

Eastern Hemisphere Explorer

by Amber Densmer

Sonlight Curriculum “Eastern Hemisphere Explorer”, Fifth Edition

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“Do to others what you would have them do to you” (Matthew 7:12).

“The worker is worth his keep” (Matthew 10:10).

Published by

Sonlight Curriculum, Ltd.

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Littleton, CO 80122-2705

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Printed in the United States of America.

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Introduction

How to Use This Guide

Once upon a time there was a little boy who dreamed of discovering new lands. He imagined traveling to the end of the world without falling off the edge, guiding his ship through boiling hot oceans, overcoming a mutiny on board, conquering pirates, and even escaping deadly sea monsters. He dreamed of amazing adventures, world-wide fame, and wealth beyond compare.

Many years later, this young boy was able to convince the king and queen of Spain to pay him to go on the adventure of his dreams. He left his family and friends for the great unknown and returned with news that changed the world forever.

You know this little boy by the name Christopher Columbus. Many other explorers, such as Sir Francis Drake, Amerigo Vespucci, and Vasco de Gamma also dared to stretch the borders of the map. With the *Eastern Hemisphere Explorer*, you too can journey to the far side of the world and discover places you've never even heard of. To start your own adventure, just follow the instructions in the following sections.

To Note Throughout

When Columbus came back from his trip, he had to report everything he discovered to King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella because they paid for his trip. To make a good report, he kept an exploration log of all the things he discovered. This *Eastern Hemisphere Explorer* will become your exploration log of your travels this year.

We recommend that you place these pages in a three-ring notebook so that you can easily add artifacts and projects as you go. By the end of the year, we expect that you'll have quite a collection of memorabilia from your travels.

Since you are set out to *discover* new lands this year, you will find that your encyclopedia should become a tool rather than a text book. You will use it to help you find facts, define key phrases, "interview" famous people, plot map points, and dig up history.

Please keep in mind that you probably won't find all of the information you need located in one place! Look for keywords in questions that you can use as you search the encyclopedia that you think might lead you down the right trail to the answer. For

help learning how to select the best search terms for more efficient searching, see the "Search Smartly" page in the beginning of your Student Exploration Pages. Also, please don't feel restricted to using the World Book for all of your investigations. For some questions, you may want to do some research online, and note that **Challenge** questions will definitely stretch your thinking. You may have to look in other sources to find the answer to some of these questions.

First Experiences






Just as world explorers hopped over the side of a dinghy to wade the last few feet through the sea when they climbed the shore of a new land, you too will "get your feet wet" at each stop along your journey. Your first assignment in each section will open your eyes to one of the most unique, fascinating, beautiful, or intriguing aspects of each country or region. And of course, your assignments will be as varied as the countries themselves, so be prepared for something new each stop you make.

Mapping

Before you set off to discover news lands, you'd better make sure you can read a map so you know where you are going!

You'll have at least one blank map of each area you visit. As you complete your *Eastern Hemisphere Explorer*, label the points you discover on this map. When adding points to your map, also complete the map key. Someone else should be able to look at your colorful and fun map with the key and understand every symbol, color and shading.

You may need to do a little research to label everything—not all of your map identifications will be easily copied from the country map found in the beginning of each article. Here are some symbols you might use:

- | | |
|---|--|
| • Seaport  | • Mineral resource  |
| • Mountain  | • Taj Mahal  |
| • Railroad Crossing  | |

Just the Facts

Here's where you get to record all of the basic information about each country or region you study. Check the "Facts in Brief" link in each country's article to find much of the information you need—but keep in mind that you may also need to look in the articles to complete your task. You'll also be asked to

color a flag or two, so be on the lookout for images of those as you search.

Notable Names

Every hometown has its heroes and you will find the places you'll visit this year are no different. Use the questions provided in this section to help guide your exploration of the lives of these famous people who made their mark in the history of each country or region that you'll see.

Book Box

Since you will learn about each of the places you will visit this year in the other books you're scheduled to read, use a book you've read to fill out the information provided in Book Boxes in each section. You will find a list of suggested titles in the Week 2 Notes of the Core 5 Instructor's Guide.

Journey Jots

As you travel through these new places, you will learn fascinating and fun new facts. Record these on a Journey Jot square. Just fill in the space provided with information about the Jot's topic, or write a list of items related to the information given.

Journey Jots are comprehension-based questions in a more visual format. Answers in this section might be single words, a quick written phrase, or even pictures.

Local Linço

One exciting part about exploring new lands is learning new words. Local Lingo includes words you will stumble upon during your exploration of each country or region. You may need a dictionary for this section!

Key Religion

To better understand the cultures of the lands you'll see this year, you will spend some time unraveling the major world religions that have powerfully shaped the people in this part of the world. Check the encyclopedia articles written about each religion, but don't forget to look under the religion section of each country's article as well. As always, you will need to look around to fully explore the information in this section.

A Closer Look

In some of your destinations, you'll have special mini-projects where you'll investigate a key attribute

of a culture or region. Simply answer the questions you find here to take a closer look at these special features.

Monumental Moments

As you spend time with the people of the lands you visit, you will gather information about important dates and time periods in their history. To keep accurate records of this history, complete the time line for each place you visit. However, rather than marking dates, you will be asked to dig deeper into each significant event to better understand how and why it helped to shape the region's history.

Choose Your Adventure

In each country you visit, you will get to choose at least one adventure. Adventures will help you become an expert about some aspect of that country and will require you to spend some time with outside resources. When you first arrive at a new destination, sit down with Mom or Dad and decide which adventure(s) you will complete by the time you're ready to move on to the next country. Choose carefully! You want to select adventures that are challenging, interesting, and exciting, but you don't want to stretch yourself too thin. Some adventures take longer than others to complete, so be sure to think about how much time you can commit.

Project points will help you with this decision. Each project has a point value based on a scale of one to five, from quick and easy 1-point projects to more difficult and time-consuming 5-point projects. If you have a busy week ahead you may want to choose a 2- or 3- point project rather than a 5-point project for that country. On the other hand, if you want a challenge because you have done several 2- and 3- point projects during the last couple of units, go for a project worth more points! Keep in mind, however, you will study some regions for more than one week. This would also be a good time to try a project with a higher point value.









We recommend completing 50 Project Points in the course of the year.

To help you complete your adventures on time, we have scheduled Adventure checkpoints in which you and Mom or Dad will touch base on how the project is going. Be prepared to give them a thorough update when you meet for your check-point!

(continued ►)

Multiple Intelligences

Individual students learn in different ways. There is not just one, but many different kinds of intelligence. Each Choose Your Adventure project reflects one or more of Howard Gardner's Multiple Intelligences, depicted by the following icons:

-  • Linguistic Intelligence (word smart)
-  • Logical-Mathematical Intelligence (number and reasoning smart)
-  • Spatial Intelligence (picture smart)
-  • Bodily-Kinesthetic Intelligence (body smart)
-  • Musical Intelligence (music smart)
-  • Interpersonal Intelligence (people smart)
-  • Intrapersonal Intelligence (self smart)
-  • Naturalist Intelligence (nature smart)

For more information about how to teach to your child's strengths, we recommend the book *The Way They Learn* by Cynthia Ulrich Tobias (Sonlight Product RR102).

Unique Activities

Besides the sections listed above, you may find a few activities sprinkled in which vary from country to country. Simply follow the directions provided with each new activity.

Reference Instructions

Below are instructions for Choose Your Adventure projects that may be found in more than one country. We have collected them here for easy reference:

Nature Fact Cards

On a 5" x 8" index card or a half sheet of lined paper, include the following:

- the name of the plant or animal and its scientific classification.
- a colored picture of the plant or animal from a magazine or draw and color your own.
- location where the plant or animal lives.
- what the animal eats and if it is an "omnivore," "herbivore," or "carnivore".
- the plant's or animal's average life span.
- its natural predators—does anything eat this plant or animal?

- 3-5 fascinating facts about your animal or plant.
- a brief statement about why you chose to research this creature.

Country Card

On a 5" x 8" sized index card, or half sheet of lined paper, include the following:

- the country's official name
- total area
- population
- location in the world: You can include a map, as long as the map also shows or includes a statement about where in the world this country is found, and does not simply depict the country itself.
- capital city
- type of government
- languages spoken there
- type of money
- name one famous landmark
- briefly describe the geography of this country
- briefly describe the climate of this country
- describe one interesting or unique custom or cultural tradition that is important to the people of this country
- was this country ever controlled by another country? If so, when? By whom?
- three important events in this country's history and why they're important
- three fun or interesting facts about this country

For More Information

See the Core 5 Instructors Guide Links page under Homeschooling Resources at www.sonlight.com for the most up-to-date web site suggestions.

Additional Activities

- Use questions in various parts of the *Eastern Hemisphere Explorer* to play a quiz-type assessment game.
- Combine facts from Journey Jots with other interesting morsels you've learned in your study this year witht— your map activities to create beautiful presentation posters.

Famous Person Cards

If you take interest in a particular historical figure we don't highlight, feel free to complete a Famous Person Card for "extra credit". On a 5" x 8" sized index card, or a half sheet of lined paper include the following:

- person's full name
- his or her picture, if available
- date and place of birth
- family: What were the names of this person's parents? Did this person have any siblings? If so, what were their names?
- childhood: Where did this person grow up? Who did he or she live with? Were there any important world events that occurred during this person's childhood, such as wars or famines, etc.? Did these world events affect this person in any way?
- education: Where did this person go to school? Did he or she go to college? If so, where?
- brief life history: This section should include major events in this person's life, as well as information about why this person is famous.

- three fun facts you learned about this person that you didn't know before.

Where is the Answer Key?

Please note: The Answer Key for the *Eastern Hemisphere Explorer* are now a separate item, #5H53, however, they are still included in your *Eastern Hemisphere Explorer* package when you order #5H51. If you think you are missing the Answer Keys, or if you have any questions, please feel free to contact us.

A Final Note

We hope that you enjoy your adventure this year and that it helps you learn more about the world we live in. If we can be of any assistance, please do not hesitate to e-mail us at main@sonlight.com, call us at (303) 730-6292, or better yet, visit us on the forums at www.sonlight-forums.com, where you can chat with others who are going through this same program. You can ask questions, learn new ideas, share with others what you have learned, problem-solve, or just talk. Happy exploring!

