Check Your Order.

1 Unpack your box and check your packing list to make sure you received everything you ordered.

Note: Items listed below the double dotted line are on back order. We will ship backordered items as soon as all items are in our warehouse. (A backordered item with an asterisk is being reprinted by the publisher. You can check the status of all backorders at www.sonlight.com/backordered.html)

Missing or damaged: Please contact us immediately by e-mail at main@sonlight.com or by phone at (303)730-6292.

Returns: If you decide to return any part of your order, initiate your return at www.sonlight.com/returns.html or follow the directions in your catalog.



Assemble Your Instructor's Guide.

Here is the option most of our customers recommend.

- 1 Put your divider tabs into the large binder.
- 2 Put introductory material up to Section Two of your Core, Language Arts, and Science IGs in front of the first tab.
- 3 Behind divider number one in the large binder, place the first week of your Core, Language Arts, and Science IG pages. Repeat for the remaining 35 tabs/weeks.
- 4 Place Core and Language Arts Appendices, as well as any Science Experiment Write-Ups, behind the appendices divider tab.
- 5 Place your Core Study Guides behind the appropriate tabs in the back of the large binder, followed by Language Arts Answer Keys and Activity Sheets and any Science Answer Keys and Activity Sheets.
- 6 Pull out 3-4 weeks of Core, Language Arts and Science schedule pages and notes to put into a smaller "working" binder. Be sure to include Study Guide and Student Activity Sheets.
- 7 The larger binder is for long-term storage, while the smaller binder for day-to-day use.

To see more organization options go to http://www.sonlight.com/faq-curr-puttogether.html.



Organize Your Books.

- 1 Arrange your books on a shelf by subject and in the order you will read them.
- 2 Once you are certain that you will keep these books, you may want to cut small squares from the extra sticker material we sent you to label the spines of your books. These bright patches of color will readily identify your books as belonging to this year's program (each year has a different color).

Note:

"R" on the patches for books for the Readers

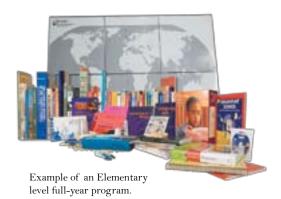
"RA" for Read-Alouds

"H" for History

"S" for Science

- 3 Read the Introduction and the Week 1 schedule and notes in your Instructor's Guides.
- 4 Set aside the books that are listed on the Week 1 schedule. Now you're ready for school!

The 4-day schedule does not use all the Study Guides in the Core IG.



Relax. You are in Control.

Start slow. If you are new to Sonlight or homeschooling in general, your children might be coming out of a classroom school. Expect a normal adjustment period of about one week for each year of school.

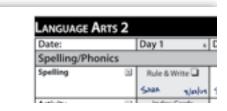
You'll soon get your "rhythm" and be working at a full pace. Once you begin teaching at home, you can (and should) adjust the schedule and activities to meet your family's needs.

Do what's best for your family. Enjoy your time with them! We truly want you to adapt our Instructor's Guides to your family's needs. Remember: One of the prime benefits of homeschooling is the ability to customize your program to fit your children. One size cannot fit all. For instance, it is not uncommon for our customers to take more than a single school year to complete one of our programs.

Your State Requirements

Check <u>www.hslda.org</u> to find out what your state requires for homeschooling records.

If you find it helpful, use your IG schedule pages as your record book for each school year. As you complete an assignment, simply put a check mark or a date in the box.



Tips

Each Week

- Spend a few moments reading the teacher's notes before you start.
- Check the list of Science materials you will need for the following week's experiments. It helps to collect them before you need them.

Each Day

Study Guides

You don't have to use all the discussion questions.
Use them as you see fit.

Scheduling

- The schedule is just a guide. You can slow your schedule down or supplement with additional reading materials if you need to.
- To maximize efficiency, use small Post-It Notes® as bookmarks or placeholders in each IG and each section of the IG. Label them to meet your needs (i.e. "Susie's Read-Aloud" or "Johnny's Reader").
- You can extend the vertical grid lines on your schedule pages or add horizontal lines to write in schedules for other subjects.



More Tips

Each Day (Continued)

Readers and Read-Alouds

- If the amount of reading scheduled for each day is too much for your student to handle at one sitting, try breaking it up throughout the day.
- Let your children's attention span define how much you can reasonably accomplish each day.
- While reading out loud, allow fidgeting kids to engage in quiet activities (coloring, building with blocks, etc).
- Encourage dad to participate. Dad can:
- do some Read-Alouds at bedtime
- start a family reading time
- take Read-Alouds on family trips
- lead Science experiments



Subscribe

If you would like more helpful ideas to smooth out your homeschooling adventure, send an email to tips@sonlight.com and we will email you our biweekly series, "Homeschooling with Excellence."

If you don't have an e-mail account or internet access, you can use a free email service (such as www.gmail.com) and a computer at your local library.

Support

For encouragement or to chat with other homeschoolers, visit our online forums at: <u>www.sonlight.com/forums/visit</u>

The Sonlight® Forums are often *the fastest way* to get answers to any specific questions you may have about our curriculum, general homeschool issues, or just about any concern.

And take comfort in the fact that we're available to help! If you have questions or need some advice contact an experienced mom online via our live chat or e-mail your questions to advisor@sonlight.com or call (303)730-6292, option 3. Our curriculum advisors have faced what you are facing and succeeded. We encourage you to contact an Advisor if you become frustrated or discouraged. Ask questions and let one of our advisors offer advice and encouragement from years of hands-on experience.



http://www.sonlight.com/contact.html



http://www.sonlight-forums.com/visit



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Getting Started

