Homeschool bundle includes:

- Student Edition
- Workbook
- Teacher's Edition
Thank you for choosing Pearson to help you on your homeschool journey. Making the right decision about homeschooling can set your child on an exciting path to a lifetime of learning and success. Pearson makes it easy for you to inspire a joy of learning with flexible programs to fit your child’s unique learning style. This built-in flexibility lets you set the schedule and the pace that works for you and your child. As you read through this guide and review the included materials, you’ll experience how easy it is to personalize the curriculum to match your child’s learning style and ensure success with our engaging programs.

Plus, you can rest assured that all of the fundamentals for success are included. The homeschool curriculum you have chosen has been thoughtfully developed and tested by seasoned professionals, to make sure your child receives the finest education.

Welcome to Pearson Homeschool!
Preparation

It is always an exciting time when you get to open the box with your new curriculum. All of the books and materials are colorful, the pages are crisp and they are filled with the possibilities of the coming year. The anticipation of using the books and teaching your child is new and fresh. Like the air after a spring shower, it is invigorating. You can’t wait until you can get started.

Open the bundle of materials, flip through the pages of each book, take in how they look and feel. Get familiar with all of the components. Let your child share in the excitement and catch the enthusiasm you have for starting this new adventure. These will be your companions over the course of the next year.

Once you get familiar with the material, you may experience the overwhelming feeling that is common to homeschool parents: “How will I ever cover all of this material?” You may be flooded with insecurities that you don’t know or remember the subject or content. All of these are normal thoughts and experiences for anyone who has homeschooled.

Remember the value of the journey you are on. Focus on the reasons you chose to homeschool in the first place, the daily interaction with your child, and teaching them how to learn. As the tutor, you as the parent don’t have to know all of the material. It’s fine to learn it with your child as you go through the material together. You are the guide for your child as you journey with them through the learning process.
Scott Foresman Social Studies engages your child so they actively experience the world in which they live. The program is designed with a Connect-Experience-Understand model. Connecting is about activating prior knowledge, and jumpstarting your child’s journey into social studies. Essential Questions will help your child see the “big ideas” they’re learning about. They allow students to engage in an active discussion of what they already know about the topic, but also encourage them to think further.

Scott Foresman Social Studies offers a variety of ways for your child to actively experience social studies through hands-on activities. They will learn to think critically about key concepts, and develop true understanding so they can transfer knowledge to new content, situations, ideas - and their lives. The goals is to help students become successful learners, who will not only remember what they have learned, but how to learn more!

Overview
The Scott Foresman Social Studies homeschool bundle includes the following components:
• Student Edition
• Workbook
• Teacher’s Edition

Using the Materials
Pearson curriculum materials are thoughtfully planned to present the subject in a way that is engaging. Each lesson builds upon itself, but provides flexibility so you can make it your own.

Using the Student Edition
Each Student Edition is divided into 6 units, with each unit broken into daily lessons. An assessment and review is available at the end of each unit to allow you to easily assess your child’s pace and adjust the speed. Each of the 6 units is presented in the following format:
• Begin With A Song or Poem or Primary Source – Introduces the section with a song, poem, or quote that relates to the topic.
• Reading Social Studies – Comprehension skills presented with interactive activities for your child.
• Lessons – Each lesson within the unit, and the follow-up review questions.
• Supporting Activities: Skills, Biographies, Heroes, DK, Discovery School – a variety of supporting material and activities to further your child’s grasp of the lesson’s concepts.
• Unit Review – Vocabulary and skills review of the material covered in the section.
Using the Workbook

Each Workbook is filled with exercises to reinforce the skills and concepts presented in the course. The top right corner of each page will identify the corresponding lessons and pages within the Student Edition that relate to the workbook exercises. Additionally, your Teacher’s Edition identifies which workbook pages align with which lessons, and also provides the answers. Finally, there are additional activities identified at the bottom of each page to reinforce the lesson’s concepts, and personalize the activities to your child.

Using the Teacher’s Edition

Your Teacher’s Edition begins by covering the skills presented in the Workbook. This will outline the objectives of each section, and walk you through the exercises to teach the material to your child. The Teacher’s Edition is divided into 6 units covering the content of the course. Separated by tabs, each unit will begin with the Unit Planning Guide that will cover the pacing, main ideas, and other information you will need throughout the unit. Use this section as you construct your lesson plans. Here you will also find the information on the supporting workbook pages and the corresponding answers. Finally, your Teacher’s Edition will cover the lesson plan in detail.

Lesson Plans

Lesson plans are important to a successful homeschool environment. They help keep you on track, progress through the material and provide a steady structure for teaching your child. It is important to plan out your lessons but remember - lesson plans are a guide. You should leave room to adapt to your child and adjust the plan to ensure he or she understands the material. The objective is to have a tool you can use to watch your child progress and master the material you present over the school year.

Before you begin your lesson plan, review the materials to see how they are structured. Use this as a guide to help you evaluate and formulate your lesson plan for the coming year. Additionally, there are a number of items to consider when preparing your plan. How many days per week will you have school? Do you plan to have extended breaks for the holidays or vacations? The number of children you have and their ages will affect how and what you can do as well.
Lesson plans in general should have certain vital components. A suggested list would include some or all of the following:

- the portion of text covered during the lesson
- key concepts
- activities to do
- assignments given
- main ideas of the lesson
- questions to ask
- potential field trip ideas
- materials and resources needed

The Scott Foresman Social Studies program includes lesson plans within the *Teacher’s Edition*. Reference the Unit Planning Guide within that book to help you plan lessons for your school year. Your pace may vary, but each lesson within the course is structured for 45-60 minutes on average.

The beginning of the unit covers the main objectives, and highlights tips and additional support to further the lesson’s concepts in the Practice and Extend sections. If time is short for the lesson, the plan identifies a Quick Teaching Plan.

The lesson plan structure begins by identifying the objective and target skill, and leads to the first step - Introduce and Motivate. This section will provide you with instruction on how to activate your child’s prior knowledge. Spend about 5-10 minutes discussing these questions with your child before launching into the chapter.

Next is the Teach and Discuss section. Here the lesson plan explains how to present the material to your child, and engage them in discussion to further their understanding of the material. The discussion questions are highlighted with numbers that are aligned with the *Student Edition*. A reduced copy is found in the center of your lesson plan, with the corresponding discussion questions labeled. As your child reads the text, incorporate these questions to encourage them to think further about the material. Reference the Practice and Extend section for additional information and activities to further your child’s understanding, and when to incorporate the workbook exercises. This section will take about 30 minutes to teach your child the material, and for them to read their text and complete exercises and activities.

The lesson plan ends with the Close and Assess section. At the end of each chapter, and at the end of each unit, are reviews to assess your child’s comprehension of the material. Have your child complete these reviews to assess where additional instruction may be warranted. There are extra activities to guide your child in writing, reading, and other activities that are aligned to the lessons.

The Workbook aligns with the *Student Edition* for your child to practice exercises to reinforce their knowledge, skills and comprehension of the material covered.

As you plan out your lessons, be sure to familiarize yourself with any legal requirements you may have in your local area or state. The Pearson Homeschool website (PearsonHomeschool.com) has links to each state Department of Education so that you may review the laws and how to comply with them.
Adapt the Curriculum to Fit your Situation

One of the great benefits of homeschooling is that you know the instruction is personal. Everything you teach will be personalized to fit your child. The Scott Foresman Social Studies program lessons are easy to pace, and offer enrichment activities and additional support when necessary.

**Pacing**
As you progress through the material, you will find that your child grasps certain lessons with ease while needing more time and practice on other sections. Adapt your pace accordingly. You can progress faster if your child comprehends the material quickly, and assign less practice when you are confident that he or she has an understanding of the material. On the other hand, if more time is required, it’s easy to slow the pace down a bit. It’s more important to ensure understanding than to simply move through the material at a predetermined pace. Each lesson provides numerous opportunities to go beyond the basic lesson, allowing you the freedom to choose activities that match your child’s learning style and meet your schedule.

**Teaching is Everywhere**
Another part of the homeschool benefit is that teaching can occur all of the time. When you are outside of “school” ask your child about concepts learned in previous lessons. Tie them into life situations and world events. Plan field trips and take your lessons into the field. As you are planning your lessons for the year, check your local museums for exhibit schedules that tie into the material. Also, check with your library and city for additional events that you can incorporate into your lessons. You can also use your own resources to complement the material, and tie the lessons into your child’s interests and hobbies.

**Conflicting Materials**
Any homeschool parent will be faced with the dilemma of what to do when you come across material in the curriculum you don’t like or disagree with. The Scott Foresman Social Studies program covers a variety of themes and subjects. The goal is to present the information with a respectful and balanced tone. While no curriculum will ever be able to satisfy all the beliefs, opinions or values held by each family, there are several approaches that you can take in these situations. One approach is to skip over the material in question. Another suggestion would be to use this as an opportunity for a special teachable moment. Review the material with your child. Discuss your feelings about the material, idea or value presented. Take the opportunity to prepare your child for the diversity of thought/opinion in the world and the need to be discerning of principles and ideas that may challenge yours.

There is a definite balance between having the freedom that homeschool brings and the responsibility you assume in educating your child. The good news is that most families find that balance and it works for them.
As you progress along the journey, you will have moments of frustration and moments that make it all worthwhile. Remember to keep it in perspective. Homeschool parents live for those moments when their children are most teachable. You will know when those moments happen as you can see the light go on, they really get it. Cherish those times and use them as the fuel to motivate you through the tough times.

Thank you for choosing Pearson as a partner in your homeschool journey. We know the importance that you place in taking the time to teach your child and we appreciate your trust in us to help you and your child achieve the best education possible.

For additional programs to support your child’s social studies curriculum, please visit our website at: www.PearsonHomeschool.com

For product related questions, please contact 1-800-848-9500 or complete the Contact Us form available on our website.