

September - Summer

# Morning

# Time Plans

## Cultivating Character



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# Welcome,



Pour yourself a cup of coffee, put your feet up, and take a little coffee break with me. Let's talk about Family Style Learning using simple Morning Time plans. Our family found the simplest way to homeschool was to learn as much as we could together as a family. We found the easiest way to do this was by setting time aside each morning to do our Bible, memory work, and humanities together. In our home, we called it family time; you may call it Morning Time, Circle Time, Table Time, Basket Time, or something similar.

Each morning, our family would gather at the table for breakfast and devotions. Then we would congregate on the couch and floor in our family room for our family-style lessons. I would read aloud to the kids while they drew something, built something, or created something with their hands. After discussing the book or chapter we read, we would work on memory work, read some poetry, learn a folk song or hymn, write in our journals, play a game (usually math-related), learn about an artist or composer, draw in our nature journals, discuss current or historical events, do some map work, maybe do a science experiment, and from time to time, read a little Shakespeare.

Did we cover all of these things each day? No way! After family devotions and read-aloud, we would do 2 or 3 of the things mentioned as a family before taking a break and moving on to independent work. In this resource, I have compiled for you our Morning Time Plans we did over the years. Each monthly plan suggests topics to read, discuss, memorize, learn, teach, observe, and do.

Use what you like and what appeals to your family. Skip the rest. Each month is "grab and go." Scripture, memory work, poetry, and art prints are printer ready.

Links are provided for art, science, and music studies. All you need to do is collect picture books and chapter books to read (I share some of my favorites), print what you need, and start. For more ideas on how to use Morning Time Plans, listen to Coffee With Carrie Homeschool Podcast [Episode #130, "Simple Homeschool Solutions: Let's Get Loopy!"](#)

May the Lord bless your homeschooling adventures for His glory,

—Carrie—  
DE FRANCISCO



## Family Devotions & Character Study

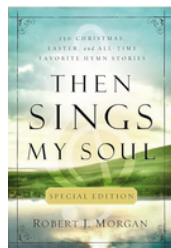
Start each day in prayer and worship. In this year's Morning Time Plans, you and your family will focus on building godly character, developing good habits, and learning social manners. For each character trait, a Bible story and a Bible verse is given that demonstrates the monthly theme. In addition, an example in nature or in the animal kingdom is given that further demonstrates the monthly character theme. You may want to purchase the Character Cards from September & Co. During your family devotion time, do one of these four activities:

**Week One:** Read the suggested Bible story and discuss how the person demonstrated the monthly character trait. Then read the character trait definition given each month or use the Character Cards from September & Co. Brainstorm ways you can demonstrate a particular character trait or fruit of spirit each day or that month. It is helpful to role-play and practice being grateful, respectful, cheerful, etc. Use the theme verse, which correlates to a godly character trait and a fruit of the spirit, as your memory work and/or copy work.

**Week Two:** Read the suggested nature story and discuss how the animal demonstrates the monthly character trait. Review the character trait definition and discuss ways you can demonstrate that particular character trait or fruit of spirit.

**Week Three:** Discuss the monthly list of manners given. Practice using them each day. For fun, role play scenarios when bad manners are used instead of proper etiquette. For example, act out eating and talking with your mouth full instead of chewing quietly.

**Week Four:** Do the monthly hymn study. You will need the book by Robert Morgan, Then Sings My Soul.



## Hymn Study

In this year's Morning Time Plans, you and your family will do a hymn study each month instead of a composer study. Traditional church hymns are full of biblical truths, doctrine, and bible verses. While listening to, singing, and discussing lyrics of traditional hymns, your family will be learning about God, the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and godly character traits. For the hymn study, print the hymn lyrics, one for each child and place it in his/her Memory Work Binder. Each morning, start with family devotions and worship by singing the hymn together. At the beginning of Week Four, read the story of the hymnist from the corresponding chapter in the devotional, Then Sings My Soul, by Robert Morgan.

## Read Aloud

This is the heart and soul of your family-style learning and morning time. It doesn't really matter which classic or which picture books you read; the idea is to spend at least 20 minutes a day reading aloud to your family. Each month, I suggest a few picture books and one chapter book novel to read that correlate to the monthly character theme. However, don't stress over finding the exact picture books. I often found I could go to the library at the beginning of the month with only a list of topics I wanted to cover, and I could find an abundance of picture books to check out. I personally made more work for myself trying to find the exact books recommended in teacher guides and packaged curriculum. Start with the suggested books in each month's Morning Time Plans and then check out or purchase any other treasures you find along the way.

## Memory Work

Create a Memory Work Binder for each child. Each month, print the scripture memory verse, poem, hymn, and/or passage to be read and memorized. Print one of each for each child. Place the memory work pages inside a sheet protector. Then place each sheet into the Memory Work Binder. Another alternative is to purchase [Transparent Menu Covers](#). When you read, recite, or memorize verses, poems, or passages, they are easy to find and use. You can also use dry-erase markers to highlight or underline keywords. For more ideas on how to incorporate memory work into your days, listen to Coffee With Carrie Homeschool Podcast [Episode #116, Memory Work: A Podcast To Remember](#).

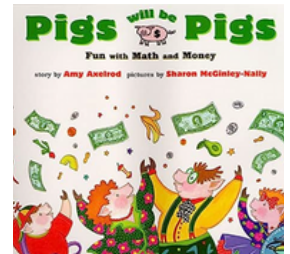
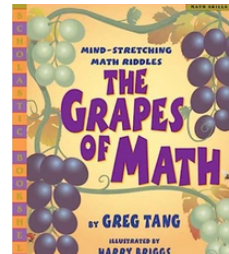
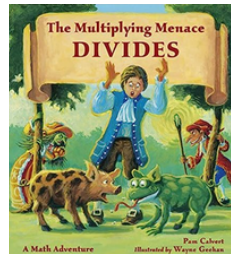
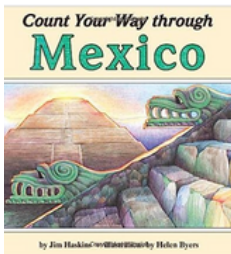
## Poetry

My kids did not enjoy poetry so this was an area I had to be intentional about. I did this by including at least one poem and one poet in our Morning Time Plans each month. Because this was not an area of interest for my children, I made sure I kept poetry time light and enjoyable. Keep it simple. Read the poem with your family and simply enjoy it. It's really that easy! If you want, ask your children to close their eyes while you are reading the poem. Then after, they can narrate what they pictured in their minds, or they can draw an illustration that goes with the poem. Ask what they liked about the poem and what they didn't like. Focus on a new vocabulary word heard in the poem. If you have time, print the poem and place it in your child's Memory Work Binder. Each day or each week, recite the poem and memorize it line by line. For fun, read the poem with different accents. With older kids, you can analyze the rhyming pattern (if there is one). Teens can look for literary devices in the poem such as personification, alliteration, similes, and onomatopoeia. If your child loves to write, then try creating a few original poems about the same topic or using the same rhyming scheme. I honestly think poetry should be read and appreciated; it doesn't need to be over-analyzed. For more ideas on how to have fun with poetry, listen to Coffee With Carrie Homeschool Podcast [Episode #93, "Poetry Tea Time."](#)



## Journal Writing & Writing Activities

Every year, our family did four things during our morning time: Bible, Read Aloud, Journal Writing, and Math. In this year's morning time plans, I have included daily writing prompts for each week as well as a monthly writing activity to introduce concepts such as grammar rules, parts of speech, literary devices, and vocabulary. At the beginning of the year, let each child pick out a new writing journal or notebook. This will be his/her writing journal for the year. Make sure you have one too! During morning time, read one of the suggested writing prompts. Everyone writes for five minutes about the topic given, including mom. If you have a younger student, he or she can draw their story, orally tell their ideas, or dictate their responses to you. After five minutes, everyone stops writing and shares what they wrote. Since this is a journaling and "brain dump" activity, there is no need to correct punctuation, spelling or grammar. If your child would like to continue working on his/her response, he/she can do so during their independent work or free time. Sometime during the month, do the extra writing activity together as a family. I suggest you do it the first week. If your family enjoys the activity or game, then you can repeat it each week for fun.



## Math Read Alouds & Games

While math was usually what my children did during their independent work or one-on-one with me later in the day, I did incorporate math during our morning time through picture books and/or through games. Over the years, I collected quality math picture books to include in our home library. There are an abundance of picture books that teach simple and complex math concepts such as counting, shapes, computation, fractions, multiplication, division, probability, decimals, measurement, ratio and proportions, geometry, and even algebraic concepts. Each month, a list of math picture books is given to read aloud during your morning time. A quick and easy math game is also included. All of the recommended math picture books can found at your local library and on Amazon. The only supplies needed for the math games are a pair of dice, a deck of cards, a stack of paper, and/or a few pencils. For more ideas on how to include math picture books in your morning time, listen to Coffee With Carrie Homeschool Podcast [Episode #19 "Math Morning Time: Tame Those Math Tears and Fears."](#)



## Art Study

Print in color the masterpiece for the month. In our morning time plans, we scheduled two weeks for our art and artist study. If you would like to learn about the artist and his/her work once a week during the entire month, then search the internet for 2-3 other masterpieces by the month's artist. The first week, start with the masterpiece given in the Morning Time Plans. Then each of the following weeks, focus on a different masterpiece by the same artist. Use the same procedure described in the Morning Time Plans on the Art Study pages. Since we purposefully chose famous artists, it will be easy to research the artist on the internet and to find quality picture books at your local library about each artist to dig deeper into his/her life and works. I highly recommend building your own home library of artist picture books. Check out some of our favorite artist picture book series: The Katie Books by James Mayhew, Anholt's Artists Books For Children by Laurence Anholt, Getting to Know the World's Greatest Artists by Mike Venezia, and Smart About Art books. We also invested in as many art card and board games as we could find. It was a great way to review artists we have learned about and to introduce new artists not yet covered. For more information on how to do simple art studies, listen to Coffee With Carrie Homeschool Podcast Episode #15: "Let's Talk Art Studies: What Are They and How To Start."

## Nature Study

At the beginning of the year, let each child pick out a new drawing journal. This will be his/her nature journal for the year. This year, Nature Studies will focus on the Five Kingdoms: Protista, Monera, Fungi, Plants and Animals. Each week, nature study suggestions and science activities are given in the Monthly Morning Time Plans. Feel free to do some, all, or none of them. You can use the activities to supplement whatever you are already doing in science, or they can be your sole science "curriculum" for the year. In the Nature Study section of the Morning Time Plans, drawing, painting, and watercolor instructions, videos, and links are given. The primary objective of doing nature studies is to appreciate God's handiwork in creation, to improve observation skills, to inspire curiosity, and to get outside. Creating Instagram-worthy journal pages is not the goal. After spending time in nature and drawing something that piqued your child's interest, you can stop there. However, if you want to include more, give your child a verse, poem, or inspirational quote to copy next to his/her drawing. If your child is older, he/she can research the item drawn and write facts about it next to his/her drawing or they can spend time labeling the parts of their drawing. For writing, teens can write a few paragraphs about the item drawn. The goal is to observe and enjoy nature. For simple ways to incorporate Nature Studies in your week, listen to past Coffee With Carrie Homeschool Podcast episode.



# February Morning Time Plans



Character Trait  
Obedience

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Simple Homeschooling



## Bible Study

Throughout the month, read and discuss the story of the Joshua and the walls of Jericho (Joshua 6). Focus on the memory verse: Joshua 24:24. Discuss how Joshua obeyed God even when it was hard or confusing. Using suggested verses, older students can do a word study on "obedience" & "self control." Younger students can use suggested verses for copywork.

## Character Study

Discuss the definition of Obedience and its corresponding Fruit of the Spirit: Self Control. Practice being obedient and having self-control. Role play different situations.

## Hymn Study

Listen and memorize the hymn, "Trust and Obey." Learn more about the writer, John Henry Sammis.

## Poetry

Read, discuss, and memorize "Obedience" by George MacDonald.

## Writing

Respond to the journal writing prompts and share. For this month's writing activity, play "Preposition Charades" and "Adverb Antics." Play the board game, "Apples to Apples" to have fun with adjectives and nouns.

## Art Study

Study the "American Gothic" by Grant Wood. Learn about the artist, Grant Wood.

## Math Work

Measure different things and explore Pi. Read math picture books about measurement and circumference.

## Nature Study

Review the Animal Kingdom. Focus on Invertebrates: Arthropods (Arachnids, Insects, and Crustaceans).

## Read Aloud

Read aloud a chapter book about being obedient such as Wind in the Willows by Kenneth Graham and/or Tales of Peter Rabbit by Beatrix Potter. Read picture books about obedience such as Story of Ping by Flack, Make Way for Duckling by McKloskey, No David! by Shannon, Where the Wild Things Are by Sendak, My Mouth is a Volcano by Cook & The Little Red Hen.



### Daily

Read portions of Joshua 6. Memorize Joshua 24:24.  
Memorize a portion of the poem, "Obedience" by MacDonald.  
Listen to "Trust and Obey" and learn it.  
Read aloud from the chapter book, Wind in the Willows (or Tales of Peter Rabbit).  
Read aloud one of the math or character trait picture books.  
Respond to a journal writing prompt.

### Week One

Discuss the definition of obedience and how the Bible character demonstrates this trait.  
Do Week One of Art Study: "American Gothic."  
Do Week One of Nature Study: Arthropods (Invertebrates)  
Do Measurement activity.  
Do the writing activity: Play Preposition Charades.

### Week Two

Review the definition of obedience and self control and learn how different animals demonstrate this trait.  
Do Week Two of Art Study: Create Your Own American Gothic  
Do Week Two of Nature Study: Arachnids (Invertebrates)  
Do Pi Measurement activities.  
Do the writing activity: Play Adverb Antics.

### Week Three

Learn and practice etiquette skills that show obedience.  
Do Week Three of Art Study: Learn about Grant Wood.  
Do Week Three of Nature Study: Insects (Invertebrates)  
Play Pi Card Game.  
Do the writing activity: Play Apples to Apples Adjective Game

### Week Four

Do Hymn Study. Discuss the lyrics. Read about the lyricists and the story behind the hymn. Finish memorizing it.  
Do Week Four of Nature Study: Crustaceans (Invertebrates)  
Practice measuring skills by cooking and baking.



## Memorize

"The people said to Joshua, 'We will serve the LORD our God and obey him.'"  
- Joshua 24:24

## Read Joshua 6

Now Jericho was tightly shut up because of the Israelites. No one went out and no one came in. And the LORD said to Joshua, "Behold, I have delivered Jericho into your hand, along with its king and its mighty men of valor. March around the city with all the men of war, circling the city one time. Do this for six days. Have seven priests carry seven rams' horns in front of the ark. Then on the seventh day, march around the city seven times, while the priests blow the horns. And when there is a long blast of the ram's horn and you hear its sound, have all the people give a mighty shout. Then the wall of the city will collapse and all your people will charge straight into the city."

So Joshua son of Nun summoned the priests and said, "Take up the ark of the covenant and have seven priests carry seven rams' horns in front of the ark of the LORD." And he told the people, "Advance and march around the city, with the armed troops going ahead of the ark of the LORD."

After Joshua had spoken to the people, seven priests carrying seven rams' horns before the LORD advanced and blew the horns, and the ark of the covenant of the LORD followed them. While the horns continued to sound, the armed troops marched ahead of the priests who blew the horns, and the rear guard followed the ark. But Joshua had commanded the people: "Do not give a battle cry or let your voice be heard; do not let one word come out of your mouth until the day I tell you to shout. Then you are to shout!"

So he had the ark of the LORD carried around the city, circling it once. And the people returned to the camp and spent the night there.

Joshua got up early the next morning, and the priests took the ark of the LORD. And the seven priests carrying seven rams' horns kept marching ahead of the ark of the LORD and blowing the horns. The armed troops went in front of them and the rear guard followed the ark of the LORD, while the horns kept sounding. So on the second day they marched around the city once and returned to the camp. They did this for six days.



## Memorize

"The people said to Joshua, 'We will serve the LORD our God and obey him.'"  
- Joshua 24:24

## Read Joshua 6

Then on the seventh day, they got up at dawn and marched around the city seven times in the same manner. That was the only day they circled the city seven times. After the seventh time around, the priests blew the horns, and Joshua commanded the people, "Shout! For the LORD has given you the city! Now the city and everything in it must be devoted to the LORD for destruction. Only Rahab the prostitute and all those with her in her house will live, because she hid the spies we sent. But keep away from the things devoted to destruction, lest you yourself be set apart for destruction. If you take any of these, you will set apart the camp of Israel for destruction and bring disaster upon it. For all the silver and gold and all the articles of bronze and iron are holy to the LORD; they must go into His treasury."

So when the rams' horns sounded, the people shouted. When they heard the blast of the horn, the people gave a great shout, and the wall collapsed. Then all the people charged straight into the city and captured it. With the edge of the sword they devoted to destruction everything in the city—man and woman, young and old, oxen, sheep, and donkeys.

Meanwhile, Joshua told the two men who had spied out the land, "Go into the house of the prostitute and bring out the woman and all who are with her, just as you promised her." So the young spies went in and brought out Rahab, her father and mother and brothers, and all who belonged to her. They brought out her whole family and settled them outside the camp of Israel. Then the Israelites burned up the city and everything in it. However, they put the silver and gold and articles of bronze and iron into the treasury of the LORD's house. And Joshua spared Rahab the prostitute, with her father's household and all who belonged to her, because she hid the men Joshua had sent to spy out Jericho. So she has lived among the Israelites to this day.

At that time Joshua invoked this solemn oath:

"Cursed before the LORD is the man who rises up and rebuilds this city, Jericho; at the cost of his firstborn he will lay its foundations; at the cost of his youngest he will set up its gates." So the LORD was with Joshua, and his fame spread throughout the land.



### Trait

Obedience is the act of willingly complying with the commands, rules, or requests of an authority figure or law, typically out of respect.

### Practicing Obedience and Self Control

Obedience is the act of willingly complying with the commands, rules, or requests of an authority figure or established law, typically out of respect. Self control is needed to be obedient. It is the ability to control your emotions, thoughts, impulses, and behaviors in the face of temptations, choosing long-term goals or values over immediate gratification.

Practice these daily or weekly self control & obedience habits:

- Say "Yes Sir or Yes Mom" with a cheerful tone.
- Come immediately when called and do so with a happy heart.
- Wait patiently for an adult or sibling to help you.
- When you are upset, take a deep breath and count to five before responding.
- Respond to an adult's request immediately without complaining.
- Only use an item or sibling's belonging when given permission.
- Keep your hands and feet to yourself.
- Do school work or chores before play.
- Limit your time on devices.
- Save your favorite treat for another day.

### Examples in Nature

Several animals can be trained to obey and to exhibit self control. Border Collies can stop mid-chase, lie down, or change direction on a single whistle from a shepherd hundreds of yards away. Military and police dogs are trained to obey commands under explosions and extreme distraction. Guide dogs and emotional-support dogs resist the temptation to play when protecting their owners. Even horses, Asian elephants, and many species of marine mammals such as dolphins can be trained to obey subtle voice and touch commands.



## The Good Dog Named Beacon

Once there was a black Labrador Retriever named Beacon, born with a heart full of eagerness and a nose full of curiosity. From the time he was eight weeks old, he was chosen for a special purpose: to become a guide dog for a blind person. Beacon didn't know what "blind" meant yet, but he did know that every day brought new lessons, and every lesson ended with the same quiet praise: "Good dog."

The training began gently. First came the clicker and the word "Yes!" Every time Beacon sat the instant he heard "Sit," the clicker sounded and a tiny piece of kibble appeared. He learned that self-control paid off. Then came the leash and the gentle collar correction—never harsh, just a quick sideways tug and the word "No" if he lunged toward a blowing leaf. Beacon learned that the difference between "I want" and "I must." One bright spring day, his trainer walked him through a busy farmers' market on a loose leash. The air was thick with temptations: a dropped sausage link rolling under a table, the sizzling smell of bacon, children waving hot dogs like flags. Beacon's mouth flooded with saliva. His legs trembled. But the moment his head started to turn, the trainer said, "Beacon, leave it." He froze, took one deep breath, and kept his eyes forward. Click. "Yes!" A plain piece of kibble appeared in his mouth, but the praise in his trainer's voice tasted better than any sausage. He had chosen obedience over desire, and it felt good. Beacon's heart swelled.

At last, the day arrived when Beacon, now two years old and wearing the leather harness for the first time, met his new partner: a young woman named Mia who could not see. Mia's hand rested lightly on the harness handle, and Beacon felt the weight of her trust immediately. Their first big test came on a rainy city sidewalk. They were crossing a wide intersection when a terrified squirrel darted out from under a parked car and raced straight toward them. But in that split second, Beacon heard Mia's calm voice say, "Beacon, forward." He felt the gentle pressure of the harness. He planted his paws, stood firm, and guided Mia straight ahead. The squirrel vanished under a bush. The light changed. They reached the other side safely.

That evening, back in their small apartment, Mia knelt down, unclipped the harness, and wrapped her arms around Beacon's neck. "Thank you for keeping me safe today," she whispered. Beacon thumped his tail and licked her cheek once. He had something far better: the quiet joy of a good dog feels when the person who depends on him is safe because he obeyed.



Etiquette is a set of polite behaviors that show respect and kindness to others in social situations. Practice using the following manners this month.

## MANNERS THAT SHOW SELF CONTROL

Saying “Yes, Mom/Dad” or “Okay” cheerfully the first time you’re asked to do something — no arguing.

Waiting your turn to speak without interrupting.

Keeping your hands to yourself even when you really want to touch something.

Not grabbing food — waiting until everyone is served or until you’re offered food.

Staying seated at the table until excused.

Knocking and waiting for “Come in” before entering a closed room.

Putting electronic devices away when at the dinner table, hanging out with friends, or immediately when an adult says “screen time is over.”

Speaking respectfully (no eye-rolling, sighing, or sarcasm) even when corrected.

Cleaning up your own mess right away instead of leaving it for later.

Waiting to eat a treat until you get home or have permission.

In a public setting, raising your hand and waiting to be called on instead of blurting out.

Going to bed or ending playtime on time without stalling tactics.



## Self Control

"The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control."

Galatians 5:22

## Word Study for Teens

Self-control (often translated from the Greek word *egkrateia* in the New Testament) is a fruit of the Holy Spirit that enables a believer to master their sinful desires and impulses, bringing every thought and action into submission to Christ rather than being ruled by the flesh, emotions, or circumstances. It is not merely human willpower, but Spirit-empowered restraint that flows from love for God and a desire to honor Him in all things.

2 Peter 1:5–6 (NIV) "Make every effort to add to your faith ... self-control; and to self-control, perseverance."

1 Corinthians 9:24–27 (NIV) "Everyone who competes in the games goes into strict training ... I strike a blow to my body and make it my slave."

Proverbs 25:28 (NIV) "Like a city whose walls are broken through is a person who lacks self-control."

Titus 2:11–12 (NIV) "It teaches us to say "No" to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives."

Proverbs 16:32 (NIV) "Better a patient person than a warrior, one with self-control than one who takes a city."

1 Peter 4:7 (NIV) "The end of all things is near. Therefore be alert and of sober mind (self-controlled) so that you may pray."

Titus 2:6 (NIV) "Similarly, encourage the young men to be self-controlled."

1 Thessalonians 5:8 (NIV) "Let us be self-controlled, putting on faith and love as a breastplate."

Proverbs 29:11 (NIV) "Fools give full vent to their rage, but the wise bring it under control."



When we walk with the Lord  
In the light of His Word,  
What a glory He sheds on our way;  
While we do His good will,  
He abides with us still,  
And with all who will trust and obey.

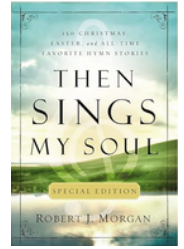
Trust and obey,  
For there's no other way  
To be happy in Jesus,  
But to trust and obey.

Not a shadow can rise,  
Not a cloud in the skies,  
But His smile quickly drives it away;  
Not a doubt or a fear,  
Not a sigh or a tear,  
Can abide while we trust and obey.

Not a burden we bear,  
Not a sorrow we share,  
But our toil He doth richly repay;  
Not a grief or a loss,  
Not a frown or a cross,  
But is blest if we trust and obey.

But we never can prove  
The delights of His love,  
Until all on the altar we lay;  
For the favor He shows,  
And the joy He bestows,  
Are for them who will trust and obey.

Then in fellowship sweet  
We will sit at His feet,  
Or we'll walk by His side in the way;  
What He says we will do;  
Where He sends, we will go,  
Never fear, only trust and obey.

  
WATCH  
LISTEN

# Obedience

By George MacDonald

Trust him in the common light;  
Trust him in the awesome night;

Trust him when the earth doth quake:  
Trust him when thy heart doth ache;

Trust him when thy brain doth reel  
And thy friend turns on his heel;

Trust him when the way is rough,  
Cry not yet, It is enough!

But obey with true endeavour,  
Else the salt hath lost his savour.



## Preposition Charades

**PREPARATION:**

Write at least 25 prepositions on different index cards. Use the list below for ideas. You will also need a stop watch or timer.

**DIRECTIONS:**

How many prepositions can you guess in two minutes?

1. Set the timer for two minutes.
2. Show one player the first preposition index card. He or she acts out the preposition. For example, if the preposition is "under," the player might hide under a table or place something under a chair.
3. If the other players guess correctly, then show the first player the next preposition index card.
4. Continue to show the first player prepositions for two minutes. When the timer goes off, then it is the next player's turn to act out the prepositions.

**PREPOSITIONS**

aboard	behind	inside	through
about	below	instead of	throughout
above	beneath	into	to
according to	beside	like	toward
across	between	minus	under
after	beyond	near	underneath
against	by	of	unlike
along	concerning	off	until
amid	despite	on	up
among	down	opposite	upon
around	during	out	with
aside	except	outside	within
at	for	over	without
because of	from	past	
before	in	since	



## Adverb Antics

**PREPARATION:**

Write at least 25 adverbs that end with an -LY on different index cards. Use the list below for ideas.

**DIRECTIONS:**

Can you guess the Adverb?

1. Designate one player to be the "Guesser." Everyone else will help act out the adverb.
2. The "Guesser" leaves the room so he or she cannot hear the others talking. Show the "Actors" 2 or 3 -LY Adverb cards. As a team, they choose which one they will act out for the "Guesser."
3. When the "Actors" are ready, the "Guesser" re-enters the room. The "Guesser" gives the "Actors" a verb to do such as walk. Then the "Actors" walk in a way that describes the adverb chosen. For example, if the -LY Adverb chosen is "slowly," then all of the "Actors" walk slowly around the room. If the "Guesser" cannot guess the -LY Adverb, then he/she gives the actors another verb to act out. For example, "eat." All of the "Actors" then pretend to eat slowly.
4. After the "Guesser" accurately guesses the correct -LY Adverb, another player takes over as the "Guesser." Play continues until everyone has a chance to be the "Guesser."

• angrily	• crisply	• exactly	• gratefully
• anxiously	• crossly	• excitedly	• greatly
• arrogantly	• curiously	• exclusively	• greedily
• bashfully	• daintily	• expertly	• grumpily
• beautifully	• dangerously	• extremely	• guiltily
• boldly	• darkly	• fairly	• happily
• bravely	• dearly	• faithfully	• harshly
• breathlessly	• deceptively	• famously	• hatefully
• brightly	• delicately	• fearlessly	• heartily
• briskly	• delightfully	• ferociously	• heavily
• carefully	• desperately	• fervently	• helpfully
• carelessly	• determinedly	• finally	• helplessly
• certainly	• diligently	• foolishly	• highly
• cheaply	• disgustingly	• fortunately	• hopelessly
• cheerfully	• distinctly	• frankly	• hungrily
• cleanly	• doggedly	• frantically	• immediately
• clearly	• dreamily	• freely	• importantly
• cleverly	• emptily	• frenetically	• impulsively
• closely	• energetically	• frightfully	• incredibly
• clumsily	• enormously	• fully	• innocently



## Journal Prompts

Read aloud a journal prompt. Set a timer. Free write (or brain dump) for 5 minutes. End with each person sharing what they wrote.

- Write all of the words that rhyme with "man."
- What is the weather like today? Be as descriptive as possible. Pretend you are a weather person.
- Think of an invention that could help you with something you have to do. How would it work?
- Write about a time you were really scared. Why were you scared? What did you do?
- "There once was a little old lady who lived in a shoe....."(finish the story)
- Write a list of everything you can think of that are sharp or pointy.
- Write about a book you are reading.
- Write a commercial or ad for your favorite movie or TV show.
- What is your favorite dessert? Describe it.
- What is one skill you know how to do? Give directions on how to do it. i.e Throw a curve ball, do a particular dance move, make a paper airplane, etc.
- If you could spend the day doing one thing, what would it be? Why?
- "The attic floorboard creaked, and when I lifted it, a dusty map glowed faintly in the dark.....(finish the story)
- Look out your window. What do you see? Be as descriptive as you can.
- Write at least 20 uses of a paper clip. Be creative.
- Make a list of what you did yesterday. Be as detailed as possible.
- Write a story. The title is "The Man in the Moon."
- Tell about your favorite holiday. What makes it special?
- Write a story about the day you really had butterflies in your stomach.
- Make a list of 10 things that make you nervous.
- Retell the fable "The Tortoise and the Hare" in your own words.
- Invent a new superhero. His name is Super Spud. He gets his superpowers from eating potatoes. What is his superpower? What does his look like? Who is his nemesis?



Artist: Grant Wood  
American Gothic  
1930, American  
Oil Painting



## Week One

- 1). Print in color the painting: "American Gothic."
- 2) Show it for 5 minutes. Tell students to study it. Look for details.
- 3). Turn it face down. Ask students to describe the art work from memory.
- 4). Turn the painting face up again. While they are looking at it, ask them to describe it and to pick out details they didn't mention.
- 5). Discuss the print. What is it? Where is it? What do they like about it?

## Week Two

- 1). Learn about the artist, Grant Wood. Watch YouTube video about Wood and his painting, "American Gothic."
- 2). Grant Wood was born on February 13, 1891, on a farm near the small town of Anamosa, Iowa. During his lifetime, his work included small landscape paintings, metalwork, and sculpture crafted out of found materials.
- 3). Following the success of American Gothic, Wood turned to images of the people, life, and landscape of the American heartland.
- 4). His works are painted in a distinctive faux naïve style. The Faux Naïve Style is almost childlike with cartoonish figures. It has little or no realistic perspective where everything appears flat and tends to be playful, whimsical, or dreamlike.



# American Gothic



Artist: Grant Wood  
1891-194, American  
Faux Naïve Style



### Week Three

Create a modern, personalized version of Grant Wood's famous painting American Gothic, starring YOU doing something you love, drawn entirely with colored pencils.

Print a photo of yourself in a serious or neutral expression (mimicking the original painting's stern faces works best for humor). Make the photo fairly large. On a white piece of drawing paper, draw with colored pencils your home. Use up the entire space. Then using art glue or a glue stick, glue your photo on top of your drawing. For fun, give it a title similar to "American Gothic" that describes what you are doing in your photo. i.e. "American Baker," "American Skater," or "American Ball Player."

Alternative Version: Instead of using a photo of yourself, draw yourself in front of your home illustration. Make sure your clothes depict something you would usually wear. Then add an apron if you are a girl or suspenders if you are a boy. Then replace the pitchfork with whatever you love such as a soccer ball, guitar pick, or game controller. Make sure your drawing is "flat." There is no need to add perspective or shadows.



# National Pi ( $\pi$ ) Day

Celebrate Pi Day on March 14 at 1:59 PM. ( $\pi = 3.14159$ )

## What is Pi ?

It is the ratio of a circle's circumference to its diameter. The ratio is a constant 3:1. What does this mean? Investigate this mathematical principle. Using a piece of string, measure your height. Cut the string. Then wrap the string around your head (circumference). You will notice an interesting pattern. The string (which is your height) will wrap around your head three times (maybe a little less or maybe a little more). This ratio will be found with any circular object in nature. (It doesn't always work on man-made cylinders like Pringle potato chip cans since marketing manipulates dimensions.)

## Find math puns and share them.

Why should you never talk to pi?

Because he'll just go on forever.

$\pi$  is an irrational number which means it does not repeat. It goes on and on forever.



Eat pizza pie or apple pie on March 14th.



# RACE TO PI

## CARD GAME

$$\pi = 3.14159265358.....$$

**The object of the game is to be the first player to play all the cards in your hand.**

SET UP: You can use a regular deck of cards, but I like using an UNO deck. It has a number zero card. If you are using a regular deck of cards, remove the face cards (except the Jack). The Ace = 1. The Jack = 0.

## DIRECTIONS:

Shuffle the cards sufficiently and deal each player 7 cards. Place the rest of the deck face down in the middle.

The first player then tries to play a card from their hand. In order to play a card, he/she must play the first digit of the number pi (therefore a 3). If the player doesn't have a 3, they draw a card and it is the next player's turn.

They then must play a 3 to begin the digits of the number pi. Again, if they don't have a 3, they draw a card and play continues to the next player.

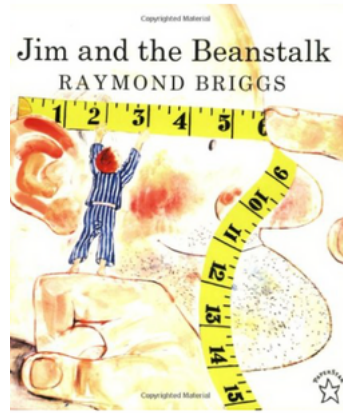
Once someone plays a 3, the next player must play the next number in the pi sequence. The next player must play a 1 or draw a card, then a 4, and so on.

The first player to play all of their cards wins!

Or, if no one can play another card, the player with the fewest cards remaining wins!



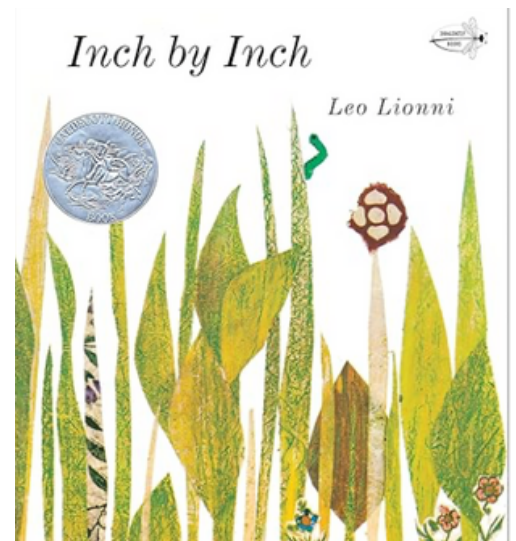
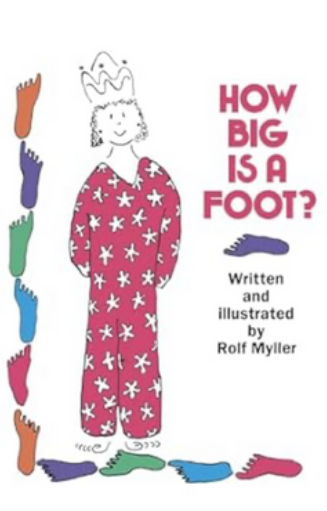
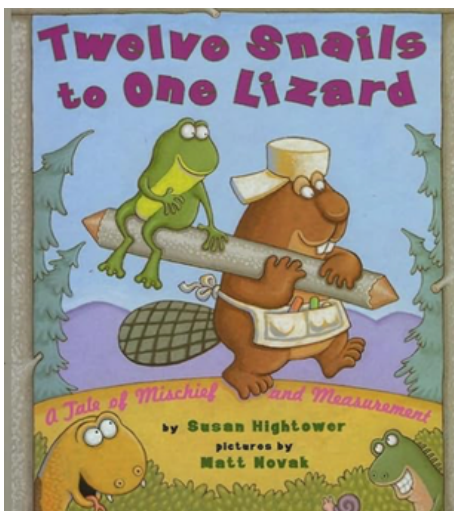
# Math Picture Books



Gather these math picture books about measurement and circles from your library or order them on Amazon. \*\*Click on the book to order from Amazon.\*\* The Sir Cumference series is great for circles, pi, fractions, and 3D vocabulary.

Here are a few great books to get you started:

- [Sir Cumference and the Dragon of Pi](#)
- [Sir Cumference and the Isle of Immeter](#)
- [Sir Cumference and the Sword of the Cone](#)
- [How Big is a Foot?](#)
- [Inch by Inch](#)
- [Jim and the Beanstalk](#)
- [Twelve Snails to One Lizard: A Tale of Mischief and Measurement](#)



# Nature Journaling: Arthropods

Insects

Arachnids

Myriapods

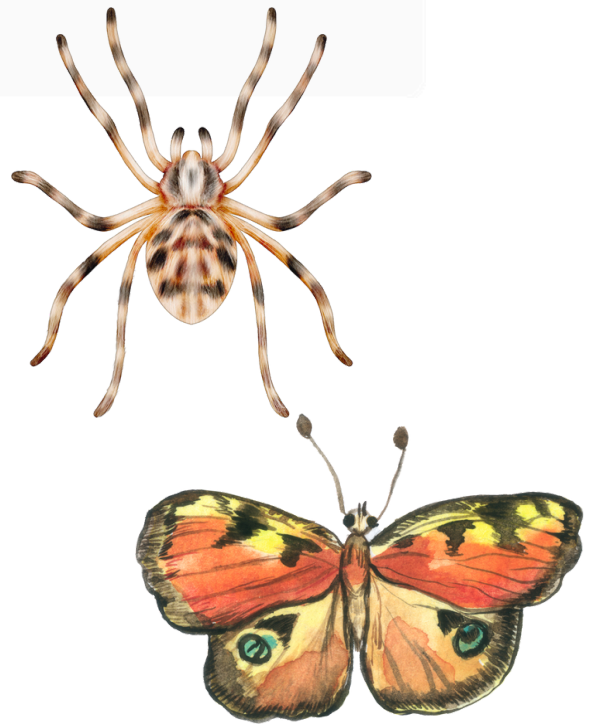
Crustaceans



The Phylum Arthropoda is divided into four groups: Insects (six legs), Arachnids (spiders, scorpions, millipedes), Myriapods, and Crustaceans (shrimp, crabs, crawfish, etc.)

Arthropods are invertebrates that have the following characteristics:

1. Segmented Bodies
2. Exoskeleton
3. Symmetrical Bodies

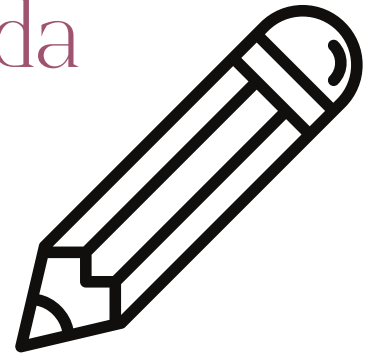
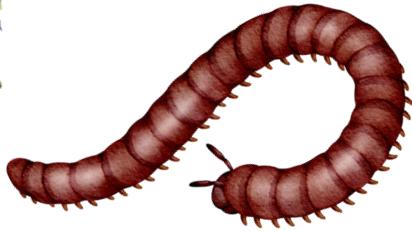


Write two columns on a sheet of paper. Label one "land" and the other "water." Brainstorm all of the "bugs" you can think of that live on land and in the sea.



## Week One

# Draw Any Arthropoda



Step 1: In your Nature Journal, draw a picture of any arthropod. Take your time and add details that are unique to that invertebrate. How do these adaptations help the animal survive in the wild.

Step 2: Copy the common name and Latin name neatly onto the top of the page.

Step 3: Label the parts of the arthropod.

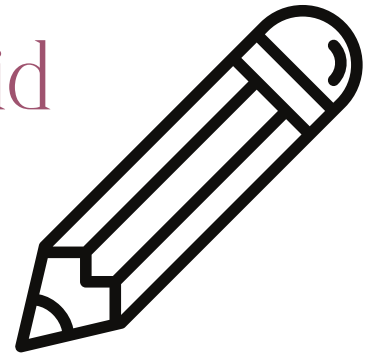


WATCH



## Week Two

# Draw Any Arachnid



Step 1: In your Nature Journal, draw a picture of any arachnid. Arachnids have two body parts and 8 legs. Take your time and add details that are unique to that spider or scorpion. How do these adaptations help the animal survive in the wild.

Step 2: Copy the common name and Latin name neatly onto the top of the page.

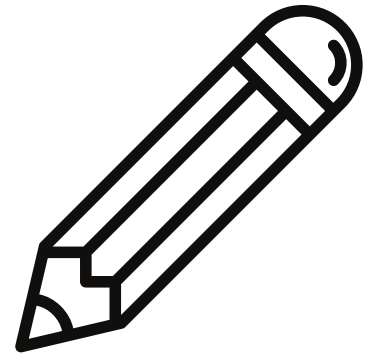
Step 3: Label the parts of the arachnid.



# WATCH



## Week Three Draw Any Insect



Step 1: In your Nature Journal, draw a picture of any insect. Insects have three body parts, six legs, and usually go through metamorphosis. Take your time and add details that are unique to that insect. How do these adaptations help the animal survive in the wild.

Step 2: Copy the common name and Latin name neatly onto the top of the page.

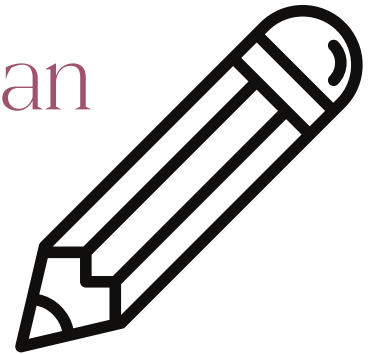
Step 3: Label the parts of the insect.



WATCH



## Week Four Draw Any Crustacean



Step 1: In your Nature Journal, draw a picture of any crustacean. Crustaceans usually have 3 body parts, 2 pairs of antennae and breathe through gills. Take your time and add details that are unique to that crustacean. How do these adaptations help the animal survive in the water.

Step 2: Copy the common name and Latin name neatly onto the top of the page.

Step 3: Label the parts of the crustacean.



WATCH





# Don't forget to check out other *Coffee With Carrie* RESOURCES



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down, relax, and book a  
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