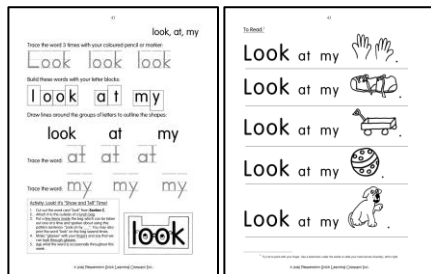
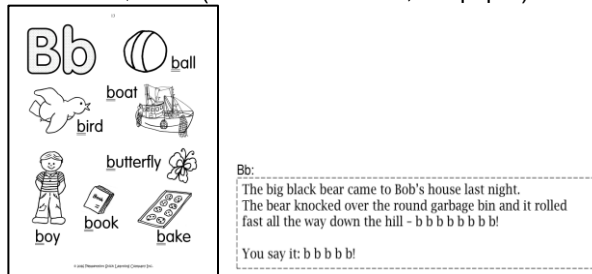
🌿 [Let Me Read: Step 1](#)

Peppermint Stick

Students are introduced to single consonant sounds, short and long vowel sounds - the “sound alphabet” with relevant colouring posters and mini stories on the audio file that are also to be cut and pasted to each letter poster. At the same time, they learn common sight words and practice reading with related rebus sentences and hands-on activities. The goal is to learn to read by reading (not a lot of written work) so this curriculum works best when students also have pre-primer story readers or other simple children’s books to read aloud each week from the beginning. While all four methods of literacy are given, Step 1 focuses on phonics and the visual shapes of words. A “scheduling” suggestion would be around 2-3 days/week for just a few minutes each day. The book includes our updated and expanded “Peppermint Stick Teacher Training” notes and lists, plus the student worksheets and activity suggestions. (You can rearrange the sound alphabet and sight words in your binder to match your sequence of letters and own reading materials, if you like.) This resource has 150+ pages of really helpful and fun material to teach “how-to-read”, especially with young children ages 3-6 years old. Two versions are available – printed in an unbound book with access to the audio files (while quantities last) or the curriculum package as a download (printable book plus audio files). The Hallway Display Alphabet posters (or files) are also included with the purchase of this curriculum.

LMR01 - \$50.00 (printed on quality paper + audio)

LMR01E - \$40.00 (downloadable files; not paper)



🌿 [Let Me Read: Step 2](#)

Peppermint Stick

Have loads of fun with 26 thematic word lists! Use sound groups (word families, etc.) to expand the vocabulary you can read! Learn to “read by reading” with the sweet-as-ever “Peppermint Stick” style! Students learn words in theme-based lessons to make a scrapbook (or wall display) and set of related activity pages. In addition to the “Introductory Week”, there are twenty-four science or social studies/home-based themes (e.g. fruit, winter, kindness, bedtime) plus two holiday themes (Christmas and Easter) for a total of 27 weeks. Students should already have the ability to read simple sentences, know most or all of their sound alphabet (e.g. the sound of “b” says “b”), and approximately 30 or so common sight words. While all four methods of literacy are taught, Step 2 focuses on finding little words within big words, word families, and using context cues. This curriculum is literature-independent which means YOU get to choose the reading material your child will practice with. (If you want some guidance with this, we currently have a literature bundle which can be purchased in addition to the curriculum at [this link here](#) (while quantities last) but it is fully optional. Instructions for which title coordinates with which weekly theme is provided inside the Step 2 package in a separate file.) The curriculum is divided into Sections A to F. There are 247 pages in total (including cover) and many of the pages are reusable (i.e. less printing needed for future years of use with younger siblings). Step 2 also includes coordinating song suggestions, listening/verbal “games”, hands-on lesson work, and very little written work... because the idea is really to teach reading by actually reading (rather than mainly writing)!

This curriculum is a full-year literacy curriculum to teach the skills of how to read well. It is designed both for young learners (e.g. senior kindergarten, ages 4-7 years old) as well as for older students who have not gained confident or fluent reading skills yet.

LMR02E - \$50.00 (downloadable, printable)

For sample pages, please see [our website](#) and/or the flip-through video, linked on the graphic:



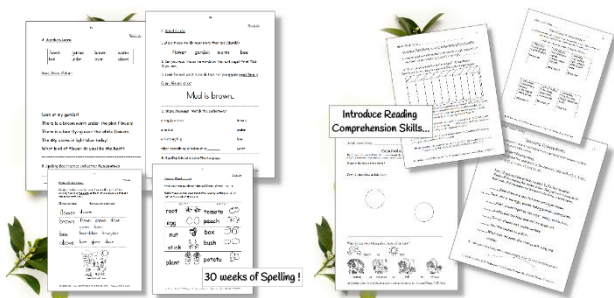
🌿 [Let Me Read: Step 3](#)

Peppermint Stick

Designed for 5-8 years old, Grade 1+. This is a printable curriculum. It is a full-year fun and comprehensive program with several sections! **Section A** has teacher's notes, example schedule, etc.. **Section B** has short reading story "tests" for weekly literacy (rather than drills of lists); it comes with alphabet-based word list posters and also pages to make one's own "dictionary" (based on nouns, action verbs, etc.). **Section C** contains basic phonics lessons for the year. (Extra note: It can also coordinate with our [Phonics is Fun!](#) series if you want more in-depth phonics practice. There is a chart within Section C to help with that option. You might also wish to purchase the [Hallway Display: Vowels](#). It is useful for both Steps 3 and 4, especially for a visual learner.)

Phonics skill topics for the Step 3 level in Section C are:

- Consonants (including soft/hard c, g and silent letters)
- Short and Long Vowels, Y as a Vowel/Consonant
- Beginning Consonant Blends and Digraphs
- Basic level for plurals, inflectional endings, roots/suffixes/prefixes.



Section D provides 30 weeks of introductory spelling lessons with a thematic literacy emphasis. These reinforce phonics concepts, word expansion skills, and review sight words without the boredom. They specifically reinforce the literacy method of little words inside big words and spelling patterns. (This is the same as our "gingham and calico" Grade 1 spelling.) **Section E** is essentially a refreshing reading comprehension book for the first year of writing and drawing to introduce these important skills (e.g. sequencing story parts, fact vs. opinion, following directions, personification, symbols, genre, summarizing the main idea, etc.!) The pace for this section is suggested to be once-a-week time period (for approximately 30-33 weeks) and the lessons are loosely based on reading a piece of literature. A chart with recommended titles is provided but once again, this curriculum remains "literature-independent" so YOU choose what is read. We sell some of these titles in our [Step 3 Literature Bundle](#). **Section F** contains alphabetically-organized optional Bible verse mini-posters to display and reinforce reading skills. All-in-all, this adds up to 320 pages in the e-book + 27 in the accompanying printable posters! Many pages can be printed just once and reused for future siblings and many pages are simply black and white so it is very economical

to print and easy to pull out to use! Once again, **we emphasize teaching reading by actually reading; written work is definitely part of this level however, it is not the focus of the methodology used for Step 3.** After printing this curriculum, organize it in your binder with dividers, and gather your choice of book titles to read together!

LMR03E - \$50.00 (downloadable, printable)

To see more sample pages, please go to [our website](#).



🌿 [Set of Both Hallway Display Printable Posters](#)

Peppermint Stick

This is a combination of our two hallway display long posters: Hallway Display: Letters and Hallway Display: Vowels. Download, print, and use to teach the sounds of consonants, vowels, and vowel combinations! Print it for each of the children in your family or just display it one copy of it for everyone – the choice is yours! It uses no colour ink because you or your kids colour the little pictures (e.g. with pencil crayons) before assembling each long poster on a wall. So simple yet so effective!

HWD12 - \$7.00 (downloadable, printable)

🌿 [Phonics is Fun! Series](#)

Peppermint Stick

Each of these [downloadable, printable books](#) covers one general area of study but at a variety of levels to make multi-grade teaching fun and easy plus future years of home schooling economical for your family. Buy one copy of each book for the whole family and use appropriate portions of it year after year as each child progresses from grade to grade. Repeat worksheets the next year if desired and/or use the hands-on lesson ideas for a review or to introduce the skill to younger children. Cute homespun style pictures, good size print, a variety of simple and fun worksheets and hands-on work with the flexibility of customizing curriculum for individual needs.

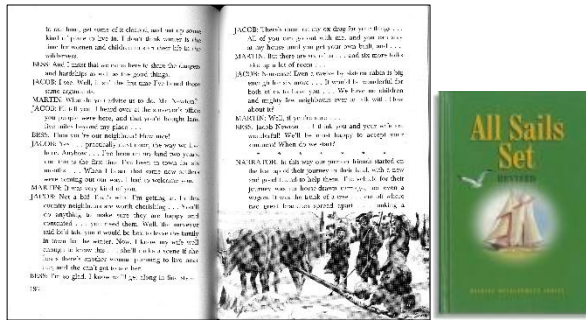
[Unit 1 Consonants](#) - \$12.00 (downloadable, printable)

[Unit 2 Vowels](#) - \$35.00 (downloadable, printable)

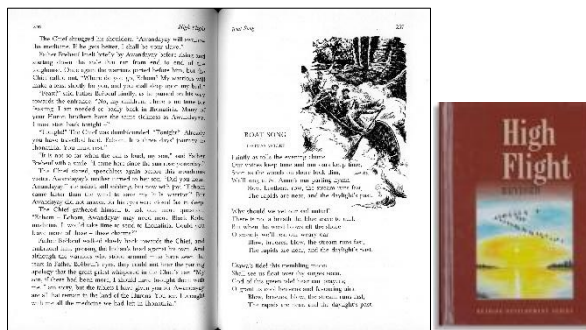
Described on the next page. (More units are in process.)

Note: The upper grade levels 6-8 are quite academic for vocabulary. Struggling students might consider going through them more slowly and reading the series in grades 6-10 instead.

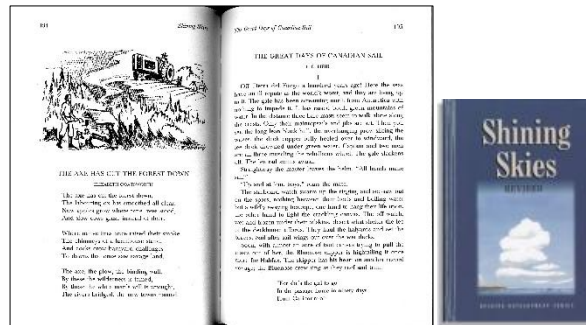
All Sails Set ("Grade 6")



High Flight ("Grade 7")



Shining Skies ("Grade 8")

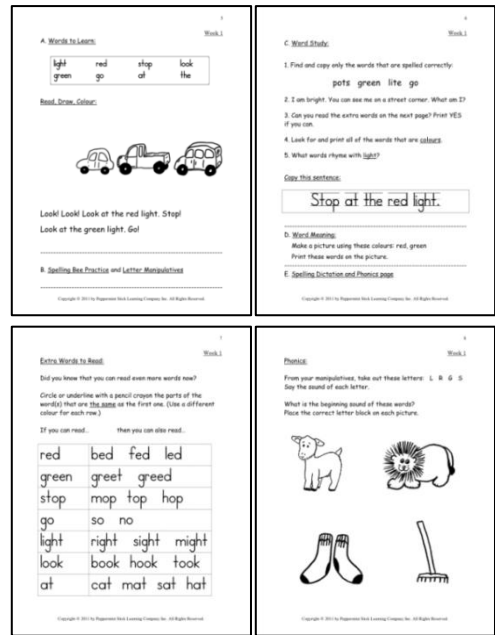


Grade 1 Spelling ("Gingham" and "Calico")

Peppermint Stick

These lessons used to be printed on cards. Then it was put into our Let Me Read: Step 3 curriculum. There are plans to offer our spelling program as a printable curriculum of its own, separately again. Please see [our website](https://www.peppermintsticklearningco.com/) for any updates to the availability for this level or future levels.

Sample pages for Grade 1:



Grade 2 Spelling

Thematic word lists, practice reading with stories about Grumbles the Teddy Bear, Grace, and Zack, and other general stories, word studies, etc.. Please see [our website](https://www.peppermintsticklearningco.com/) for any updates to the availability for this level or future levels.

Literature:

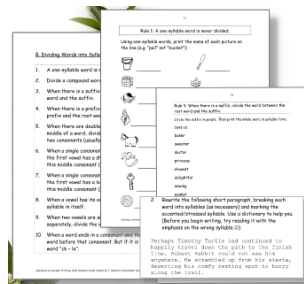
We still offer a variety of storybooks and wholesome literature within our online shop as well as provide suggested book lists, sometimes with links. (We are also affiliates with [Christian Book Distributors](https://www.christianbookdistributors.com/) (an affiliate link).)

Spelling Resources:

Working with Syllables Made Simple
Peppermint Stick

This is a multi-grade one-week "plain and simple" unit study to teach the 10 rules of breaking words into parts plus stresses. Additional supplies needed: blank frog shaped cards (or frog stickers) for the introductory hands-on lesson work.

#SP18E - \$7.00



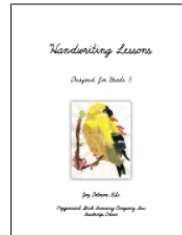
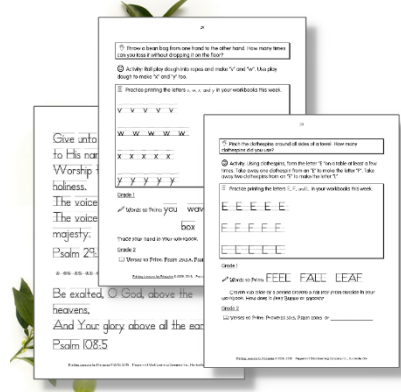
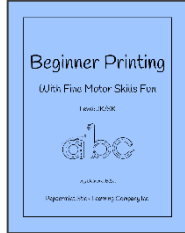
Printing/Handwriting

Children love the "Peppermint Stick" printing program with its creative exercises to strengthen the hand muscles, fun hands-on letter formations, letter picture stories, and of course, written practice too (in a primary-lined blank workbook). Use these exciting "textbooks" for all in your family or classroom!

Beginner Printing with Fine Motor Skills

Peppermint Stick

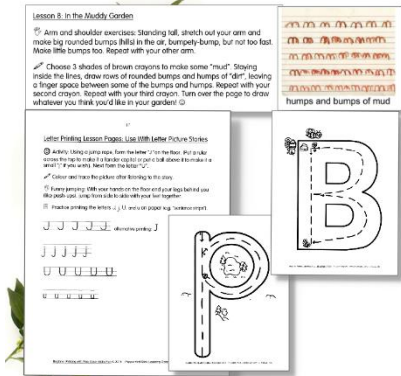
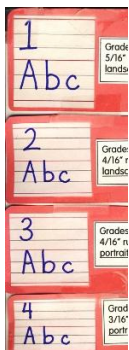
Follow the pathways of making letters. This curriculum is designed specifically for young children who are beginning at the "pre-printing" stage of making "lollipops", "ice-cream cones", "mud", and more! Lessons continue to provide practice for children who are learning basic letter and number formation. There are shoulder, hand, and wrist exercises, hands-on activities with things like clothespins and towels, play dough, letter picture stories about cars, bees, and toboggans along with "rainbow printing". Easy to teach and fun! This second edition includes learning about colours, scissors skills, and simple seasonal craft ideas. This book, written for use in the JK/SK years can also be coordinated with [Printing Lessons for Primaries](#) for ease of multi-grade teaching. Supplies needed are common items such as clothespins, play dough, a towel, and a "vertical" surface such as a chalkboard/whiteboard/easel (or a piece of paper on a wall). You will also need wide-lined paper for this program, preferably a "red blue blue red" lined primary exercise book (see below, left) or similar lined paper such as the Cottage Handwriting Lines (next page). Also recommended for the youngest beginners (JK) are "sentence strips" (which are wide lines in a single line only) BPrE - \$18.00 (downloadable, printable)



Handwriting Lessons (for Grade 3)

Peppermint Stick

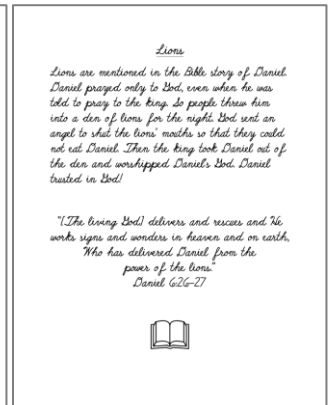
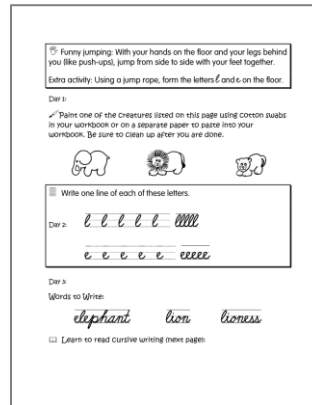
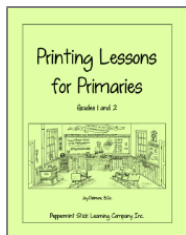
This is a lesson book with a review section for printing on cardstock for painting birds with Bible verses. This curriculum was originally designed for grade 3+. It teaches students who are beginning to read and write cursive writing. Letters are taught both in groups of similarity of lines (round, slanted, etc.) and in alphabetical order. Painting assignments are to be drawn/painted with a common "tool" that helps to strengthen growing fingers – cotton swabs! Children are also can practice reading cursive writing with readings of a Biblical theme. Students will need a blank, lined exercise book to write in. HW03E - \$12.00 (downloadable, printable)

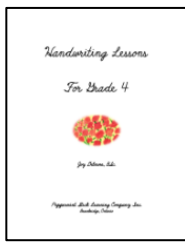


Printing Lessons for Primaries (for Grades 1 & 2)

Peppermint Stick

This is the next stage (after Beginner Printing) for learning to print well. Smaller letter picture stories to "trace", hand and wrist exercises, guided writing practice (letters, words, and sentences), and hands-on





Handwriting Lessons (for Grade 4)

Peppermint Stick

Similar to the previous resource but not as "introductory" since this book is designed for students who have already been taught cursive writing and just need some more practice. Letters are taught both in groups of similarity of lines (round, slanted, etc.) and in alphabetical order when 26 plants are drawn/painted! Student will need an exercise book or equivalent. Designed for Grade 4 and up. HW04E – \$12.00 (downloadable, printable)

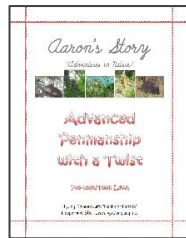


(Note: There are two other titles nearing completion for Grades 5-6. Check our website later for those.)

Aaron's Story: Advanced Penmanship with a Twist

Peppermint Stick

Spinning a surprising tale... The main idea behind this curriculum is to provide an older student with a non-boring copywork what focuses specifically on good penmanship. An animal adventure story gradually unfolds throughout the alphabetically arranged lessons. This story has practice for:

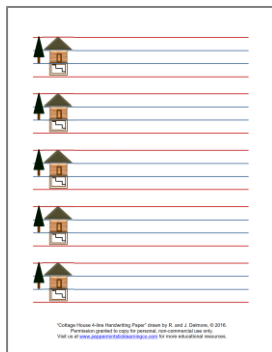


- mid-line joining letters (b, o, v, w – these combinations may be in the letter's passage (e.g. Bb) or in another lesson's passage)
- capital letters and small letters
- double letters (most letters)
- and the lesson's letter in various positions in words

Instructions: "...**HIDE** this book from all children! Keep each lesson a surprise. Pre-teens and teens will love the suspense and the silliness of the twists in this plot! Even younger children will like to read the story but you don't want them giving away the storyline to the student who is writing it down for "school"..." HW678E - \$12.00 (downloadable, printable)

Check our website later too for a different tale with a similar lesson plan! It's called, "Ava's Story: Advanced Penmanship with a Twist". (It's in the editing stage.)

Find these downloadable lines for free on our "Encouragemints" blog!



Creative Writing/Composition

Tell Me: Modelled Writing for the Very Young (JK/SK)

Peppermint Stick

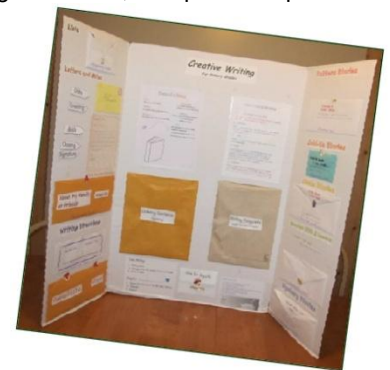
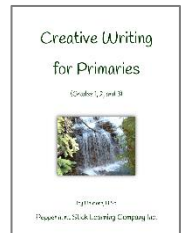
Model good writing skills to your child(ren) with the guided lessons in this book. Model good writing skills to your child(ren) with the guided lessons in this book! Introduce them to writing lists, journals (48 "Tell-Me" card topics included), stories, notes, etc.. Help them to understand basic punctuation, sentence structure, parts of a story, and project skills. Encourage good communication with listening and oral speaking skills. This is a writing course without large amounts of written work for young children who need hands-on, creative, and active work at this age. 43 pages. BCW - \$12.00 (downloadable, printable)



Creative Writing for Primaries (for all of the grades 1, 2 and 3 years)

Peppermint Stick

With a blank presentation board and some envelopes, you can use this resource to help you teach a creative writing program that is easy to use for all primary grade levels. Topics include: Steps for Writing, Ordering Sentences, Writing Paragraphs, Lists, Letters and Notes, About My Family and Friends, About Me, Writing Directions, Scrapbook Captions and Signs, Daily Writing (reports, etc.), Pattern Stories, Add-On Stories, Circle Stories, Stories with a Lesson, Mystery Stories. Also included are 40 weeks of journal topics (3 or more starters per week based on one weekly theme) and a helpful list of "picture story" ideas. CW123 - \$20.00 (downloadable, printable, 2nd edition)



<p>Recipes: In your workbook, write down how you make one of the following by listing the ingredients and putting down what you do in point form or sentences:</p> <p>toast, cookies, your favourite sandwich, chocolate milk or juice, bread, pizza, or pasta.</p>	<p>Patterns: In your workbook in numbered step form, write down how you (or an older person) might put something together such as...</p> <p>a shirt, a dress, a pair of shoes, a model of a building or vehicle using blocks, assemble an ice cream cone, build a real house.</p>
<p>Going Places: In your workbook in sentence form, write directions to one of these places (from the place of your choice):</p> <p>your home, your place of worship, your favourite store, Grandma's home, the local park, your friend's home, a city in your province, a place you have visited on a field trip.</p>	<p>Doing Things: In your workbook in the form of "First...", "Then..." (and/or "Next..."), "Finally...", write down how you (or someone else) do an activity such as...</p> <p>do the laundry, feed a pet, get ready for outdoor play, sweep a floor, make a bed, get ready for bed at night, put on your shoes.</p>

About Me

Write about yourself. Make a list first.

Then write sentences.

Here are some ideas:

- o Your full name
- o Your birth date and place of birth
- o Your family members
- o What you look like
- o What your "favourites" are (colour, food, book)
- o What activities you like to do by yourself and with your friends or family
- o What you would like to be when you grow up

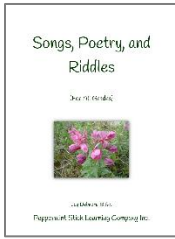
Do a neat final copy of your autobiography onto a good sheet of lined paper.

Draw a picture of yourself on a full page too.

Paste both pages onto a large piece of coloured paper or cardboard to make a poster. Decorate it with stickers if you like!

<p>First, Next, Last...</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 2. 3. 	<p>First, Second, Third...</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 2. 3.
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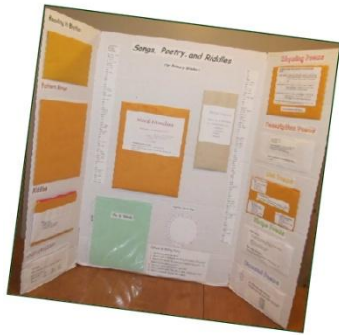
List of Materials (Ingredients) and Method (What to do)



Songs, Poetry, and Riddles (For All Grades)

Peppermint Stick

This is a unique curriculum resource which focuses on poetry for all grade levels! Assignments are put into envelopes on a presentation board, making this a very easy way to help your family (or classroom) to enjoy learning to write poetically. It is useful occasionally throughout the years to take a break from the typical writing lessons. Topics include: Beginning and Ending Sounds, Word Families (phonograms) and “le” words, Reading in Rhythm, Pattern Songs, Riddles, Onomatopoeia, Rhyming Poems, Descriptive Poems (Free-Verse), List Poems, Shape Poems, Diamond Poems, Other Traditional Forms (Limerick, Cinquain, Haiku, Ballad). 34 pages. A presentation board is easy to store by folding it up and sliding it between furniture. And it is easy to pull out – by the students. (Plus, a writing board can turn into a playhouse for a toddler when older siblings are using it.) This method is a great solution for fun learning at home with a busy family!

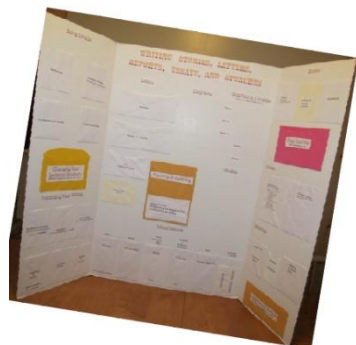
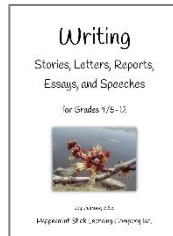


SPR123 - \$12.00 (downloadable, printable)

Writing Stories, Letters, Reports, Essays, and Speeches – Grades 4/5-12

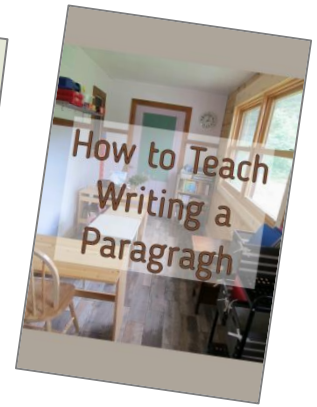
Peppermint Stick

This is our writing curriculum for the remaining elementary and secondary levels! The pages are either placed in a binder or on another presentation board in envelope pockets (like the above writing curriculum). It provides learning tips and opportunities for writing excellent stories, reports, essays and more! Learn about: Being Concise, Expanding Your Writing, Changing Your Sentence Structure, etc.. Practice writing stories, letters, reports, essays, speeches, and prepare for post-secondary skills! This is a great solution for families who want a learning center for writing that remains multi-grade! It allows for consistency and flexibility through junior and senior grades. Together, your board and binder, along with any writing/literary examples your family wants to refer to (as models of good writing), your writing lessons and assignments can continue to be refreshing and fun for everyone! 54 pages.



CW4512 - \$22.00 (downloadable, printable)

Find these posts on our "Encouragemints" blog!

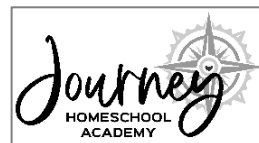


(Still in process – PSLC grammar curriculum for elementary grades.)

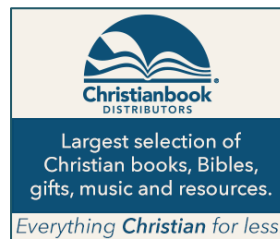
Did you know we also link to products from these affiliate businesses? (Click on these graphics to use our affiliate links if you're interested. And thanks!)



(English, mapping/art, science)



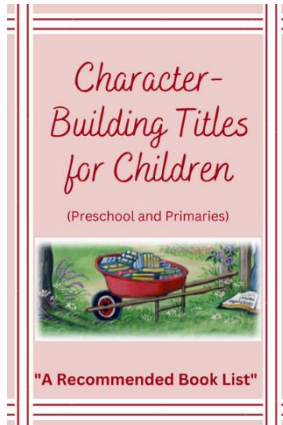
(upper-level science)



(a wide-range of products including storybooks and Bible reference books)

Are you looking for literature suggestions?

Our website has a tab called "[LISTS](#)" and here are a few links to some of those lists –



These literature lists (for [children](#), [for juniors and tweens](#), and [for teens and adults](#)) collectively represent recommendations of a few families and from up to four generations of people involved in child education and Christian ministry who have really enjoyed reading over the years!

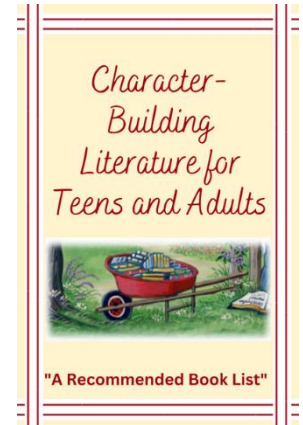
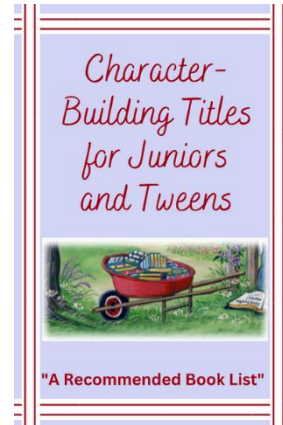
Some book or video titles may be available through our shop, others through a business we're affiliated with or an organization we just recommend but are not affiliated with. And for other titles in our list, if you want to find it, you might need to search at a yard sale, used bookstore, or similar.

About Story Readers... For a one-page printable list of vintage, old-fashioned readers used in rural schoolhouses in which my parents and aunt were students or teachers (1940s-1970s), please go to [this page on our website](#). (These include the characters Sandy and Susan, Sally, Dick and Jane, Alice and Jerry, etc.)



PSLC has guidelines for what we do NOT put in our book lists, regardless of how "classic" or "vivid vocabulary" a book has been recommended in book lists elsewhere. Here are some standards for not recommending such on our website - if it has significant amounts of:

- Unacceptable language (crude, swearing, etc.)
- Lying, deceit, dishonesty or unchecked pride of hero/heroine
- False teaching (e.g. evolution, contemplative/mysticism, occult themes (e.g. necromancy))
- Violence, hatred
- Fearful (which means full of fear; this is notably different than expressions of fear or an intense climax in a plotline)
- Wrong Passions/Lust/Greed
- Emphasizing a distortion or confusion of God's holy character.



* * * *

A funny story about our spelling curriculum...

Generally, the curriculum that I like to use is easily understood by the student and I don't need to be interrupted while say, teaching or modelling a writing skill to one group to answer questions about spelling. In other words, spelling is often something my kids work independently on, without needing me.

However, I will admit that one afternoon, *Dandelion* (his webname) did indeed need me to explain something in his spelling lesson! His little brother was still napping when I heard "bang-twang-BANG-TWANG" GETTING LOUDER AND COMING FROM MY KITCHEN!!!

"What ARE you doing?" I queried, still amazed at his boldness to continue to crash two of my pot lids together.

"Oh," he replied calmly, with such a sweet smile beaming across his face and announcing with an increasingly important and pleased-with-himself tone of voice. "I'm doing my spelling! It says I'm to do this right in the book!"

Now, keep in mind, that I had written that curriculum and that declaration made me very puzzled – I hadn't remembered instructing children to bang lids together for spelling – I was sure I hadn't done that!

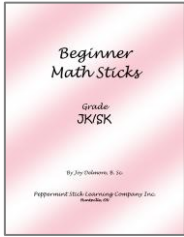
"OK, hold it a minute," I said, "WHERE does it say THAT?"

"Right here! It says I'm to clap *cymbals* for each word."

Dandelion pointed to a sentence of instructions:

"Clap the syllables for each word...."

Math



Beginner Math Sticks (JK/SK)

Peppermint Stick

Very easy to use and reuse, this math teacher/student book gives lessons and activities geared towards the non-writer/ beginner writer. Introduce mathematical concepts with manipulatives, many of which are likely already in your home. Typically

arranged, skills covered include: calendar/ seasons/ months/ days of the week, 2-D shapes, sorting, counting/ identifying numerals, day/night/time/clocks, measurement, patterning and sequencing, writing numbers, graphing, identifying Canadian coins, and fact families (+ -) to 5. Suggested scheduling: twice each week of the school year(s). This resource can be used for both junior and senior kindergarten years of study! Items used to teach math are purposely relevant to the real life of a young child in most parts of the world (i.e. no alligators or monsters). (Some parents have also bought it to introduce Grade 1 math for later beginners or review concepts for struggling students in a fun way that "sticks". It can be used alongside Math Sticks 1.) **Suggestion:** After printing it, bind it on the top edge and hole-punch it so that it can be hung like a calendar. Easy-to-read and instruct your student(s) while holding a baby or cooking nearby! **BMATHE - \$22.00** (downloadable, printable)

Fact Families

Print "1" at the top and 2 and 3 in the other corners. Continue this pattern with the other rods.

$2 + 3 = 5$
 $3 + 2 = 5$
 $5 - 2 = 3$
 $5 - 3 = 2$

$1 + 4 = 5$
 $4 + 1 = 5$
 $5 - 1 = 4$
 $5 - 4 = 1$

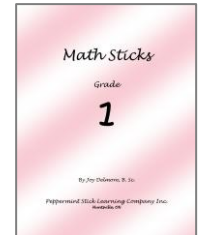
Trace the numbers in the question. Can you fill in the answer on your own? Place sticks under the numbers if you like.

$2 + 2 =$ $5 - 4 =$
 $1 + 1 =$ $4 - 2 =$
 $2 + 1 =$ $5 - 3 =$
 $2 + 3 =$ $2 - 1 =$
 $5 + 0 =$ $4 - 3 =$

↑ Reproducible student pages (JK/SK) ↑

Math Sticks: Grade 1 Peppermint Stick

Frustrated with workbooks using small print, distracting graphics, or tiny pictures to count and work with? Bored with long drills and tedious lessons? Want a program that covers more than just the "basic operations" (+, -, x, ÷) in the primary grades? While very much "homespun" in appearance, this series of books provides math lessons for young primaries who have understood concepts introduced in the "Beginner" level and are ready to grow. It works and it makes this part of the school day F-U-N! Lessons are simple and sequential, covering a variety of math topics in units so that the learning time is focused and concepts are clearly understood in a solid foundation for later math. Non-distracting graphics, large print, real life word problems, and hands-on opportunities with common and around-the-home manipulatives make this an enjoyable program for boys and girls. Parents can appreciate the ease of guided lessons which develop a child's sense of math in the real world, creativity, and reasoning skills. Math can be fun and straightforward! **Unit titles are: COUNT & GROUP / OPERATIONS / CANADIAN MONEY / PATTERNING (INCLUDES LOGIC) / GRAPHING / GEOMETRY / MEASUREMENT** **MATH01 - \$40.00** (downloadable, printable)



Organized hands-on lessons → Teaching aids ↓

Lesson 2:
Colour
the child to sort out 1 specific colour you name (e.g. "Find all the red buttons").
the child to sort out into 4 piles of something with 4 colours.
the child to sort out a pile of items on their own.

Lesson 3:
Sorting by Size
Ask the child to sort out 1 specific size you name (e.g. "Find all the big buttons").
Ask the child to sort about 20-25 items into sizes of big, medium, and small.
Ask the child to sort and arrange a few items in order of their sizes of small, smaller, smallest or big, bigger, and biggest (even cookies or fruit at lunch ☺).

Lesson 4:
Sorting by Shape or Type
Ask the child to sort out 1 specific shape or type of item you name (e.g. "Find all the toy cars").
Ask the child to sort about 2 adult handfuls of items in groups of things that are the same (e.g. all the nuts in one pile, all the bolts in another).
Ask the child to sort another type of manipulatives, deciding what the groups will be on their own (e.g. all the round cereal, all the square cereal, all the fat cereal, all the raisins).

Lesson 5:
Sorting by Amounts
Ask the child to sort and count how many of one item there is in a pile of assorted items, for example, how many pink cubes.
Ask the child to sort the items into piles and tell which pile has more and which one has less of something. Repeat this with other manipulatives or by moving them up again and subtracting some of the items from the initial pile.
Ask the child to sort one type of item into groups of 2. Repeat the instruction for groups of 5 in each group. Then 10 in each group or whatever other numbers you choose to use.

Additional Things to Sort (optional):

- A pile of outdoor things to wear – sort into piles of winter and summer things
- A pile of toys – sort into piles of soft and hard things
- A pile of appropriate household items – sort into piles of which room they belong in (and then put them away)
- A pile of things you buy in the grocery store – sort into what can be eaten and what cannot.

What to do:

Colour the picture and number.

Trace the number 6 on the lines below with a pencil crayon or marker.

Trace the letters of the word with a pencil crayon or marker as you read it.

6 6 6 6 6

Six Six Six Six

Read the next page. Six is also called a half-dozen.

Six

Six

Six

Six

Six

Math reading skills... After colouring the pictures, the child would read verbally, left to right, top to bottom:
"Six muffins or cupcakes, six lollipops, six pencils, six flowers, six buttons."

Take Away 8 & 9 - Here We Go!

12 - 8 = 4 12 - 9 = 3

11 - 8 = 3 11 - 9 = 2

10 - 8 = 2 10 - 9 = 1

9 - 8 = 1 9 - 9 = 0

What's floating through the sky... down, down, down!

Help! Lighthouse! Mouse got some cheese!

Click what should come next:

0.8, 1.8, 2.8, 3.8, 4.8, 5.8, 6.8, 7.8, 8.8, 9.8, 10.8, 11.8, 12.8

Continue the Pattern. Click!

Click what should come next:

Read Skills - Counting

Challenge the Mouse. Beep up an octopus form in France. Edward is behind these baskets. The number of goblets in each basket have been recorded for you:

A: 3, B: 2, C: 1, D: 4, E: 5

Make a bar graph showing this information:

Read Skills - Counting

Repeat the first row to show the numbers 0-9. Then really:

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Hands-on Work:

- Count 10 buttons about
- Count 10 papers
- Count 10 grains
- Count 10

Colour in numbers 1-10 on the hundreds chart with a red crayon.

Count backwards from 10 to 8

Count backwards from 10 to 6 with your eyes shut

Count backwards from 10 to 6 in a whisper

Count backwards from 10 to 6 shouting

Read Skills - Addition

Downy Woodpecker

4	8
±7	
2	8
±8	±3
5	1
±8	±8
8	8
±6	±4
8	6
±6	±8
8	8
±5	±2
8	10
±5	±8

Manipulatives for Fun and Learning (with links!)

Note: The following teaching tips are excerpted from a free printable we offer on our website page [“Our Twist on Math”](#).

Manipulatives are used throughout all primary grades and some in the middle and upper grades (especially in math). Manipulatives resemble “little toys” to play with and a child sees relevance (math in the “real life” of a child means playtime). This makes math meaningful, motivating, and understandable if he or she can see a concept “concretely”.

When a child does not use manipulatives of any kind (natural or manmade), grasping the concept of the lessons is often slower, time-consuming, and not as enjoyable. Instead you may need to repeat the lesson over and over until it is sufficiently understood. Manipulatives can save time (and frustration/boredom) in the long-run!

TIP 1: A few “flat” things are OK but we highly recommend that you try to use more 3-D objects what are easier to pick up. For this reason, we don’t really recommend that you print off a lot of paper manipulatives to cut up into tiny bits unless using those bits for “math art”. The 3-D ones will hold a child’s interest longer! So aim for “chunky”.

TIP 2: Rather than using the same manipulative (type of little toy) for all math lessons, arrange your manipulatives so that they are used to “teach” one or just a few skills. Use a different manipulative to “teach” a totally different concept. The skill-object association (i.e. in language arts we call it “word-picture association”) is strong in childhood and this wee tip can help your student have a skill stick a little stronger I think if you arrange your manipulative collection this way. I have found even more success with it in our home.

TIP 3: ...do you have a child whose strength is a “hands-on learning style” more than other children? Hands-on learners require more of the “concrete” and less of the “semi-concrete” than the average learner. Therefore to help your child learn better and easier, you will need to provide more manipulatives/hands-on learning opportunities with your lessons and fewer (or no) workbook pages that have small pictures on them [e.g. dots to count]. Skip right over to the large-print workbooks that have actual numbers to work with and few graphics to distract or frustrate.

We have very few manipulatives left in-stock. However we now provide some affiliate links to find some of these sorts of things at [Christian Book Distributors](#) which also ships into a number of countries.

Item Name	<u>What To Do With It</u>
Coloured drinking <u>straws</u> and about 20+ <u>elastic/rubber bands</u> (100-500 straws). <u>Popsicle sticks</u> can be a good substitute if inexpensive/disposable drinking straws are not available.	<u>Place Value</u> : Give a handful of straws and have child count and put together groups of ten with an elastic to find out how many. 10 groups are further bond into hundreds to teach the concept of what 10’s and 100’s and 1’s really look like. Line up the groups in columns like the place value chart. <u>Time</u> : Have the child band together 60 straws in groups of 5 and place them in a circle (like sun’s rays) to count by five’s in a clockwise direction.
Fraction Dice	Roll dice and draw the fraction listed. In later grades with 2 die, you can throw them to have the child add and multiply the fractions. You can also throw 2 die for a comparison of greater than or less than concepts.
<u>Seashells</u> (real ones from a personal collection or purchase at a craft store), measuring gram weights (metric), and a pan or bucket balance (rocker scales) such as this one or this one .	<u>Measurement</u> : Measure the weights of items around the home and do comparison of various items. Shells are great for this activity since each shell is unique and represent a variety of sizes!
Centimeter Cubes	We use these to teach four concepts in our family... <u>Sorting/Classifying</u> : Sort into colour groups. <u>Estimation</u> : Put in paper bag and guess how many. <u>Measuring</u> : Length in centimeters or weight in comparison to something on the other side of a balance. <u>Multiplication</u> : Line up squares like rows of desks (with a bit of space in-between) to illustrate multiplication.

<p>At least one set of stuff to sort/classify/pattern and maybe even string together. (I recommend 3-6 sets for most young families.)</p> <p>Plastic Rubber Counters (e.g. Mini Motors, Three Bear Families, Fruity Fun), Pompoms, Beads, Buttons (not just the plain tiny buttons – you need a variety of sizes and colours)</p> <p><u>About other around-the-home manipulatives:</u> Dried seeds have to be big enough to handle easily, e.g. large kidney beans, popped corn, and bigger. Coloured paper clips of various sizes and cardboard pictures can be used but may not be as interesting to some children as they are flat. Bread tags (or other recyclable junk like plastic bottle lids, pop can tags, etc.) are flat and boring – I hardly used my collection and eventually disposed of it. Nuts and bolts are expensive and present a safety hazard in families of young children. Real nuts in their shells (e.g. walnuts, acorns, peanuts, etc.) are also expensive but might be useful around Christmas if you have them already on-hand. Rocks may be O.K. but may scratch tables or present a safety hazard, and they may be difficult to find if you don't live in a rocky area. Like shells, leaves, sticks, and other natural items, it may be hard to find enough of the "same kind" in order to make your set suitable for sorting, grouping, and patterning.</p>	<p><u>Sort:</u> Sort by colour (red vs. yellow), size (big, medium, small), shape (round vs. corners), kind of item (babies vs. mothers or cars vs. trucks or grapes vs. apples).</p> <p><u>Patterns:</u> from the simple blue green blue green to complex 3-D patterns where the child uses height as well as horizontal lines for a pattern and even can build out in a cross-shape. (You can also make patterns with small chart stickers but then these are not reusable and are also harder for small fingers to grasp.)</p> <p><u>Beading and Counting:</u> helps a child with handwriting skills (including the skill of being able to colour a picture within the lines) because it is very fine-motor skill practice. Can also be used for skip counting (3 beads of one kind, then 3 beads of another kind, etc.)</p> <p><u>Graphing:</u> Grab a handful or two and sort what you grabbed into colour groups and graph it in a bar graph.</p> <p><u>Compare Size</u> (tall, short, etc.) and/or <u>Compare Weight</u> (with a balance)</p> <p>The "around-the-home" items that I've found most useful to illustrate these math concepts are a large variety of buttons (size: a quart jar or two jars full). Buttons also hold the child's interest far better than beans or paper clips. I have my children work with the buttons within the boundaries of a large metal cake pan (or you could use a cookie sheet). This helps to prevent buttons falling on the floor.</p> <p>If you are working outdoors in the fall and you live where there is a variety of trees, leaves are neat to sort according to "kinds". They dry out quickly and crumble if you collect them and bring them indoors for a few days.</p> <p><u>Our favourite counters for most versatility:</u> the "Mini-Motors" set of colourful vehicles and large pompoms (which are also handy for a quiet "toy" that doesn't roll too far).</p>
<p>Pegboard with 100 Pegs</p>	<p>Use for hundred chart concepts on this 10 x 10 grid such as counting, sorting, patterning, multiplication, tessellation designs, perimeter, etc. Helps to develop fine motor coordination.</p>
<p>Time Flashcards</p>	<p>For matching activities as well as basic memorization.</p>
<p>Child's Clock</p>	<p>One that a child can move the hands with will help in understanding time concepts. The best kind has hands that move in coordination with each other so that when the child moves the minute hand around (clockwise), the hour hand automatically moves to the next hour.</p>
<p>Thermometer (for math and science)</p>	<p>Use to illustrate indoor and outdoor differences, seasonal changes, day/night changes, and how to read the numbers accurately.</p>
<p>A set of blocks of varying rod lengths such as Math-U-See Blocks or Cuisenaire Blocks</p>	<p>Use these to teach concepts such as place value, arithmetic facts such as addition, subtraction, and/or multiplication (area).</p>

(End of excerpt. See the full chart at ["Our Twist on Math": Things to Do with Math Manipulatives"](#))

Science

Science-Related Literature – See website for pricing and availability.

Oh Say Can You Seed?

Bonnie Worth (Cat in the Hat Learning Library Series)
All about flowering plants! Plants are so useful to me and to you. Can you think of the ways? I will name you a few! Read about shoots and roots, about a plant's built-in food-making factory and more. Informative and fun! Hardcover 46 pgs.



Why Do Leaves Turn Color?

Betsy Maestro

It's fall! The leaves are changing color. This book explains the wonderful process of how leaves change from green to spectacular fall colors. Where does the color come from? Softcover - 32 pgs. Let's Read and Find Out SCIENCE READER level 2.

From Rock to Road

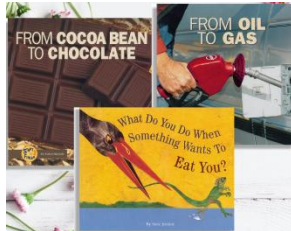
Shannon Zemlicka

Roads are very important to help us get from place to place. How does rock become a road? 24 pgs.

From Cocoa Bean to Chocolate

Robin Nelson

How is chocolate made? Farmers harvest cocoa beans. After the beans are dry they are hauled to the factory. Then what happens? 24 pgs.



From Oil to Gas

Shannon Zemlicka

How is gas made? First workers must decide where to dig for oil. Trucks bring in huge machines. What happens next? Read this book to find out! 24 pgs.

From Wax to Crayon

Robin Nelson

Crayons start as clear wax. How do crayons get their color? How are they shaped? 24 pgs.

What Do You Do If Something Wants To Eat You?

Steve Jenkins

This book tells about many different ways animals protect themselves from their predators. Find out which animal can walk on water, which one can shoot hot chemicals at its enemy, and which one scares its attacker by sticking out its tongue! Lower grades, soft-cover, 32 pages.



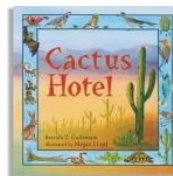
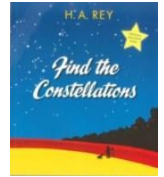
Using a Microscope Nelson Focus 2B

A science reader for primary/junior level; full-colour photos. This thin book teaches young children what things look like under a microscope.

Find the Constellations

H.A. Rey

Have you ever looked up at the stars and wished you know some of their names, or could pick out constellations? This book, with clear drawings of constellations and stars, and "sky views" for different times of the year, gives you a lot of easy-to-understand information about the heavens above us. 72 pgs.



Cactus Hotel

Brenda Z. Guiberson

This book details the 200-year-long unique life of the saguro cactus. Specially suited to the harsh climate, this cactus is an essential plant to creatures of the desert. Many fascinating facts! Softcover 32 pgs.

God's Miracle – A Frog

Rebecca Newswanger

"Do you wonder how the froggies grow their strong and hopping legs? Do you know our God has made them all to hatch from tiny eggs?" Watch the miracle of a frog starting as a tiny egg and growing as a swimming tadpole, until finally he hops out of the water. How does he survive the winter? 24 pgs.

God's Miracle – an Egg

Rebecca Newswanger

"Let's peek inside our chicken house. Oh look, see what I found!" What can we do with an egg? We can bake it into casseroles, make yummy cookies, puddings, or even cake with frosting! But better yet, we can let the hen sit on them for twenty-one days... and out come downy, fluffy chicks!

God's Miracle – a Seed

Rebecca Newswanger

"Look! here's a tiny grain of corn; Inside is God's surprise; For no one else could make a seed But our great God so wise!". This book brings shows you the miracle of a seed sprouting, and going through different steps to become food for cows, or ready to be planted again the next spring.



Chirping Crickets

Melvin Berger

It's a late summer evening. Listen! The crickets are chirping! Did you know only male crickets chirp? Learn about the life of a cricket, how it chirps, and how to make a sound like a chirping cricket. You might even like one for a pet! Soft-cover- 32 pgs. Let's Read and Find Out SCIENCE READER level 2.

Switch On, Switch Off

Melvin Berger

Why does the light go on when you flip up the light switch? Did you know that electricity must flow back to its starting point in order to work? Find out how it works in this easy-to-understand book. Soft-cover – 32 pgs. Let's Read and Find Out SCIENCE READER level 2.

How People Learned to Fly

Fran Hodgkins For many years people wanted to fly. Many attempted flying and many failed. Read about early flying experiments, learn about gravity, molecules, the force and drag of air, and how finally these forces were overcome and people took off! Soft-cover – 32 pgs. Let's Read and Find Out SCIENCE READER level 2.

Wiggling Worms at Work

Wendy Pfeffer

Worms tunnel through the ground, loosening soil, mixing dead plants in, and a whole lot more! How does a worm know if a bird is nearby? Read how wiggling worms help the earth. Soft-cover – 33 pgs. Let's Read and Find Out SCIENCE READER level 2.

**How Do Birds Find Their Way?**

Roma Gans

One time people thought birds hid in the ground all winter. Now we know that they migrate, sometimes thousands of miles!

Hummingbirds can fly 500 miles without stopping! Read other amazing migration facts. Softcover - 32 pgs. Let's Read and Find Out SCIENCE READER level 2.

And other titles in the Let's Read and Find Out SCIENCE READER level 1 and level 2 series such as...

- [Fireflies in the Night](#) (Judy Hawes)
- [Your Skin and Mine](#) (Paul Showers)
- [Why Frogs Are Wet](#) (Judy Hawes)
- [What Lives in a Shell?](#) (Kathleen Weidner Zoehfeld)
- [How a Seed Grows](#) (Helene J. Jordan)
- [Life in a Coral Reef](#) (Wendy Pfeffer)
- [The Big Dipper](#) (Franklyn M. Branley)
- [What the Moon is Like](#) (Franklyn Branley)
- [What Happens to a Hamburger?](#) (Paul Showers, about digestion)
- [Volcanoes](#) (Franklyn M. Branley)
- [Earthquakes](#) (Franklyn M. Branley)
- [My Feet](#) (Ailiki)
- [Hear Your Heart](#) (Paul Showers)

The Adventures of Reddy Fox (Thornton Burgess) After Reddy Fox steals a chicken in broad daylight, Farmer Brown's boy is out to get him. Granny Fox has told him to stay in the den, but he decides to peek outside... and looks straight into the face of Farmer Brown's boy and the muzzle of his dreadful gun! 86 pgs. (This book is mentioned here for learning about the relationship of predator/prey. See our listing of various titles of

"The Adventures of..." by Thornton Burgess, including this one at this link [here](#).)

One Tiny Turtle

Nicola Davies

Far, far out to sea lives the amazing loggerhead sea turtle. For years she swims the oceans, wandering thousands of miles searching for food, then one night goes back to the beach where she was born to lay her eggs. And so the cycle starts all over again! Soft-cover, 32 pgs.

The Storm Book

Charlotte Zolotow

It is a hot day in the country. The buttercups are dusty, the daisy's white petals look gray . . . But then dark clouds start to come! Flash! Crash! The rain comes pouring down in torrents, drenching the earth. This book from 1952 illustrates the majesty of a summer storm! Preschool to lower grades. Soft-cover – 32 pgs. This is a nice book!

Sugar Snow

One morning Laura wakes up and there is a fresh covering of snow on the ground. Pa calls it sugar snow. In the evening he brings a surprise: a bucket full of maple syrup and maple sugar cakes for Laura and Mary. Softcover, based on books by Laura Ingalls Wilder.

Platypus

Ginjer L. Clarke

What animal has a tail like a beaver, is about as big as a cat, lays eggs and has webbed feet and a bill like a duck, but is a mammal? Find out all about the amazing platypus: what it eats, where it lives, and how it teaches its young. Soft-cover – 32 pgs. STEP INTO READING level 2.

Salmon Creek

Annette LeBox

Sumi the salmon hatches in a northern creek. She drifts downstream, escaping the bears, heron and raccoons but one summer she must retrace her journey back to her birthplace... Beautifully written and illustrated picture book tells the life story of a Pacific salmon. 37 pgs.

Nature Friend Activity Books

Invisibles: Hunt for hidden mini-pictures within the larger picture and then colour!

Follow and Find: Spend hours of fun connecting the dots to discover the hidden picture! Put the answers in the blanks of the rhymes that accompany each picture, and get out your crayons!

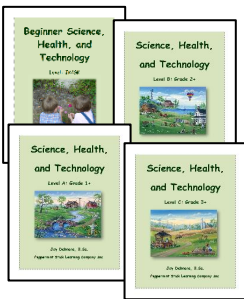
Mazes: Animal activities in mazes!



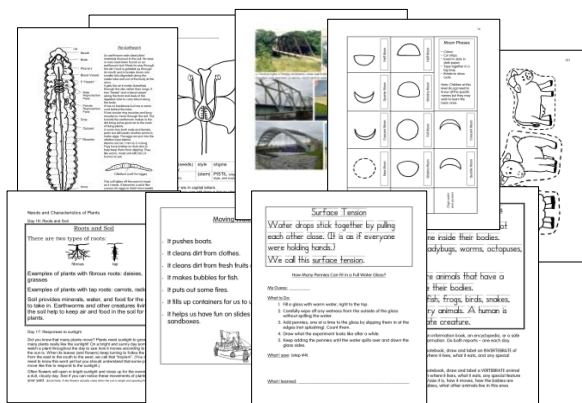
(This has been only a selection of titles which may be listed on our website!)

PSLC Science

Designed for individual learning...
Unique, comprehensive, easy-to-use curriculum...



What's on the inside?
Age-appropriate science vocabulary and large-print note-taking, hands-on model-building, scientific method, design projects. Coloured photos, black/white drawings, reproducible activity sheets.

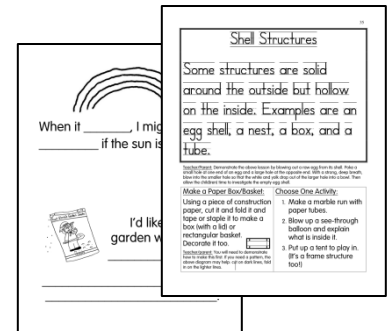


Teachers will love...

- no separate teacher's manuals to keep handy; all instructions and explanations are written simply in the student's book.
- minimal or no teacher prep-work the night before which makes it very easy to teach from. Use common household items that most children can get themselves and clean up themselves.
- no expensive kits needed to purchase with our curriculum. We provide you a list of anything that is needed.
- lessons designed to be taught to any learning style – PSLC teaching methods build a balance of written, oral, and hands-on skills; method of evaluation is your choice (mark notebooks & assignments or design your own quizzes).
- reproducible or reusable pages for siblings or classmates.
- the flexibility: Lessons are undated and units can be rearranged as desired. Print off the pages to put in your binder and supplement with teaching pages or pictures that you've collected from others if you want.
- curriculum that meets or exceeds skills & knowledge for topics listed in the Ministry of Education standards (2006/07 Ontario).
- the versatility – while originally designed for individual learning at home, it can be used for groups as well.

Children will love...

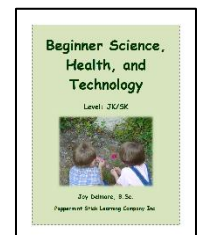
- large primary-print style for summary notes and copywork.
- simple diagrams, charting, a few experiments, cut & paste, colouring, drawing, measuring, oral presentations, designing, and model-building... FUN and MEMORABLE lessons.
- that because our science is not routine-based/boring, each day can be a different experience for them. Some days they will copy a note, the next day might be an activity outdoors, and the next day after that, something to build or make...but there is no consistent predictability as to how a lesson might be presented. (This is how I was taught science by my elementary teachers and I loved it! And the variety helps lessons "stick", even in the middle of winter or in the midst of "spring fever"!)
- the variety of topics in science class – natural science plus how things work in their world! Children learn LOTS of science-based information under the gentle guidance of our PSLC books while working with items around their home and yard.



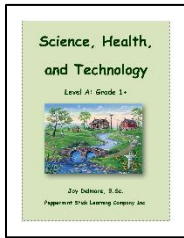
About computer usage for K-3 levels: There may be supplementary links but our science program is complete on its own so that families without an internet connection can use it happily.

About the Bible: PSLC science books uphold the Biblical perspective on "origins", ethics, and life choices when these topics are taught, however, Bible learning is not "integrated" into most science lessons. Bible-related content is usually printed in the appendix for parents who wish to add it to a few of the lessons.

Beginner Science, Health, and Technology – 2nd Edition Peppermint Stick



A complete year of fun and foundational science to learn for your non-writer and beginning reader. Enough material to use for 1 or 2 years of kindergarten. Topics: Seasonal Changes, Apples, Health and Hygiene, My Body, Patterns in Nature, Cycles in Nature, Characteristics of Materials, Local Habitats (Farm, Garden, Ocean, Pond...), Building Things and Using Tools, Powerful Forces (wind, water, electrical), Simple Machines, Living and Non-Living Things, Recycling, Safety, and More. The appendices at the back of the book include supplemental Bible verse colouring pages relating to topics and photos.
BSCI – \$30.00 (downloadable, printable)



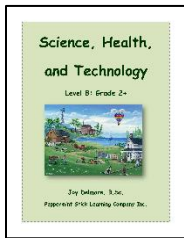
**Science, Health, and Technology
Level A (for Grades 1+) – 2nd Edition**

Peppermint Stick

Units of topics covered include: Characteristics and Needs of Living Things, Daily and Seasonal Cycles, Everyday Structures, Energy in our Lives, Characteristics of Objects, Properties of

Materials, Creation/Evolution, Health (five senses, disabilities, parts of our bodies, food groups, etc.), Technology (tools in science and introduction to computer usage), and Agriculture (sheep farming).

SCI01 - \$30.00 (downloadable, printable)



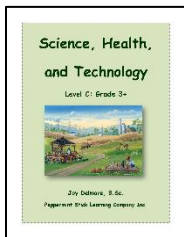
**Science, Health, and Technology
Level B (for Grades 2+) – 2nd Edition**

Peppermint Stick

Units of topics covered include: Weather, Animal Classification and Life Cycles, Simple Machines, Wind and Water Energy, Properties of Liquids and Solids, Technology, Health, Agriculture (cattle

farming), and Creation/ Evolution (fossils/dinosaurs).

Sci02 – \$35.00 (downloadable, printable)



**Science, Health, and Technology
Level C (for Grade 3+) – 2nd Edition**

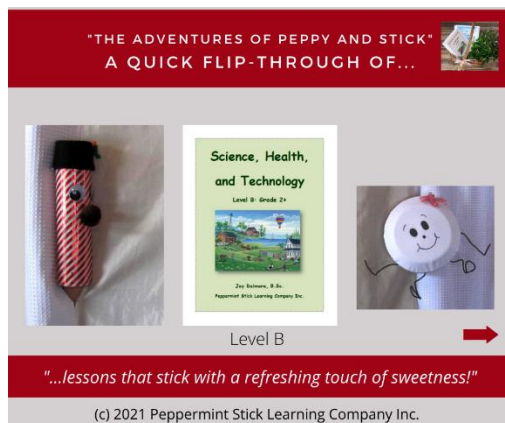
Peppermint Stick

Units of topics covered include: Plants, Soils in the Environment, Stable Structures (engineering and building basics); Forces, Movement, and Safety; Magnets and Charged Materials; Technology (computer studies), Health, Agriculture (vegetable/fruit farming), and Creation/Evolution (compare/contrast).

SCI03 - \$35.00 (downloadable, printable)

[Follow our Facebook page](#) and/or [subscribe to our newsletter!](#)

Have you seen our “Peppy Flips” yet? [Watch short video flip-throughs](#) of some of our PSLC titles with “Peppy” and “Stick”!



New PSLC Resource! (spring 2026) –

Electromagnetism and Related Topics in Your World

A science unit study about the electromagnetic spectrum and related topics for grades K-12+!

EMFK12 - \$15.00 0.00 (FREE downloadable, printable)

FIND IT IN OUR ONLINE SHOP!

NEW

Electromagnetism and Related Topics in Your World
A Science Unit Study for K-12+

Learn about natural and artificial forms of emfs – electromagnetic frequencies. This is a unit study that explains the sections within the EMF spectrum diagram and teaches related topics for living in our world!

~~\$15.00~~ 0.00
(currently available for free)

Downloadable and Printable (pdf)

By Joy D. Delmore, B. Sc.
Peppermint Stick Learning Company Inc.

A LOOK INSIDE...

Learn about neat things in nature and marvel at God's care for life on planet earth!

Find out more about emf technologies in our generation!

Study related topics with both upper and lower levels of students in your family! Or simply enjoy learning it on your own as an adult!

Get to know more about our PSLC curriculum by using it! Most of the lower-level activity pages were selected from previously-published PSLC science! You can find those titles in our shop too! (But unlike this title, those aren't free!)

And, under development... for the levels of Grades 4-8+...

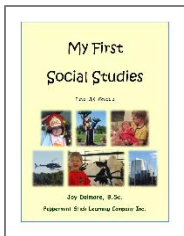
Geology	Outer Space	Ecology & Microscopes
Diversity of Animals	Diversity of Plants	Gears & Work
Genetics (with emphasis on plant cells)	Human Biology	

Features:

- multi-grade style – one book for junior/senior levels per topic!
- builds on the foundation of primary science and prepares students with the knowledge and skills needed for success in future science courses.
- similar teaching methods to earlier levels but with more content and higher skill level (e.g. more independent research, projects, note-taking, diagrams, model-building, experiments, presentations)
- in some lessons of some books, relevant Biblical content is placed with the lesson itself (e.g. space, geology, health lessons on drugs).
- prices and availability to be announced as time permits for finishing these titles for publication.

Social Studies, History, and Geography

(See also the Bible and Christian Education section.)



My First Social Studies

(Kindergarten to Grade 2)

Peppermint Stick

A tea party adventure, community helper set of paper dolls to colour and cut, worksheets, project-based learning, Christian character education teaching pages, and more! This is what you'll find

inside this foundational and fun level of social studies about family, community, and responsibilities! 160 pages.

SoStY11 - \$35.00 (downloadable, printable)

Topics include...:

It's Social Studies Time!

Introduction to Maps
Where I Live
About Canada

Relationships:

About Me
My Family & Special Events
Family History Studies
Friendships and Communication
Making Good Choices
How Can I Help?
Changes in Life

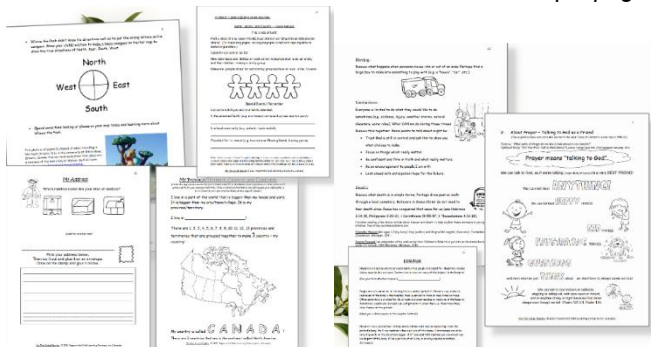
Communities:

Cities, Towns, Villages, Country
Community Helpers
Humanitarian and Emergency Workers
Career Studies
Where Does My Food and Water Come From?
Buildings in My Community
Water Bodies (oceans, lakes)
Transportation
Waterways, Roads
Local History, Economy, Cultures
Places and People (e.g. Parliament Building, Mayor)
Canadian Symbols
Working Communities (e.g. fishing, forestry)

Character Education: Manners and Morals (teaching posters)

Appendix B: Teaching with A Christian Worldview
(Relationships, Prayer, The Tongue)

Sample pages:



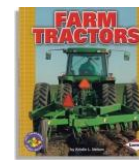
Theodore the Little Lost Teddy Bear

Peppermint Stick

An adventure storybook to colour with crayons, pencil crayons, or paints, originally written as an elementary school student. When Andrew wasn't looking, his teddy bear walked out of the house and around his community discovering a garden, a couple of stores... Theodore rests at a park just when Andrew and his family are finishing a picnic!

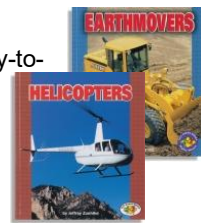


TX00100 - \$12.00 (downloadable, printable)



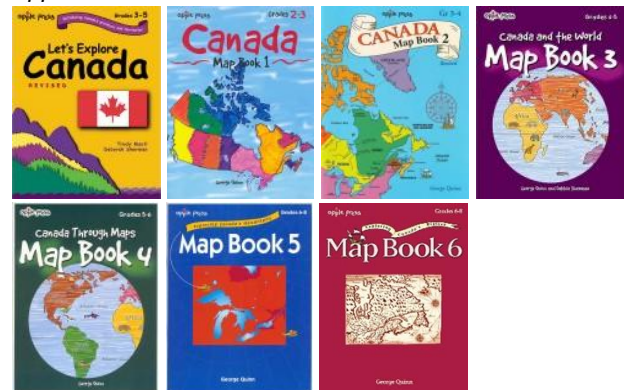
Mighty Movers

Full-colour photos, easy-to-read text about vehicles and how they are used; preschool to Grade 3 interest, 32 pgs. Various titles. See website for pricing



Canadian Mapping Skills – See website for pricing.

Apple Press



Let's Explore Canada – 2nd edition

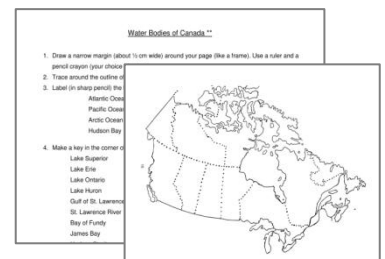
- Canada Map Book 1 – Gr. 2-3
- Canada Map Book 2 – Gr. 3-4
- Canada Map Book 3 – Gr. 4-5
- Canada Map Book 4 – Gr. 5-6
- Map Book 5 – Gr. 6-8
- Map Book 6 – Gr. 6-8

Making Maps of Canada: Atlas Studies

Peppermint Stick

Years ago, students were marked in their ability to read and transfer specific information from an

atlas to an outline map by drawing on it and labeling it. These skills of accuracy and neatness in map copywork are not often taught anymore but this is a plain and simple teaching resource that does just that. Photocopy the hand-drawn map of Canada several times, give one map with each assignment (included) to your students, provide a Canadian atlas, then watch them grow in confidence as THEY draw the curve of the rivers, where



the cities are, boundaries of the time zones, etc. Most of the book was designed for Grade 6 and up although a few lessons are suitable for eager students in grade 4. MS06262 - \$7.00 (downloadable, printable)

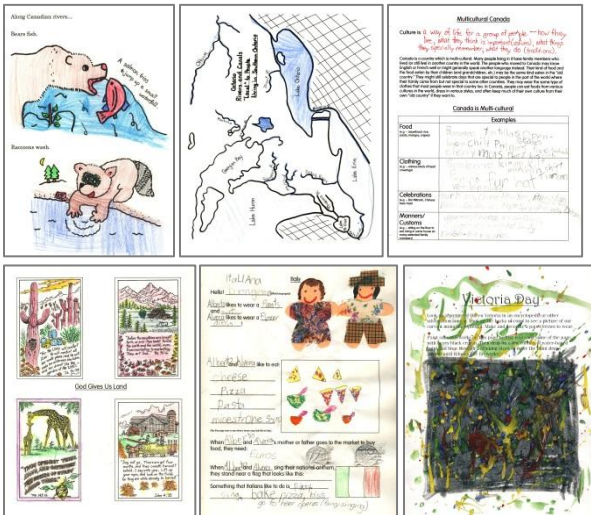


Our Big World and People (Gr. 2-3/4)

Peppermint Stick

This curriculum, designed originally for use in Grade 2, gives the young student foundational understanding of the variety of water and land features, and people God made to live in our big world. While Part A contains the main curriculum, there are

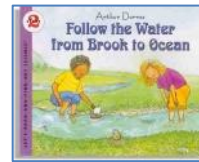
coordinating mission-related lessons in Part B and simple ideas for some Canadian celebrations throughout the year in Part C. Simple materials found in most homes are required to complete the children around the world lessons (e.g. fabric scraps). Use of the internet is optional but access to information books and/or the encyclopedia is needed. Study about Rivers, Lakes, Oceans, Mountains, Lowlands, Tundra, Deserts, Prairie/Grasslands, Forests, Continents, Canada and 30+ countries, Languages, Food, Clothing, Shelter, and More. Some D.W. Emke artwork included. Reproducible for individual families and single classrooms. This curriculum is easy to expand to include older siblings by assigning them to complete independent studies (e.g. reports, posters) for one country of their choice per continent. Two versions – printed or printable. SoS02 - \$35.00 (downloadable, printable); \$40.00 if a printed version) Sample pictures show student work:



Preparing to Teach with “Our Big World and People”:

Suggested items or supplies needed: a child’s atlas, a hanger, a tourist brochure that shows a picture of a canal or locks system, pictures to cut and paste (collect from magazines, old calendars, missionary newsletters, etc.; stickers also could work such as of rainforest animals), 1-3 pieces of Bristol board, a report cover or stapler, blue tissue paper, a few drops of water-based paint (e.g. Tempera) small fabric scraps of a variety of colours for “clothes”, skin-tone paper (e.g. beiges and browns of construction paper). If you have coins or stamps from

at least one other country (e.g. even U.S. coins would do to show that there is a difference in currency) or other small items or photos from other countries, that would add interest too. For mini-research projects and to supplement with literature, you should gather a handful of storybooks or information books – your choice of titles. Consider the titles mentioned in our “Character-Building Titles for...” lists [here](#) and [here](#) and under the geography section of “What Resources Do You Use for This Subject?” and/or books or children’s videos borrowed from your public or church library.



Follow the Water from Brook to Ocean

Arthur Dorros

Look at the water gushing out of the drainpipes on the house! Where does all the water go? Water flows downhill, from puddles to streams, rivers, over dams, across prairies, reaching for the ocean. Soft-cover - 32 pgs. Let’s Read and Find Out SCIENCE READER level 2. 1P- 411384 - See website for pricing.



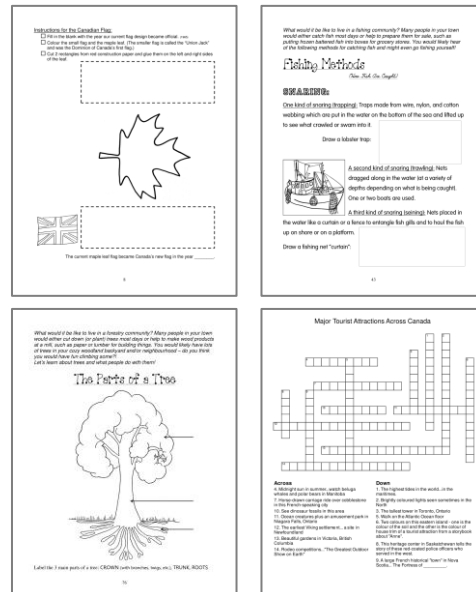
Canadian Communities

Peppermint Stick

This title is for studying about communities in Canada! This curriculum teaches topics for both grades 3 and 4. It introduces a wide range of content for studying about Canada at a level that is appropriate and enjoyable for young children to junior grades. Part A

presents and overview of Canadian history, geography of provinces/territories, mapping skills, and the government (e.g. symbols, monarchs, prime ministers). Part B contains lessons about population and urban & rural communities. Part C focuses studies about working communities in Canada – fishing, mining, farming, forestry, manufacturing, and tourism. Part D has material for learning about ethnic & religious communities (e.g. what is a Christian community) and Northern communities. Part E reviews the entire country of Canada again but by physical regions. Black and white worksheets, full-colour photos. Just over 120 pages.

SoS034 - \$35.00 (downloadable, printable)



Preparing to Teach about...

Canadian Communities:

Supplies: an atlas, regular school supplies (e.g. construction paper, pencil crayons, scissors, glue), a few sheets of Bristol board and markers, Canadian coins, 2 flat screens for drying wet paper “goop”, aluminum foil, a list of fun [camp songs](#), and a picture collection for small projects – the pictures should show a variety of places in Canada... you can get these from tourism brochures and “freebies” at your local Chamber of Commerce or tourism kiosk, old calendars, and some newspapers. Access to the internet is optional.

Optional: small, colourful beads (to glue on paper), long “sausage” balloons to blow up, common baking ingredients, maple syrup, a paper plate, large googly eyes, water-based paint and brush, novels by Barbara Smucker and/or Farley Mowat (Canadian authors who describe life in some communities) and other literature as desired. Enhance with field trips perhaps to local flooring or lumber store, a farm, a tourist attraction in your local area, a fish farm (aquaculture), a factory and/or a mine that is open to general public tours.



InfoCanada Information Books – Provinces/Territories

Nelson

Full-colour information/ project books of text, charts, graphs, and photos – learn historical and geographical details of the provinces and territories. Questions and suggested projects throughout book and at the back. Soft-cover. Interest level: Grades 4/6-12. See website for pricing.

- Alberta (AB)**
- British Columbia (BC)**
- Manitoba (MB)**
- New Brunswick (NB)**
- Newfoundland & Labrador (NL)**
- Northwest Territories (NT)**
- Nova Scotia (NS)**
- Nunavut (NU)**
- Ontario (ON)**
- Prince Edward Island (PE)**
- Quebec (QC)**
- Saskatchewan (SK)**
- Yukon (YT)**



Farm Activity Coloring Book

Primary-level drawings show life on an old-fashioned farm such as a boat ride, a rooster heralding the morn, an astonished boy catching a fish, lunch time in the pigpen and more. This coloring book is nice for supplementing pioneer studies for children! Printed on quality white paper (not newsprint).

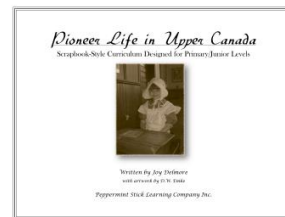
FP03514 – See website for pricing.



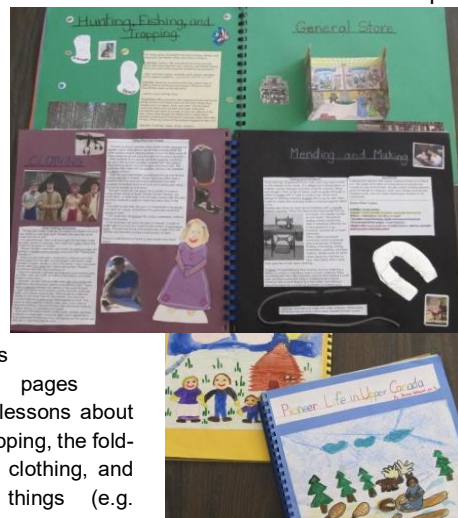
Pioneer Life in Upper Canada

Peppermint Stick

The student makes a personal scrapbook as he or she reads the lesson and does any accompanying activities. Notes, map work, charts, photos, and drawings. Learn about the First Nations and pioneers living in the Southern Ontario and Eastern Ontario areas (“Upper Canada”) during the late 1700s and 1800s. Includes fold-out pen/ink cardstock models of a pioneer church, schoolhouse, and general store by D.W. Emke, other pictures with information to glue in, simple art projects, and opportunity to study your own area history. The second edition includes more photos and minor text updating. Both first and second editions are consumable. There are plans to publish a third edition in 2026 which will be in the downloadable format.



Photos, right: Samples of two children's scrapbooks made while using this



curriculum. The pages show (clockwise) lessons about hunting/fishing/trapping, the fold-out general store, clothing, and mending/making things (e.g. blacksmith).

(See [our website](#) for any updates and pricing.)

Preparing to Teach about Pioneers:


Supplies to gather: a package of blank scrapbook paper (your colour choices), water-based paints, wool or woollen yarn, popsicle sticks, stickers and/or a picture collection for cut-and-pasting “decoration” on the lesson pages (the pictures should resemble pioneer life... you can get these from tourism brochures of pioneer villages, etc. at your local Chamber of Commerce or tourism kiosk, old calendars, old greeting cards, a seed catalogue, magazines that have old-fashioned photos in them or things like old fences, old buildings, antiques, etc.). You also need household items such as basic baking ingredients, soap, aluminum foil, thread, fabric scraps, apples, whipping cream, lemon or apple cider vinegar, and a wee bit of honey (if these things are also safe for your student(s)). Optional: a piece of leather string, castor oil (to feel and smell), cranberries, an old sock, beeswax. Of course, maple syrup and lots of storybooks are great additions to this pioneer study too!

Soap and Water:

Laundry and Bathing
Pioneers owned fewer clothes than most Canadians own today and wore them more than one day before cleaning them again. Pioneer women and children generally did laundry by hand once a week (e.g. Monday). They heated water in pots on a woodstove or over a fire. They scrubbed the clothing by hand on a washboard with homemade soap in wash tubs or even the creek itself, rinsed it with more clean water, and squeezed the water out of the cloth by wringing/wringing it tightly. Then they hung the clothes up on a spring or over a rock in the warm sunshine to dry. In the cold, chilly weather, a string could be hung inside the cabin if the clothes were frozen stiff outside, they had to be warmed up carefully indoors without crumpling and breaking the fabric.

Baths generally were taken once a week (on Saturday, before going to church on Sunday) in a tub on the floor filled with heated water or outside in the summer by swimming in a creek or pond. The youngest children were bathed first in the tub and then older family members followed, being bathed often in the same water until it was frozen outside.

"Some lumbering pioneers in the Algonquin area even wore their socks at winter without changing them!" (Source: *Algonquin Area: How the Cree Survived Winter*)
"It was considered extravagant and creating unnecessary work to wash something that had only been worn for a day."



Activity: Using bar soap and a large container or sink, hand wash an item of your clothing and dry it outside. Wear it to see how hard or soft it feels.

Making Soap
Soap was made from potash (or lye) and fats or oils:
1. Pioneers made potash by pouring very hot water over wood ashes. (Lye was made from lye ash in Europe in the late 1700's.)
2. The potash was mixed in a big kettle with lard or animal fats (lard). The fats melted in the potash water to make soap.
3. The soap was poured out to harden and to be cut into bars.
4. In the 1800's in North America, soap was sometimes made in such large quantities that it could be sold in general stores.
5. The homemade soap did not have a perfumed scent to it in contrast to many of our soaps today; it also could be harsh on the skin.

Activity: Trace around a bar of soap below. Colour it light brown.

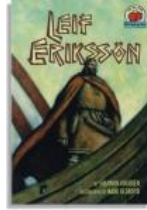
Optional: Watch how soap is made in person or by video. One DVD example is *Homemade Soap: The Art of Soap Making*. (Franklin Family Media, U.S.A., 2008)

Left: A sample lesson from the Pioneer Life in Upper Canada curriculum – a theme to read about and paste into a student scrapbook, hands-on activities to do.

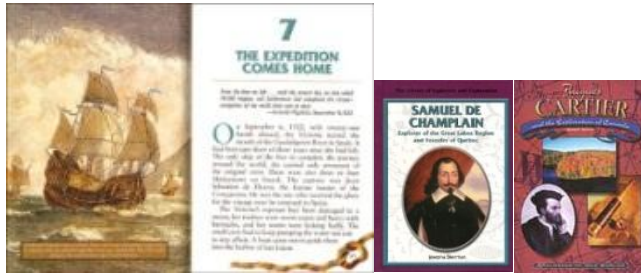
Leif Eriksson

Shannon Knudsen

Leif Eriksson had heard about wonderful lands far west of his home in Greenland. Could those lands be real? He is determined to find out. Find out about his explorations and discoveries in North America, 500 years before Columbus came. Lower grades. Soft-cover - 48 pgs. ON MY OWN BIOGRAPHY (reader style). 1P- 409510 – See website for pricing.




Canadian Explorers Set of 6 and other books (Gr. 5-8)



Library of Explorers and Exploration/Explorers of New Worlds
The six books about the explorers are fascinating 5 hardcover books + 1 paperback containing primary source information, coloured drawings, and much historical information about the discovery of Canada by Cabot, Cartier, Champlain, Hudson, Columbus, and LaSalle. Approx. 112 pgs. each hardcover; 63 pgs. paperback. This item is currently part of our Canadian History Literature Bundle. See the other history titles included in that bundle [here](#). CS06358 – See website for pricing.

Organizing Canadian History: Help For Grades 5-8+



Developed by LEO PATRICK B.S., PEPPERMINT STICK LEARNING CO. CANADA

Organizing Canadian History: Help for Grades 5-8+

Peppermint Stick

Do you want your pre-teen or teen to learn Canadian history and grow in confidence for independent studies?

Then this resource is one you should check out! It provides some guidance but not all information – additional reference books will be needed and can be your own choice! (An alternative resource for studying Canadian history more in-depth would be Canadian History in Context, to be announced.)

OCHH - \$10.00

Ancient Civilizations Lesson Outlines

Peppermint Stick

When I looked for a resource that would simply provide a general guide for teaching about ancient civilizations at an elementary level, I had difficulty in finding such. So often, home school curriculum for ancient history had in-depth lessons – to the level of my former grade 11 ancient history course or higher. For elementary grades, I felt that an ancient civilizations study should be more general, broad, and introductory, to teach a framework upon which students could learn the basics and delve into topics as their interest perked. These lesson outlines were what our family came to use.

The lessons that can be spread out to be twice a week for about 3 months. (Supplement it with more Bible history if you want. There is only a bit of Bible history in it.) This curriculum was designed to provide guidance (but not complete information) for a home school study on this history topic from a Christian perspective.

Learn to research and make visuals, a notebook, a speech... Information sources are YOUR CHOICE and must be provided for student reading/research – e.g. a Bible, library information books, textbooks, internet sites, and/or a digital or printed encyclopedia (set). A minimal of TWO civilizations should be compared throughout this study. The student also needs access to accurate historical world maps. A recommended source book for near the end of the lesson work is The Puzzle of Ancient Man by Donald E. Chittick, ISBN 0-9640978-3-4. (It is NOT sold through us.) Other supplies needed: Blank paper, markers, glue, scissors, black paint, pictures of food or historical clothing (e.g. from grocery flyers, magazines, calendars, etc.).

HIS-Y43 - \$8.00 (downloadable, printable)

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- Where in the World? (maps)
- The Flood Civilizations (Bible)
- Timeline (Bible History) - overview and time rotation:
- Government
- Food, Homes, Clothing, and Health
- Food, Homes, Clothing, and Health (continued)
- Social Life
- Scientific Knowledge/Technology
- Myths, Legends, and Historical Facts
- Contact Between Civilizations (Travel and Exploration)
- Comparison of Ancient Civilizations with Living in the 20th

1. Where in the World?

a. Map the 10 major early civilization locations on a world map (the following page). They are:

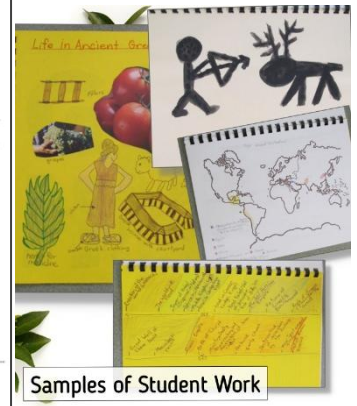
Mesopotamia (Tigris, Euphrates Rivers)	India
China (Yellow River)	Israel
Greece	Egypt
Aztec	Rome
Mayan	India (later times)

b. Describe the physical features (mountains, rivers, etc.) and climate of 2 or more civilizations – your choice of recording this information is:

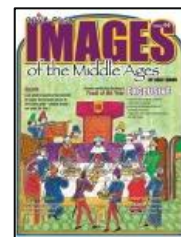
- a chart form (grid/outline) or
- a written paragraph on each civilization in a notebook or
- two carefully labeled local maps showing major features and climate zones(s).

Name of Student: _____
Date lesson is completed: _____
Assignment Mark: ___/3

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Samples of Student Work

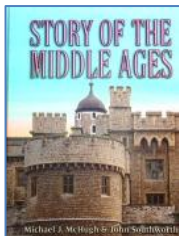


Images of the Middle Ages

Apple Press

Creative and reproducible worksheet lessons with black and white drawings to teach about Medieval times.

AP-MIDDLE – See website for pricing. (Other titles about world history might also be available on the same product page.)



Story of the Middle Ages

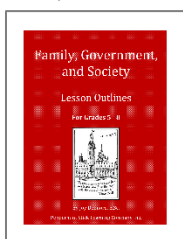
Michael J. McHugh & John Southworth
Christian Liberty Press

This world history and church history curriculum is suitable for grades 4 and up. We have found this resource covers the period of history from the time of Christ to the beginning of the early explorers, focusing on the Middle Ages, in a tasteful manner. The text is detailed but without giving overwhelming amounts of information. End of the chapter reviews, vocabulary to learn and discussion questions help the student understand the issues and life in the Middle Ages. 130 pages. (Note: The test packet and answer key are optional. When our family uses this resource, we simply use the textbook as a main reference guide.) The product link is our affiliate link to Christian Book Distributors.

Family, Government, and Society (Gr. 5-8+)

Peppermint Stick

This title is currently being updated and expanded with new links and graphics. In the meantime, we have removed the older edition in hopes that the 2nd edition will be published before the 2026-27 school year. Make a notebook and do some project-based learning! This curriculum resource guides the student as he or she explores concepts about the family, the Canadian government, and our society. Build character and be a good citizen! Also included in the appendix are suggested projects and notebooks ideas for studying civics beyond this introductory level. (See our website for update-to-date details and pricing.)



teacher training a delight to learn from, whether you are a new or experienced teacher. Refresh your passion for teaching! The product link is our affiliate link to Christian Book Distributors.

Designing a Home Preschool for 2 & 3 year olds (Preparing for School Package)



Are you looking for something for an older toddler or child who is just starting to learn the ABC's? This set of little "really basic" booklets helps a child to get ready to read and count by having something simple but meaningful for his or her "own school" time. The planner portion is currently available on our [free planning guides page](#). The package of the planner plus the booklets is available in our shop at the link provided for the title.

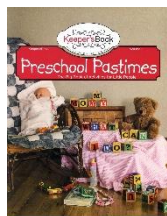
Also, please consider our previously-mentioned resources –

- [Does It Belong? Getting Ready for Math and Reading](#)
- [Let Me Read: Step 1](#)
- [Beginner Math Sticks](#)
- [Be Willing](#)
- [Beginner Science, Health, and Technology](#)
- [Beginner Printing with Fine Motor Skills](#)

and these affiliate-linked preschool books:

- [Mazes](#) (or this book also called [Mazes](#))
- [Thinking Skills](#)
- [Perceptual Skills: Same or Different](#)
- [Motor Skills Connect the Dots](#)
- [1-25 Dot-to-Dot Get Ready](#)
- [ABC Dot-to-Dot](#)

Preschool and Parenting



Preschool Pastimes

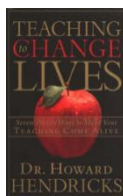
Keepers at Home

This collection of ideas for having fun with preschoolers in your home is delightful! It is subtitled "The Big Book of Activities for Little People." With 64 pages of very helpful tips written by many contributors, this collection of ideas can keep little people occupied with lots of fun for hours! Inspirational poems, articles, fun food for children to make, crafts, projects, things to do with empty boxes, fingerplays, travel tips, teaching children to help with chores in a fun way, and much more are packed into this handy book. 1LWGV01 – See website for pricing.

Teaching to Change Lives

Howard Hendricks

One of the best books ever for learning how to be a great teacher! Highly recommended for ANYONE who teaches – from Sunday School and small group classes to Christian educators, home school moms, and parents. The practical and to-the-point approach with humor and a deep respect for God's Word make this



Planners (Books)



(some of the pages included)

We also offer a few varieties of planners in our online shop such as these:

- [Joyful Praise! A Lesson Planner and Recordkeeping Book](#)
- and
- [Mightier Than the Waves - A Lesson Planner and Recordkeeping Book](#)



(some of the pages included)

Each planner offers 5 weeks per month (undated). This lesson planner and recordkeeping book can also be used as a log book for high school students keeping track of their own studies. The layout is patterned from the one my (Joy's) mom improvised as a rural schoolhouse teacher many years ago. Each month begins with a hymn/graphic layout. There are 10 different hymn texts for the school-year. And you don't have to be a teacher or a student to use one of these either! This planner can be used to help you keep track of craft projects, animal care, Bible studies, sports practices, events, business activities, and more! \$12.00 each (downloadable, printable)

French Studies

From MFB Publications

"French with a Mission" by Debora Hawkins

Teach French as a second language with these complete and well-organized programs designed to meet government educational standards in Ontario, Alberta, and British Columbia. Comprehensive (but not over-whelming), creative, easy-to-teach methods with an evangelical missions perspective. (Author was an "MK", and a French schoolteacher.)

Teacher's manuals are designed so that non-bilingual teachers can confidently teach the curriculum with the help of the CD and resources. There are two series of books—one for beginners in kindergarten to Grades 2/3 (Mission ABC) and the other for those just beginning French studies in Grade 4 or continuing on (Mission Monde). Each level is one year's worth of French studies. The French on the CDs is Parisian French. If a student learns Parisian French, he or she can be understood in any French-speaking country.



🍁 Mission ABC

This is a French discovery program for younger students with activities and songs. Mission ABC is in 4 levels (equaling 4 years of lessons if you use one workbook per grade or 2 years of lessons if you use 2 workbooks per grade). The Teacher's Manual includes

all 4 levels and offers activities, games, songs and review lessons. These consumable workbooks have 40 pages/20 lessons each and every 10 lessons there is a small oral test. Mission ABC covers some vocabulary on the topics of Alphabet, Numbers, Shapes, Colours, Days of the Week, Months of the Year, Seasons, Food, Animals, Body Parts, Classroom Vocabulary, Prepositions, Family Words, Telling Time, Emotions, Weather, House Words, Clothing, Continents, Transportation, Buildings, Sports, Instruments, Pronouns, and verbs être and avoir.

Note: Mission ABC is NOT a prerequisite to Mission Monde French nor is it a substitute for it. It is simply a program for families wanting to introduce their children to FSL earlier than the junior grades. Mission Monde will repeat any necessary vocab/skills that exist in the ABC levels.)

The full package includes downloadable student audio and teacher manual, 1 each of 4 student workbooks (consumables).

See website for pricing and options.

No French? No Problem! (Grade 8+)

This is a resource originally designed to help teachers in Christian schools to test and catch up new students to the level of French of their peers in the classroom. It fast-tracks and tests an individual student through the concepts they should have learned to be in a particular level, showing them when to stop and join their peers in Grades 4-9. If you are a home schooler who is considering putting your child into a public or private school, this could be a very helpful resource to use over the summer vacation before he or she reaches the classroom.

NF01889 – See website for pricing



See *SAMPLE* pages and short videos describing MFB French curriculum on our product pages!

Core French (Grades 4-10)

🍁 Mission Monde

Bring an element of cross-cultural adventure and missions emphasis into the French classroom! Each grade level of MM is focused on a French-speaking location and a real missionary family with children in the same grade. Students will read stories about their experiences overseas and in Québec. Cross-cultural tidbits as well as historical facts are shared throughout the curriculum. Students will be encouraged to integrate their faith into a variety of settings, pray in French, and memorize Bible verses. This is not just a language class; watch as students gain an interest in French and the mission field! The mission-related topics are listed below for each level of this curriculum. Students follow along with the audio and, in addition to the accompanying consumable workbook, should each have their own binder with 5 dividers in it for the sections of stories, vocabulary, conjugation, worksheets, and practice exercises. Each level of Mission Monde has a consumable student workbook, a downloadable/printable teacher's manual (tests, lesson plans, worksheets, games, an answer key, flashcard pages for pronouns, phonetics, and French/English verbs), and the audio link (mp3). **Packages include 1 student workbook plus links to download the teacher's manual and mp3 audio file(s) unless otherwise noted.**



Mission Monde 1 (e.g. Grade 4)

For students just beginning French studies or continuing them from Mission ABC. Stories are about the Regnault missionary family in France.

Mission Monde 2 (e.g. Grade 5)

Continue with the Regnault family and learn some French history too.

Mission Monde 3 (e.g. Grade 6)

Learn with the Marley's, a missionary family in Burundi (Africa).

Mission Monde 4 (e.g. Grade 7)

There's more to learn about Burundi while learning French!

Mission Monde 5 (e.g. Grade 8)

For these studies, the setting is a French boarding school environment for missionary kids.

Mission Monde 6 (e.g. Grade 9)

Learn about Quebec and an inner city outreach while learning more of the French language!

Mission Monde 7 (e.g. Grade 10)

Learn about Haiti, including the 2010 earthquake, in French studies for this final book in the series!

Mission Monde Extra Student Workbooks

Individual consumables are also available for siblings or groups of classroom students.

(Please see our website for pricing.)

Overview Page

What are you teaching this year?

Science Units: _____

History/Geography/Social St: _____

Specialty Studies (art, music, sewing, swimming, etc.): _____

Language Arts:

If you are being overwhelmed with the thought of teaching, here are 2 helpful questions to consider about language arts (which is the subject that tends to take more time while likely having less "hands-on" work than other subjects):

1. This year, which would you rather emphasize (circle one group):

Phonics/Sight Words and Spelling OR Literature Studies/Comprehension?

2. This year, which would you rather emphasize (circle one group):

Grammar OR Writing (composition)?

Math: _____

Who? (think of learning styles, interests, strengths, weaknesses, age, how many...describe your student(s))

How? (methods, styles, science supplies or manipulatives or visuals or multimedia/audio needed...describe your general method)

When? (describe your general weekly and/or daily schedule)

Where? (describe your workspace and list storage places in home)

Why? (purposes, what you hope to accomplish beyond "good marks")

Home Education:

Keeping it Simple and Sweet -



A Planning Booklet for _____!
(your child/teen's name)

Compliments of

Peppermint Stick Learning Company Inc.

www.peppermintsticklearningco.com

Teaching the Arts

There are many aspects to teaching the arts. Pick a reasonable variety of skills each year to focus on. (Circle or highlight below.)

How to Draw (basic)	How to Draw (e.g. shading, perspective, enlarging...)	Colours and Various Media (e.g. paint, chalk, charcoal)	Painting Techniques (e.g. straw blowing, dots, blending)
Cutting and Molding Techniques (e.g. scissors skills, curling, various folds, wax, dough)	Skills with Fasteners (string, split pins, glue, tape, screws, nails)	Photography, Digital Arts, Visual Presentation Skills	Art History & Styles (e.g. abstract, watercolour, Canadian artists, recycling in art)
Textures (e.g. natural such as sand, pressed flowers, stones)	Speech & Drama Skills (e.g. recitation, movement to tell a story, costume design, voice tone)	Poetry (writing, comprehension, expression)	Music Theory (e.g. reading note names, rhythm, the staff, key signatures)
Music History & Styles (e.g. classical composers, psalms, modern, Biblical standards for...)	Musical Instruments (e.g. brass, woodwinds, orchestra, piano lessons)	Vocal Music (e.g. alto, soprano, quartet, choir, clarity of words)	Home Economics (e.g. sewing, cake decorating, knitting, embroidery, woodworking, floral gardening.)

Fun & Meaningful Physical Activities

Each child should have both a time to work and a time to play. (Home organization tips are printed in our catalogue.) Here are a few suggestions for helping him/her to grow in maturity, strength, endurance, and flexibility:

- Choose a different physical skill each month to especially work on after warm-up stretches (e.g. walking, running, throwing, kicking, shoveling (snow?!), balance, jumping/hopping).
- Communication: Model good sportsmanship – encourage one another daily. Spend time together with family and friends to play and talk/visit. Purposely allow time in homeschool association meetings for the children/teens to get to know each other socially, rather than just having them listen to a presenter in a group setting.
- Toys: Look for toys that are also tools (e.g. child-size mop, measuring tape). For B-day and Christmas gifts, consider adding little by little over the years to your child's toolbox and/or hopechest with "real" grown-up items (e.g. wrenches, a plate, a serving spoon, oven mitts, BBQ tongs)
- As toys/playtime are grown out of, increase practical hobbies and craft skills. Teach children how to enjoy free time with their hands rather than just reading or watching a screen (e.g. tie a quilt, wood-burning, photography).

My Reading Plan

Fill in your curriculum workbooks, sub-topics, or book titles to study for this year, below:

Literacy (learning how-to read...phonics, sight words, spelling):

Fluency (practicing reading skills...book titles, readers) and **Comprehension** (understanding and analysing a variety of reading materials and genres... biographies, novels in 2nd person, stories that teach lessons, classics and other adventure novels, etc.): _____

Literacy Tips:

- A child is ready to learn how to read when he/she wants to know the words in his/her environment such as his/her own name written on things, the cereal box, the road sign "STOP", etc. This is usually around 3-5 years old.
- Print words and simple sentences in large print (e.g. font size should be 16 - 20 pt or greater). You might want to draw around the word to show its boxed-shape of tall, short, and below-the-line letters. The child can also copy the pattern of the letters by arranging letter manipulatives together – chunky letter blocks are far better for little hands to grasp and stay motivated with than thin/flat paper pieces. (Plastic letter cubes are really nice but wooden word game pieces or homemade thick boxboard squares are OK.)
- While you are reading a book (or singing in a hymn book at church), don't point in a jerky motion. Fluency is better learned by sliding your (or their) finger along the paper or simply placing a plain bookmark under the line of words that are being read.
- Pictures add to the enjoyment of a story. Storylines and simple sentences based on a child's language in a child's world (avoid just using adult-level vocabulary in novels) help to teach literacy in a gentle manner – beginning with what a child knows and building on that knowledge to what he/she can discover in the local community and beyond.
- Because the Bible is so unique as THE living Book, daily reading from it as a family will be powerful in its impact for life and eternity. Why not read the actual Word of God (and not just depend on someone's less-than-perfect summary in a popular Bible storybook)?
- There is value in purchasing books for your own family, rather than just using borrowed library books... your child can read books from your shelves over and over whenever he/she wants, which practices independent learning and teaches by repetition. We sell many books and readers which help children to read and love it. And our "Let Me Read" reading program works with YOUR CHOICE of storybooks and/or readers. ☺

My Writing Plan

Fill in your curriculum, supplies, reference books used for teaching about writing and underline sub-topics you want to cover this year:

Printing/Handwriting: _____

Supplies to gather (special pencils, eraser, clothespins, cue cards, red-blue-blue-red lined paper, etc.): _____

Creative Writing: _____

Outlining to Write

Lists

Letters/Notes

Poetry & Prose

Reports

Speeches

Stories and Journals (e.g. adventures, personal narratives)

Essays (expository, persuasive)

Summarization

Elaboration

Publishing (e.g. graphics, references, handmade books, margins)

Figures of Speech & Literary Terms

Notetaking Skills

Grammar: _____

Capitalization

Punctuation

Parts of Speech, Subjects & Predicates

Kinds of Sentences (e.g. exclamatory, dialogue, varying order of words, etc.)

Types of Words (contractions, compounds, synonyms, antonyms, homonyms)

Editing/Proofreading Skills

My Math Program

Fill in your mathematics curriculum (including any reference books or teaching websites) on the line below. You can write in the boxes about the fun hands-on math manipulatives, games, storybooks, and/or visuals that you'd like to use to put some "pep" into making math skills stick well! For a free hand-out on what to use and how to use various math manipulatives, see our website or e-mail us.

Math Topics	Fun to Teach with...
<u>Numbers and Operations:</u> Counting and Number Sense Adding, Subtracting, Multiplying, Dividing Money	
<u>Geometry:</u> Shapes – 2D and 3D Perimeter and Area Angles	
<u>Measurement:</u> Time (clock, calendar, elapsed) Metric Weight, Length, Capacity	
<u>Patterns and Algebra:</u> Patterning (and Sorting) Percent and Fractions Exponents and Roots Equations and Expressions	
<u>Data Analysis, Probability, &</u> <u>Logic:</u> Graphing & Statistics Estimation Problem Solving	

My Science Lesson Ideas:

Field trips:

Supplies needed (for investigations and inventions):

Reading material (books, magazines, websites):

Audiovisuals (videos, posters):

Student documentation of learning (notebooking, worksheets, tests, science fair projects, etc. - how will they SHOW what they've learned):

Topics for this year:

Suggestion: With a light-coloured crayon, **highlight a variety of 4-5 boxes each year** to teach. Ideally, students should go through the topics in the boxes twice throughout their 8-9 preschool/elementary years. For example, the first 4 years cover an introductory level of these topics, then the next 4 years cover them more in-depth, preparing students for even more detailed studies in their teen years and beyond.

Life Science (Biology including origins)	Earth & Space Science (Environmental including origins)	Physical Science (Physics)	Chemical Science (Chemistry)	Health Sciences (can be part of Phys.Ed lessons instead)
Plants	Cycles (daily, seasonal, moon)	Stable Structures, Mechanical forces, Engineering & Construction	Properties of Matter and Materials (e.g. density, rough, floats, transparent...)	Nutrition and Food Prep.
Animals	Astronomy	Simple Machines, Gears, Work, Movement	Changes of Matter (solids, liquids, gases, melting pts); pure versus mixtures	Habits (hygiene, sleep, exercise, dealing with stress, peers)
Ecology	Meteorology, Flight & Air, Wind and Water Energy	Light & Sound, (e.g. reflection, refraction, waves)	Conservation of Matter and Energy, Chemical Reactions	Disease & Injury (e.g. safety, first aid, care, disabilities)
Microbiology, Cells & Genetics	Geology (soils, rocks, minerals)	Electricity, Magnetism, Radiation, Heat	Water and other Fluids	Human Biology (e.g. systems, organs, life stages, reproduction)

My History & Geography Lesson Ideas:

Field trips:

Supplies needed (for projects):

Reading material (books, magazines, websites):

Audiovisuals (videos, posters):

Student documentation of learning (notebooking, worksheets, tests, research projects, etc. - how will they SHOW what they've learned):

Topics for this year:

Suggestion: With a light-coloured crayon, **highlight 1 column or 2 boxes each year** to teach. Ideally, students should go through the topics in the boxes twice throughout their 8-9 preschool/elementary years. I like to combine both of the "geography" columns so that I can rotate the topics approximately every four years, although mapping skills are something that typically could be included every year (e.g. local maps, historical maps).

Government & Society (Social Studies)	Canadian History	World History	Canadian Geography	World Geography
Character – manners, morals, responsibilities Family history, Local community, Careers, Celebrations	Native Studies & European Explorers	Ancient Civilizations (half-year)	Mapping Skills: directions, provinces, territories, etc.	Mapping Skills: terms, continents, countries, etc.
Canadian Government (immigration, voting, trading partners, Britain, USA)	Pioneers to Confederation (1867), Famous Canadians, inventions. (Gr. 8-10 focus on history since 1867 and since WW1)	Middle Ages and Renaissance +, (including Church History & Missions), Famous people, inventors, scientists (half-year)	Canadian Communities (atlas skills; regions, fishing, farming, population trends, natural resources...)	Life Around the World (Gr.8: humanitarian concepts, world resources, details..)

Teaching the Bible

For resources and further help, please consider the "Bible and Christian Education" section of our shop, the recommended resources on our "LISTS" webpages (see menu), and/or our ministry website, *The Word In Our Hearts*.



Planning Ideas:

- With prayer, follow the Holy Spirit's leading to choose what Bible passages to read to or with your family and how to understand God's Word. There are 3 general types of Bible studies: 1. Go verse by verse through a book of the Bible 2. Do a character study on someone and learn cross-referencing skills 3. Do a topical study on an issue of current interest to your family. The only book you really need for Bible study is the Bible itself (2 Peter 1:3, 1 John 2:27). All other resources are "extras" and should be remembered as such. If you want something "hands-on" for your children to do on a regular basis, it can be as simple as teaching them to highlight and colour-code key verses.
- "Extras": Begin to build a collection of resources in a special box(es). Include reproducible activity worksheets & colouring books, flashcard lessons/stories on paper or on slides, craft patterns, puppets and scripts, Bible memory cards, game ideas, song visuals, outlined hand-outs for various ages, and other odds and ends. Organize your materials according to Old Testament or New Testament Bible stories or Bible-based topics such as "Creation", "Missions", "The Bible", etc. Use these "extras" occasionally to supplement Bible lessons for your children.
- Singing or listening to songs which teach about the greatness of our God is one of the simplest things to do and you can coordinate it with the Bible lesson topic of the day. A hymn book and chorus books are helpful.
- Keeping track of memory verses with stickers or David Emke's artwork (see picture above and our "Art" or "Bible" category in our shop) is another simple and sweet way of teaching God's Word to your children.
- Often parents want to focus on manners and character education to raise a child to be "good." It IS very important to teach good manners and right attitudes. However, character education should be taught with the following understanding, as stated by Dr. Howard Hendricks: "To expect a child to live the Christian life when he does not possess it is to mock him. Until the Holy Spirit takes up residence in a person's heart, he cannot live pleasing to God." (quote found in *Preschoolers Can Know God* teacher's manual, Child Evangelism

Fellowship, 2004, page 6.) Dr. Hendrick's comment is supported by Romans 8:7-8. When anyone, young or old, has Christ in his or her heart by faith (Ephesians 3:17), then God gives them the power to live a godly life. But no one can live pleasing to Him without Him. Even the good deeds that people try to do in their own strength is not acceptable to God for righteousness. (Isaiah 64:6). We need to believe/depend on Jesus Christ as our Saviour and Lord. God doesn't just "fix" our old nature, He gives us a brand new one when we repent of our sin and believe the gospel! (2 Corinthians 5:17) *The first step in teaching "character education"* is to explain to a child what sin is, that Jesus died to take away that sin and its punishment and rose again to offer us new life. Each of us as a choice. True Christianity is not an inherited religion or one where parents can make the decision for the child. Instead it is a personal relationship—as Uncle Charlie (CBH Ministries) often said, "God has no grandchildren—just children." As parents we can only lovingly pray for our children for God to help them understand and faithfully tell them of His wonderful works as we teach them His truth.

About Us:

Peppermint Stick Learning Company Inc. is a home-based business owned by Joy and Rob Delmore that publishes and sells educational-related products focusing on Canadian content. We began in 2007 to preview and to develop educational resources designed for individual and small group situations. Joy is a home school mom and the main author/illustrator of the PSLC curriculum. Various immediate and extended family members have helped with the development of those resources. Most are available in either printed format or in pdf format.

"Lessons that stick with a refreshing touch of sweetness" means that we try to provide fun and straightforward curriculum that helps lessons to "stick" by incorporating a variety of hands-on, written, and auditory methods to reach any kind of learning style. We believe that every child learns best this way, regardless of their strengths, and that it makes learning together as individuals who are different from one another, easier for the teacher and more fun for the students. We also encourage families to learn together daily from the Bible which is refreshing to our lives and "sweeter also than the honey and the honeycomb" (see Psalm 19:7-10, 119:103).

Some of our curriculum and all of our family/church resources have Biblical content; we desire to uphold the unchangeable truth of God's Word and Biblical principles for everyday life. (For our Statement of Faith and Educational Philosophy, please see our website.)