Homeschool bundle includes:

• Student Edition
• Student Journal
• Student Journal Answer Key
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.

Because You Know What Matters Most

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.
myWorld Geography and myWorld History are middle school social studies programs to help your child connect, experience, and understand the world, as they transfer their learning beyond the textbook. The core components include the Student Edition, the Student Journal, and hands-on activities. These are all tied together through the Understanding by Design® (UbD) model of instruction. The UbD model features enduring understanding and transfer of learning, so the important ideas or core processes have lasting value throughout your child’s life. The carefully constructed Essential Questions guide learning, while helping children explore concepts, build knowledge, and transfer ideas throughout their lesson and into the real world. Each chapter begins with an Essential Question that frames the lesson and drives students to unlock the answer through the stories, activities, games, the student journal, and projects.

Through the myWorld Geography and myWorld History programs, your child will develop a deeper understanding of the content by making personal connections to the people and places in the myStory feature. These stories from students around the world bring cultural diversity to life, and enhance your child’s perspective on how geography and history influences culture and industry.

*Understanding by Design is registered as a trademark with the Patent and Trademark Office by the Association for Supervision of Curriculum Development (ASCD). ASCD has not authorized or sponsored this work and is in no way affiliated with Pearson or its products.

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
The myWorld Geography and myWorld History Student Editions are presented in a 3-step process: Connect, Experience, and Understand. Connect introduces your child to the stories, families, hopes, and challenges of 23 real teens from different countries to gain a deeper understanding of the world around them. Experience introduces your child to the world through innovative assignments and hands-on activities designed to go beyond the printed page and into the active world they live in. Understand is about ensuring your child is not just reading content, but also making sure they “get it”. myWorld Geography and myWorld History follows the Understanding by Design approach that focuses on exploring concepts, building knowledge, and transferring ideas throughout the lessons.

Your child will learn the key concepts of geography and history with interactive activities that make learning fun and exciting. Each chapter opens with a myStory passage to introduce the lesson and is followed by Key Ideas supporting the text your child will read. Brief assessments are at the end of each section, concluding with the chapter assessment questions to measure your child’s understanding of the skills and concepts covered in the chapter in whole.

Using the Student Journal
The Student Journal will help your child as they progress through worksheets and writing exercises. They will uncover the relevance of each chapter to their lives. The Essential Questions from the chapter set up the Student Journal to help your child reflect, interact and write about their experiences as they explore the material. It also provides graphic organizers, chapter support, and a two page writing exercise to help demonstrate enduring understanding as your child transfers learning to their world.

Using the Student Journal Answer Key
The Student Journal Answer Key corresponds with the Student Journal, providing suggestions for assessing Writer’s Workshop essays, extra guidance for working with Essential Questions, and answers for all Student Journal activities.
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
- main ideas of the lesson
- key concepts
- questions to ask
- activities to do
- potential field trip ideas
- assignments given
- materials and resources needed

myWorld Geography and myWorld History each cover approximately 36-40 weeks of material. Each course begins with the Core Concepts Handbook that covers general content before proceeding into specific themes. Each of the chapters is divided into 3-5 sections, breaking the content into smaller lessons. Each section is designed to be covered in one or two days - depending on the amount of time you set aside for lessons and the amount of extra content you will cover.

Each lesson begins with a reading passage that introduces the topic to your child. Next, the lessons cover the Essential Question that frames the lesson and drives students to unlock the answer through the stories, the Student Journal, and projects through the program. Each chapter is presented in the following order:

- Essential Question – the essential topic your child will learn throughout the lesson
- myStory – Engaging stories to help your child develop a deeper understanding of the content by making a personal connection to another child’s life. Featured in the reading is a description of that child’s culture, language, history and geography.
- Key Ideas – Key concepts and terms that are demonstrated in the lesson.
- Reading Check – Stopping points for you to intervene and review your child’s understanding of what has been covered.
- Section Assessments – Brief questions regarding the lesson’s concepts supporting the Essential Question.
- Chapter Assessments – In-depth questions about the chapter to assess your child’s knowledge of concepts and skills.

Throughout each lesson you and your child will encounter additional features that support the lessons, and challenge your child to think more deeply about the concepts and the Essential Question. Additionally, as your child progresses through the course, he or she should follow along in the Student Journal to apply their skills to the supporting exercises.

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

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 myWorld Geography and myWorld History programs 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 to ensure your child understands the material. The lesson plans can fit in either a 1- or 2-day schedule, and include numerous extended exercises to further challenge your child. Incorporate these additional elements while considering the progression of your child. This will allow you to keep your child engaged and interested, without overwhelming them or under-challenging them.

**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. Check your local museums for exhibits to enhance your teaching curriculum, and align your lesson plans to incorporate those events. Don’t forget to 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. 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 submit the Contact Us form available on our website.