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## “History Busters” Definitions

**Social Studies**—Integrated study of the social sciences and humanities to promote civic competence. Within the school program, social studies provides coordinated, systematic study drawing upon such disciplines as anthropology, archaeology, economics, geography, history, law, philosophy, political science, psychology, religion, and sociology, as well as appropriate content from the humanities, mathematics, and natural sciences. (*NCSS Task Force on Standards for Teaching and Learning in the Social Studies*, 1993, p. 213)

**History**—A chronological record of significant events (as affecting a nation or institution) often including an explanation of their causes. The *1828 Dictionary* defines “History” as: An account of facts, particularly of facts respecting nations or states; a narration of events in the order in which they happened, with their causes and effects.

**Classical Approach to History**—History taught in a chronological manner through the Trivium philosophy of education (Grammar, Logic and Rhetoric).

**Secular Chronological Approach**—Commonly accepted date for the beginning of history is 4.4 million years ago (Norton World History Timeline) with pre-Human Hominid Species (first Homo Sapiens 100,000 BC).

**Biblical Chronological Approach**—History is taught from the Biblical time line in chronological order. (*Bishop Ussher records 4004 BC as the beginning of history. • 5500 BC Septuagint*)

**Patriotic Approach**—The teaching of American History with a focus on American patriotism. Patriotism is defined as a devotion to one’s country and typically includes a focus on American exceptionalism, which is the belief that America has a greatness of purpose that no other nation does, and that for all our achievement, our greatest tasks remain before us.

**Providential Approach**—In general terms holds that God is in control of history and he continually provides guidance. This is also sometimes called the “Christian view of history.”

**Geography**—The science of geography is likely the oldest of all sciences. Geography is the answer to the question that the earliest humans asked, “What’s over there?” Exploration and the discovery of new places, new cultures, and new ideas have always been basic components of geography.

**Cultural Geography**—Cultural geography is the branch of geography dealing with human culture and its impact on the earth. Cultural geographers study languages, religion, foods, building styles, urban areas, agriculture, transportation systems, politics, economies, population and demographics, and more.

**Physical Geography**—Physical geography is the branch of geography dealing with the natural features of the earth, the home of humans. Physical geography looks at the water, air, animals, and land of the planet earth (i.e. everything that is part of the four spheres—the atmosphere, biosphere, hydrosphere, lithosphere.) Physical geography is closely related to geography’s sister science—geology—but physical geography focuses more on the landscapes at the surface of the earth and not what is inside our planet.

**Government/Civics**—The goal of education in civics and government is informed, responsible participation in political life by competent citizens committed to the fundamental values and principles of American constitutional democracy... “Government of the people, by the people, and for the people,” in Lincoln’s phrase, means that the people have the right to control their government. But this right is meaningless unless they have the knowledge and skills to exercise that control and possess the traits of character required to do so responsibly. (*Center for Civic Education: [http://www.civiced.org/index.php?page=stds\\_toc\\_intro](http://www.civiced.org/index.php?page=stds_toc_intro)*)

**Economics**—Social science that studies the methods by which individuals and societies organize production activities and allocate scarce resources to meet material wants and needs. Economics is a logical way of thinking about economic matters rather than a set of answers. The study of Economics helps to prepare students to make rational economic choices both in their own lives and in their participation in policy decisions as citizens of a city, state, nation, and the world. (<http://ecedweb.unomaha.edu/home.cfm>)



## History: Helpful Links

<http://www.homeschoolpatriot.com/links.html>

<http://www.americanheritage.org/index.html>

<http://www.wallbuilders.com/>

<http://havefunwithhistory.com/HistorySubjects/index.html>

<http://www.ellisland.org/>

<http://www.earlyamerica.com/series.html>

<http://www.loc.gov/index.html>

<http://www.ushistory.org/>

<http://www.ushistory.org/civ/>

<http://bensguide.gpo.gov/>



\*While these websites appear to be suitable for all, it is recommended the parent(s) review these sites prior to use by their children. Rainbow Resource Center does not endorse nor is liable for content therein any sites listed above, these links are simply provided as a resource for homeschool families.

## **F — Faith/Philosophy**

Is it important that your children receive a specific religious perspective on history?  
What is your vision for your homeschool?

## **A — Approaches**

What do you believe about how children learn? Do you prefer the Charlotte Mason approach? Traditional Textbook? Unit Study? Classical?

## **M — Money**

What is your budget?

## **I — Individuals**

How does your child learn? By seeing, hearing, doing? What motivates your child to learn? Do you have a learning blessed or learning differently child?

## **L — Life**

What season of life is your family in—young student, preschoolers, high schoolers?  
Do you want a curriculum to teach multiple children at one time? What special events—short-term or long-term—will be factors in your homeschooling?

## **Y — You**

What are your time priorities, limitations? How much structure do YOU need? How confident are you about how to teach history, or is your history experience like mine?

Notes: \_\_\_\_\_

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# History Curriculum

CURRICULUM	GRADES	VIEWPOINT	APPROACH	NOTES
Alpha Omega	grade specific	Bible-based	traditional	
- Lifepacs		Bible-based	workbook	
- SOS		Bible-based	computer-based	
All American History	5th - 8th	Bible-based	traditional/textbook	Same publisher as MOH
Amanda Bennett US History titles	K - 12	Bible	unit study	1 month studies; various topics
America From the Beginning	3 - 8	Bible	traditional	Answers in Genesis
Around the World in 180 Days	multi-grade level			Expansion on the book "Around the World in 80 Days"
Beautiful Feet	multi-grade level	Bible-based	literature-based	
Bede's History of Me				
Bede's History of Us	K - 2	neutral	Classical	Veritas
BiblioPlan	multi-grade level	Bible-based	literature-based/classical	
Big Book of Social Studies/Big Book of World History	K - 12th	neutral		Activities and foldables
Bob Jones	K-12/grade specific	Bible-based	traditional	
Cantering the Country	K - 4	neutral	unit study	
Child's Geography	1st - 6th	Bible-based		
Child's History of the World	multi-grade level	secular	textbook	The first 4 chapters can be skipped for those with a creation perspective
Christian Liberty History	K - 6th	Bible-based	workbook	Grade-level specific
Cicero Online US History	K - 12th	secular	online	Supplies lesson plans, information, web links, etc. for all age levels
Core Skills: Social Studies	1st - 6th	secular	workbook	
Focus on World History	7th - 12th	secular		5-book set which contains all student and teacher information
Galloping the Globe	K - 4th	unit study		
Greenleaf Guides	multi-grade level	Bible-based		
Harcourt Horizons	grade specific	secular	traditional	
History Odyssey	multi-grade level	secular	literature-based/ Classical	
History of our World	grades 5 - 8	secular	traditional	
History of US	5th - 12th	secular	textbook	
History Portfolios	K - 12th	Bible-based	unit study	
History Revealed (Diana Waring)	multi-grade level	Bible-based	unit study	
History Thematic Units	1st - 9th	secular	unit study	Requires specific books
Holt	grade specific	secular	traditional	
Into all the World	4th - 6th	Bible-based	unit study	
Legends & Leagues Series	1 - 5	Bible	Classical	Veritas geography
Lessons from History	K - 9th	Bible-based	unit study	Intended to use as a framework to study each period
Living History of Our World	K - 8th	Bible-based	Charlotte Mason	
Mapping the World by Heart	5th - 12th			
Memoria Press Guides	multi-grade level	Bible-based	Classical	
Mystery of History	multi-grade level	Bible-based		
Never Before in History	9th - 12th	Bible-based		
Notgrass	6th - 12th	Bible-based		History, literature, Bible
Omnibus	jr./sr. high	Bible-based	literature-based/Classical	History, literature, Bible
Paradigm Accelerated	8th - 12th	secular	workbook	Although secular, it is values oriented
Peter Marshall books and guides	4th - 12th	Bible-based		
Pillars of History	K - 8th	Bible-based	unit study	
Power Basics	jr./sr. high	secular	traditional	
Short Lessons in World History/US History	7th - 12th	secular	textbook	Written at a 5th grade reading level
Story of the World	multi-grade level	neutral	Classical	Present history as fact only - neutral
Streams of Civilization	9th - 12th	Bible-based	traditional	
Streams of History series	multi-grade level	Bible-based	traditional	Covers world history chronologically up through 1902; this series is a reprint
Take a Stand!	6 - 12	neutral	Classical	32 week guides
Trail Guide to Learning	2nd - 8th	neutral	unit study/Charlotte Mason	
Trail Guide to World/US/Bible Geography	K - 10th		unit study	Geography-based study
Trip Around the World	3rd - 5th			
TruthQuest	5th - 12th	Bible-based	literature-based	Books aren't specific
Veritas	grade specific	Bible-based	literature-based	
Welcome to the Wonderful World of Geography (Runkle)	6th +	neutral	textbook	
World Geography & You	3rd - 8th	secular		
World History for Co-ops	7th - 12th	Bible-based		Written specifically for homeschool co-ops
World History Made Simple	multi-grade level	Bible-based	Charlotte Mason	Written by Ruth Beechick
World of Communities	3rd - 5th			