

Lessons plans for Mystery of History Volume 2 Quarter 3

Mystery of History Volume 2 by Linda Hobar

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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 Grows: 874 to 1192

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

We used *Medieval History-Based Writing Lessons* from Institute for Excellence in Writing with this curriculum. (We have the 2016 edition, which I refer to here.)

I really love [Royal Panoply: Brief Lives of the English Monarchs by Carolly Erickson](#). Feel free to use it as you move through British history!

As I mentioned in the introduction to the lesson plans for Volume 2, our family is adding a more focused study of British history, as our ancestral roots are extremely British. If you are interested in this, I highly recommend the docu-drama series *Monarchy* by David Starkey. It's available on YouTube. I'll note which episodes match different individual lessons below.

Download the accompanying copywork for this quarter!

The first three lessons in this quarter are from three different geographic regions, and could be expanded as much as you want! Dive into Iceland, New Zealand, and Zimbabwe with books, videos, crafts, and food.

43. Lydveldid Island (Iceland)

- Watch a 7-minute [YouTube video](#) about Iceland's geography
- Consider [The Story of Rolf and the Viking Bow](#) as suggested in the Companion Guide
- Notebooking page or Copywork quote from Book of the Islanders
- Optional activities for lesson 43

- Discuss Icelandic names and how different they are
- Timeline Lydveldid Island (Iceland) 874

44. The Maori of New Zealand

- Watch a [27-animated documentary](#) on the Maori on YouTube
- Get out your atlas and explore Oceania

- We enjoyed talking about New Zealand as the main film location for Lord of the Rings
- Notebooking page
- Optional activities for lesson 44
- Consider one or more book recommendations from the Companion Guide
- Timeline The Maori of New Zealand C. 900

45. The Great Zimbabwe of Africa

- Using an atlas, explore Africa and locate Zimbabwe
- Watch a video on [The Great Zimbabwe](#) on YouTube
- Consider the book suggestions on Zimbabwe in the Companion Guide
- Optional activities for Lesson 4
- Notebooking page
- Timeline The Great Zimbabwe of Africa C. 900
- Consider making the Balloon Globe in Review 15: SomeWHERE in Time

Do Week 15 Exercise

Review Challenge Cards for Lessons 1-45

46. “Good King Wenceslas”

- Introduce the lesson by listening to the song. We listened to the [Bing Crosby version](#).
- Notebooking page OR Copywork from the song
- Optional activities for Lesson 46
- Consider book recommendations from Lesson 46
- Timeline Good King Wenceslas 929.

47. Otto I and the Holy Roman Empire

- This is an important point in European (and world) history, so take it slowly!
- Optional activities for Lesson 47
- Consider a book recommendation from Companion Guide Section C- Supplemental Books and Resources for Lesson 47
- Timeline Otto I and the Holy Roman Empire

48. Vladimer I of Russia

- YouTube: [10 most beautiful cathedrals and churches in Russia](#)
- Drive Thru History *Ends of the Earth* Episode 7
- Notebooking page OR copywork about the cathedrals
- Optional activities for Lesson 48
- Consider a book recommendation from Companion Guide Section C- Supplemental Books and Resources for Lesson 48
- Timeline Vladimer I of Russia

- Map activity in Review 16

Do Week 16 Quiz

Review Challenge Cards for Lessons 1-48

49. The Song Dynasty of China

- We enjoyed the *Usborne Illustrated Stories from China*
- If you haven't previously, read through *Great Civilizations of the East: The Chinese Empire*
- YouTube: [Discovering China – The Song Dynasty](#)
- Notebooking page
- Optional activities for Lesson 49
- Consider a book recommendation from Companion Guide Section C- Supplemental Books and Resources for Lesson 49
- Timeline The Song Dynasty of China 960

50. St. Simon and the Coptic Orthodox Church

- Notebooking page OR copywork Matthew 17:20
- Optional activities for Lesson 50
- Consider a book recommendation from Companion Guide Section C- Supplemental Books and Resources for Lesson 50
- Timeline St. Simon and the Coptic Orthodox Church 979
- Map activity 1

51. Eric the Red and the Settlement of Greenland

- On a globe, map, or atlas, look at Greenland
- Notebooking page
- Optional activities for Lesson 51
- All of the book recommendations from Companion Guide Section C- Supplemental Books and Resources for Lesson 51 are excellent!
- Timeline Eric the Red and the Settlement of Greenland 985
- Map activity 2

Review Challenge cards for Lessons 1-51

52. Leif Ericsson Discovers America

- Do the Canada map activities FIRST
- [Leif the Lucky by the D'Aulaires](#) is a wonderful book for middle school
- Notebooking page OR cursive copywork from [Draw and Write Through History: The Vikings, the Middle Ages, and the Renaissance](#)
- Talk about “Eric’s Son” and other similar last names
- Optional activities for Lesson 52
- Consider a book recommendation from Companion Guide Section C- Supplemental Books and Resources for Lesson 52

- Timeline Leif Ericsson Discovers America 1003

We've reached the end of the first millennium after Christ!

53. MacBeth, King of Scotland

- Consider Ten Tales from Shakespeare by Charles and Mary Lamb
- Now is a great time for building a model castle or drawing castles from the Draw and Write Through History volume listed in the previous lesson
- After the reading the text, listen to this [2-hour audio version of MacBeth by Shakespeare on Audible](#)
- Optional activities for Lesson 53
- Notebooking page OR Shakespeare's MacBeth copywork
- Consider a book recommendation from Companion Guide Section C- Supplemental Books and Resources for Lesson 53
- Timeline MacBeth, King of Scotland 1040

54. El Cid, A Spanish Hero

- Notebooking page
- Optional activities for lesson 54
- Consider the movie and book recommendations from Companion Guide Section C- Supplemental Books and Resources for Lesson 54
- Timeline El Cid, a Spanish Hero 1040

Week 18 Quiz

Review Challenge Cards for Lessons 1-54

55. William the Conqueror and the Battle of Hastings

- This is another lesson that can and should be extended to really explore all facets!
- *Monarchy* Season 1 Episode 3 "Conquest" on YouTube
- We read *Wulf the Saxon* by G. A. Henty. (Download my [free study guide for Wulf the Saxon](#) here. It is an in-depth study of the people, places, and culture of this very important time, including a frame-by-frame explanation of the Bayeux Tapestry.) You can listen to the [Jim Hodges audiobook on Audible](#).
- If you can find a copy of *The Striped Ships* by Eloise Jarvis McGraw, grab it and read it!
- If you are reading Churchill's *History of the English Speaking People*, continue in *The Birth of Britain* Chapters 9 – 11 (or Book II Chapters I and II)
- Continue in *History of Britain* pgs 68-81
- Read David Macaulay's *Cathedral* if you haven't yet.
- The [Domesday Book](#) is the record of England that William the Conqueror started. You can purchase a copy today!
- Notebooking page OR Copywork quote from *Wulf the Saxon*
- Optional activities for lesson 55
- Consider a book recommendation from Companion Guide Section C- Supplemental Books and Resources for Lesson 55

- Map activity 2
- Timeline William the Conqueror and the Battle of Hastings 10
- Optional: IEW Medieval writing lesson 15: *A Year to Remember: The Battle of Hastings*

Consider also watching *Monarchy* episodes 4, 5, and 6 on YouTube

56. Pope Gregory VII, Henry IV, and The Investiture Controversy

- Drive Thru History *Ends of the Earth: Episode 6 : Northern Europe*
- Notebooking page
- The optional activities for lesson 56 are excellent!
- Consider a book recommendation from Companion Guide Section C- Supplemental Books and Resources for Lesson 56
- Map activity 1
- Timeline Pope Gregory VII, Henry IV, and the Investiture Controversy 1076

Birth of Britain (Churchill) Book II chapters III, IV, and V

57. The Early Crusades

- Understanding the Crusades is very important, because they are misunderstood and misrepresented today. Take the time for the extra reading suggestions from the Companion Guide as well as the optional activities for this lesson.
- Do Map Activity 1 first
- Read History of Britain p. 82-83
- Notebooking page
- Timeline The Early Crusades 1096

Week 19 Exercise

Review Challenge Cards for Lessons 1-57

58. The Petrobrusians and the Waldensians

- I highly recommend *Trial and Triumph* for this entire study, including Chapter 14 for this lesson.
- Notebooking page OR Copywork quote by Peter Waldo
- Optional activities for lesson 58
- Consider a book recommendation from Companion Guide Section C- Supplemental Books and Resources for Lesson 58
- Timeline The Petrobrusians and the Waldensians 1100s

59. Eleanor of Aquitaine, The Queen of Two Nations

- Notebooking page

- Optional activities for lesson 59
- Consider a book recommendation from Companion Guide Section C- Supplemental Books and Resources for Lesson 59
- Map activity 1
- Timeline Charlemagne 768

60. The Jews of the Middle Ages

- Notebooking page
- All of the optional activities for lesson 60 are excellent suggestions
- Timeline The Jews of the Middle Ages (Optional) 12th century (1100s)

If you're using *Science in the Ancient World*, it's time for Lesson 48: Robert Grosseteste (c. 1175-1253) as well as the bonus lesson 49: A Curved Mirror

Do Week 20 Quiz

Review Challenge Cards for Lessons 1-60

61. Richard the Lionhearted, Saladin, and the Third Crusade 1192

- Begin reading a version of Robin Hood
- Read *Birth of Britain* Book II Chapter VI Coeur de Lion
- Read History of Britain p. 82-83
- Notebooking page
- Consider a book recommendation from Companion Guide Section C- Supplemental Books and Resources for Lesson 61
- Optional activities for lesson 61
- Map activities 1 & 2
- Timeline Richard the Lionhearted, Saladin, and the Third Crusade 1192

62. The Classic Tale of Robin Hood

- Continue reading Robin Hood
- Consider the Robin Hood TV series from BBC for older kids
- *Ivanhoe* is another great classic to read, as Robin Hood plays a part
- Optional activities for lesson 62
- Consider a book recommendation from Companion Guide Section C- Supplemental Books and Resources for Lesson 62
- Notebooking page OR Robinhood copywork
- Timeline Robin Hood (approx. 1200)

63. The Shoguns and Samurai of Japan

- <https://amzn.to/3PkeHMG>Read the Samurai's Tale! Exciting historical fiction
- Draw a Samurai from Draw and Write Through History
- Explore the book [Step Into Ancient Japan](#) by Fiona Macdonald
- Notebooking page
- Optional activities for lesson 63
- Consider a book recommendation from Companion Guide Section C- Supplemental Books and Resources for Lesson 63

- Timeline Shoguns and Samurai of Japan 1192

Review Challenge Cards for Lessons 1-62

Do Worksheet 3 Test

If there were any movies you wanted to watch, or books you wanted to read and didn't get to, the end of Quarter 3 is a good time for that!