

Lessons plans for Mystery of History Volume 2 Quarter 2

Mystery of History Volume 2 by Linda Hobar

Lesson plans by Nicki Truesdell

This is the printable PDF. If you read the same version on my website, you'll find links to everything mentioned here, and more.

The Fire Spreads: C. 500 to 871

See my blog post (and free printable list) 74 of the best Medieval books for kids and teens

If you are using Institute for Excellence in Writing lessons, now is the time to begin *Medieval History-Based Writing Lessons*. (We have the 2016 edition, which I refer to here.)

22. Daily Life in the Dark Ages

- Research the Feudal System and create a chart, or pyramid, that illustrates it
- Research the church hierarchy (priests, bishops, etc.) and create a chart illustrating it
- Begin reading *Castle* by David Macaulay
- Begin reading *Cathedral* by David Macaulay
- Notebooking page or Copywork Ephesians 3:10
- Optional activities for Lesson 22
- Optional IEW Lessons 1&2: The Middle Ages

23. King Arthur and the Knights of the Round Table

- This could be a topic to do an extended study on if your kids are interested! Be open to spending an extra day, like we did, (or a few!) here, or on any other topic of interest.
- Begin reading a version of King Arthur's story from the Companion Guide, Section C: Supplemental Books and Resources
- After reading King Arthur, consider reading *Wulf the Saxon* by G.A. Henty (and download my free study guide)
- Get and peruse a copy of the *Anglo Saxon Chronicle* (see A.D. 514)
- Read *The Birth of Britain* by Winston Churchill, Chapter 4: The Lost Island
- Study [this map of Saxon Invasions](#)
- YouTube: [Anglo Saxons Explained in 10 Minutes](#)
- Check out [this website with links to Arthurian locations in Great Britain](#)
- Consider this detailed [King Arthur coloring book](#)
- Notebooking page OR Copywork quote from Howard Pyle
- Discuss familiar terms from King Arthur's tales that are part of our culture: holy grail, Excalibur, Camelot, round table, etc.

- Optional activities for Lesson 23
- Timeline: King Arthur and the Knights of the Round Table 503 A.D.
- Optional IEW Lesson 3: Anglo Saxons
- Optional IEW Lesson 4: Beowulf (this is not in the same order as the MOH text, but since IEW introduces writing concepts in order, this is a recommended place to do it.)

24. Justinian and Theodora, Rulers of the Byzantine Empire

- Do the map activity (1) with the first section of the text
- [Drive Thru History Ancients](#), Asia Minor 2-1, 2-6
- YouTube: [The Byzantine Empire Explained in 13 Minutes](#)
- Notebooking page OR Copywork quote by Justinian
- Optional activities for Lesson 24 (we did 3B2 and 3C1 and 2)
- Timeline Justinian I and Theodora 527-565.
- Optional IEW Lesson 5: The Byzantine Empire

Do Week 24 Exercise

Review Challenge Cards for Lessons 1-24

If you are incorporating *Science in the Ancient World* by Berean Builders, Lessons 46 and 47 go perfectly here.

25. Columba, Missionary to Scotland

- History of Britain and Ireland: p. 38-39
- Anglo Saxon Chronicle A.D. 519-565
- YouTube: [The Book of Kells](#) and [Making a Medieval Manuscript Like the Book of Kells](#)
- Picture book: [Marguerite Makes a Book](#)
- This [Illuminated Manuscripts detailed coloring book](#) is amazing, and would be perfect for many days of listening to read-alouds!
- Notebooking page OR copywork: create an illuminated page with scripture
- [Here are some free printable examples](#) to get started
- Drive Thru History Ends of the Earth: Episode 5 *UK and Ireland*
- Optional activities for Lesson 25
- Consider a book recommendation from Companion Guide Section C- Supplemental Books and Resources for Lesson 25
- Timeline Columba 563
- Map activity 1

26. Early Japan and Prince Shotoku

- YouTube: Ainu people ([short video](#)) or ([longer video](#))
- Apologetics: Read “Shintoism” in *Today’s Handbook of Religions*, p. 339
- My kids love sushi, so we put it on the lunch menu for this day!
- Notebooking page OR copywork on Taoism
- Optional activities for Lesson 26

- Consider a book recommendation from Companion Guide Section C- Supplemental Books and Resources for Lesson 26
- Timeline Prince Shotoku 573
- Map activity 2 (we did not make the model; we labeled and colored an enlarged map of Japan instead)

27. Gregory the Great

- Read 1 Peter 5:1-4
- Define Lombards
- Read more about the Gregorian Chant [at Songs and Hymns](#) and [Britannica](#), and sing [When I Survey the Wondrous Cross acapella](#)
- See the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle A.D. 692
- Notebooking page OR copywork 1 Peter 5: 1-4
- Optional activities for Lesson 27
- Consider a book recommendation from Companion Guide Section C- Supplemental Books and Resources for Lesson 27
- Timeline Gregory the Great 590
- Optional: IEW Medieval writing lesson 6 (Augustine)

Do Week 9 Quiz and review Challenge Cards Lessons 1-27

28. The Sui and Tang Dynasties of China

- Notebooking page OR copywork quote James Murdoch
- Optional activities for Lesson 28
- Consider a book recommendation from Companion Guide Section C- Supplemental Books and Resources for Lesson 28
- Timeline the Sui and Tang Dynasties 589, 618

29. Mohammed and the Birth of Islam

- Drive Thru History Ancients, Asia Minor 1-4
- Look in a “flags of the world” book to see how many nation’s flags include the symbol for Islam
- Read Chapter 4 of *Don’t All Religions Lead to God?*
- Read Islam p. 377 in *Handbook of Today’s Religions*
- YouTube: Voice of the Martyrs [Muslims Asking Questions, Finding Jesus](#)
- Voice of the Martyrs [“Christians Facing Islamist Extremists”](#)
- Begin reading *Mosque* by David Macaulay
- Notebooking page OR copywork quote from Josh McDowell
- Optional activities for Lesson 29
- Consider a book recommendation from Companion Guide Section C- Supplemental Books and Resources for Lesson 29
- Timeline Mohammed and the Birth of Islam 622

30. The Spread of Islam

- Same as above for extras
- Optional activities for Lesson 30
- Consider a book recommendation from Companion Guide Section C- Supplemental Books and Resources for Lesson 30

- Timeline Mohammed and the Spread of Islam 632
- Map Activity 2 and 3
- Optional: IEW Medieval writing lesson 7 (Mohammed)

Do Week 10 Quiz and Challenge Cards for Lessons 1-30

31. Wu Zetian, the Empress of China

- Consider “Illustrated Stories from China” by Usborne Books
- Research pagodas in China
- Optional activities for Lesson 30
- Notebooking page
- Consider a book recommendation from Companion Guide Section C- Supplemental Books and Resources for Lesson 31
- Timeline Wu Zetian, the Empress of China

32. The Epic of Beowulf

- Read or listen to a translation of Beowulf from recommendations in Companion Guide Section C- Supplemental Books and Resources for Lesson 32
- J.R.R. Tolkien also wrote a translation (he was a professor of Anglo Saxon, in case you didn’t know!)
- Draw a dragon from Draw and Write Through History: The Vikings, the Middle Ages, and the Renaissance or color dragons from this Dragons coloring book
- Notebooking page OR Copywork quote from Beowulf
- Optional activities for lesson 32
- Map activity 1
- Timeline The Epic of Beowulf 700s

33. Al-Andalus: “The Ornament of the World” in Medieval Spain

- This is a fascinating look at the medieval world and the three (still) dominant religions.
- Research the Rock of Gibraltar, Straits of Gibraltar
- Notebooking page OR Copywork 1 Corinthians 1:18
- Optional activities for lesson 33
- Consider a book recommendation from Companion Guide Section C- Supplemental Books and Resources for Lesson 33
- Map activity 2 and 3
- Timeline Al-Andalus: “The Ornament of the World” in Medieval Spain 711
- Optional: IEW Medieval writing lesson 8 (Ali and the Sultan’s Saddle)

Do Week 11 Quiz and Challenge Cards for lessons 1-33

34. St. Boniface, Apostle to Germany

- Drive Thru History *Ends of the Earth*: Episode 6 : Northern Europe
- Notebooking page OR Copywork quote from St. Boniface
- Optional activities for lesson 34

- Consider a book recommendation from Companion Guide Section C- Supplemental Books and Resources for Lesson 34
- Map activity 1
- Timeline St. Boniface, Apostle to Germany 718

35. The Iconoclast Controversy

- The Story of Christianity p. 305-306
- Stress understanding of East (Byzantine) and West (Roman Empire church)
- Notebooking page OR Copywork Exodus 20:3-5
- Optional activities for lesson 35
- Consider a book recommendation from Companion Guide Section C- Supplemental Books and Resources for Lesson 35
- Timeline The Iconoclast Controversy 726

36. Charles “Martel” and the Battle of Tours

- After reading this lesson, it’s interesting to think about Providence as our founders often did: America as we know it might not exist without the Battle of Tours! This is why learning chronological history is so important.
- Notebooking page OR Daniel 2:21
- Optional activities for lesson 36
- Consider a book recommendation from Companion Guide Section C- Supplemental Books and Resources for Lesson 36
- Map activity 2
- Timeline Charles “Martel” and the Battle of Tours 732

Do Week 12 quiz/exercise and challenge cards for lessons 1-36

Read *The Birth of Britain* (Churchill) Chapter 5: England

37. Charlemagne

- Read *The Story of Christianity* Chapter 29
- Also: *Trial and Triumph: Stories from Church History*, Chapter 10
- Read the *Song of Roland*
- Research a map of the “papal states”
- Notebooking page OR
- Optional activities for lesson 37
- Consider a book recommendation from Companion Guide Section C- Supplemental Books and Resources for Lesson 37
- Map activity 1
- Timeline Charlemagne 768

38. The Thousand and One Nights: Tales from Arabia

- Read a copy of Arabian Nights stories or listen to the Jim Weiss audio version (and see how many classic Disney movies you recognize in these stories)
- [Check out these learning activities from Sinbad](#)
- [Check out these Aladdin-inspired learning ideas](#)
- Notebooking page
- Optional activities for lesson 38

- Map activity 2
- Timeline The Thousand and One Nights: Tales from Arabia 786
- Optional: IEW Medieval writing lesson 16 (The Magic Lamp)

39. Invasion of the Vikings

- The Viking age is another subject that makes a fun extended study!
- DVD: [Vikings, Journey to New Worlds](#) (kid friendly)
- Anglo-Saxon Chronicle A.D. 793
- Read: *The Dragon and the Raven* by G.A. Henty (and download my study guide)
- Look up Viking runes
- Draw a Viking ship or longhouse from *Draw and Write Through History: The Vikings, the Middle Ages, and the Renaissance*
- Notebooking page OR
- Optional activities for lesson 39
- Map activity 3
- Timeline Invasion of the Vikings 793
- Read *The Birth of Britain* (Churchill) Chapter 6: The Vikings

Do Week 13 quiz and challenge cards for Lessons 1-39

40. The Vikings: Their Families, Their Homes, and Their Faith

- Continue reading a selection from above
- Consider reading [D'aulaire's Norse Myths](#)
- Optional activities for lesson 40
- Notebooking page
- Timeline Vikings 800-1100

41. Methodius and Cyril, Missionaries to the Slavs

- Drive Thru History *To the Ends of the Earth*: Episode 7: Russia and Eastern Europe
- Notebooking page OR copywork
- Optional activities for lesson 41
- Definitely do Map activity 1
- Consider a book recommendation from Companion Guide Section C- Supplemental Books and Resources for Lesson 41
- Timeline Methodius and Cyril, Missionaries to the Slavs 863

42. Alfred the Great, King of England

- Continue reading *The Dragon and the Raven* by G.A. Henty (with my free study guide)
- Read *Birth of Britain* by Churchill chapters 7-8
- High School students consider reading *The White Horse King*
- Consider reading *King Alfred's English*
- Consider a book recommendation from Companion Guide Section C- Supplemental Books and Resources for Lesson 42
- Notebooking page OR copywork
- Optional activities for lesson 42
- Map activity 2
- Timeline Alfred the Great, King of England 871

Do Week 14 Quiz and Challenge Cards for Lessons 1-42

Do Worksheet 2: Lessons 22-42

Optional: Semester 1 Test Lessons 1-42

If there were any movies you wanted to watch, and didn't get to, the end of Quarter 2 is a good time for that!