



LIVING BOOKS CURRICULUM™

A Charlotte Mason education for the 21st century.

GRADE EIGHT

Teaching Guide

**Grade Eight
Resource CD**

Planner
Charlotte Mason Helps
Documents
Maps
LBC Templates
Picture Study



LIVING BOOKS CURRICULUM™

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SAMPLE FROM THE LBC TEACHING GUIDE

Dear Homeschooling Parent,

This sample of the week-by-week portion of our teaching guide will give you an idea of the type of lessons and reading your child might do each week. However, since Living Books Curriculum is based on Charlotte Mason's methods for educating children, the lessons or reading assignments are a part of a larger picture of learning. "Education is an atmosphere, a discipline, a life," as Miss Mason put it. Imagine this week's sample work and the flex-week that follows as based on a home setting that supports learning, directs in the discipline of good habits, and guides the student to take up ideas that lead to a lifelong love of learning.

Planning for Learning™

LBC has created a 36-week schedule divided into four terms. Each term is eight weeks of instruction, with the ninth as a "flex" week. The flex week permits the student to complete unfinished work, the teaching parent to assess learning through end-of-term narration questions, and also allows time for field trips. You can begin and end each term as best fits your schedule.

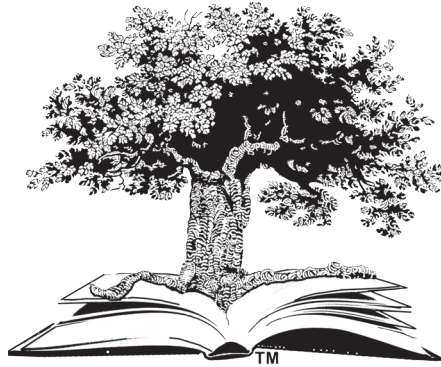
End-of-Term Narration Questions

Each term is an eight-week period with the ninth week as a flex week to finish any unfinished work and to do "end-of-term narrations" with your child in order to assess learning.

The questions provided are meant to be suggestive; you may want to formulate questions that more closely reflect the work your child has done during the term. We include end-of-term narrations for two reasons. First, our research of Charlotte Mason's syllabi for the Parents National Education Union, used for over eighty years, showed that each term ended with "narrations" as a means of assessing student progress. Second, teaching parents who are using Living Books Curriculum have asked for assessment tools for their own planning and to demonstrate learning where necessary to state and local school officials.

To learn more about Living Books Curriculum or to order:

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



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Grade Eight

Teaching Guide

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Grade Eight, v.4.10

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Grade Eight Resource CD

Documents

Crystal Growing at Home
Estimating the Height of Trees
Hamlet from *Beautiful Stories from Shakespeare*

Templates

36-Week Planner template (2 print formats: print 1 side, print 2 sides; MSWord and PDF)
World History Report (MSWord and PDF)
LBC Nature Journal (PDF)
Weekly Schedule Template (MSWord)
Chart for Weather Records (from *Handbook of Nature Study*; MSWord and PDF)

Helpful Articles from Living Books Curriculum

All Articles (for ease of printing)
Charlotte Mason on Bible Study
Charlotte Mason on History
Charlotte Mason on Transcription (Copy work)
Charlotte Mason on Recitation
Charlotte Mason, Educational Reformer
Charlotte Mason's 20 Principles
Dry Brush Technique
Picture Study: Teaching children to love great art
Recitation, the Children's Art
Seven Keys to Learning
Six Tools of Learning
Storytelling: The invisible gift
Successful Narration: Five tips for teaching your children the "art of knowing"
Suggestions for Better Penmanship
Teaching with Stories
The Royal Road to Spelling

Tips for Better Nature Journaling
Using a Book of the Centuries in Living Books Curriculum
Why Shakespeare for Christian Students?

E-books*

Recitations for the Assembly and Classroom: With suggested programs
Stories of Beowulf Told to the Children

Maps

Africa
Africa-Islamic influence
Antarctica
Antarctica with Explorations
Area of Acts
Australia—Geophysical
Australia—Political
Canada
India
Israel
Modern Europe
New Zealand
Paul's First Missionary Journey
Paul's Second Missionary Journey
Paul's Third Missionary Journey
United States, outline
United States, with states
World: Continents
World: Physical
World: Political

* E-books are in several formats: MS Word doc and docx, and PDF.

Grade Eight—Term by Term

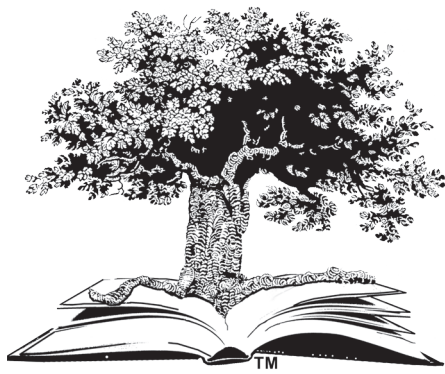
See Part 1: Notes for Grade Eight for a more complete understanding of the requirements of each subject.

SUBJECT		TERM ONE	TERM TWO	TERM THREE	TERM FOUR
CHRISTIAN FAITH STUDIES	Devotional	<i>A Closer Look at the Evidence.</i>	<i>A Closer Look at the Evidence.</i>	<i>A Closer Look at the Evidence.</i>	<i>A Closer Look at the Evidence.</i>
	Scripture Readings (following Miss Mason's schedule)	2 Samuel 5:24; 1 Kings 1-2:10.	1 Kings 12:22; 2 Kings 1-16.	<i>Hosea; Amos.</i>	<i>Acts.</i>
	Practical Work	Choose a project that has an ongoing commitment, such as volunteering in a soup kitchen or tutoring slow readers in a local school. Further suggestions given in Part 4: Grade Eight Support Materials.			
	Parent Note	Read "Charlotte Mason on Bible Study", excerpted from <i>Home Education</i> , pp. 245-253 and found on <i>Grade Eight Resource CD</i> .			
LANGUAGE ARTS	Literature	<i>English Literature</i> Chapters 1-9.	<i>English Literature</i> Chapters 10-18.	<i>English Literature</i> Chapters 19-29.	<i>English Literature</i> Chapters 30-38.
	Storytelling	Learn to tell a story from Scripture readings for each of these terms. See list of suggested verses in Part 4: Grade Eight Support Materials.			
	Shakespeare	None.	None.	<i>Hamlet.</i>	<i>Hamlet.</i>

SUBJECT	TERM ONE	TERM TWO	TERM THREE	TERM FOUR	
LANGUAGE ARTS	Copy work/ Dictation	Student chooses his copy work from current readings. Parent chooses the dictation from current readings.			
	Narration Written and oral	5-6 written narrations per week minimum, plus oral narration for history, geography and <i>English Literature</i> . Additional writing in the form of reports and short essays will be required.			
	Poetry	Favorite Poems, William Wordsworth.	<i>Robert Frost's Poems.</i>		
	Recitation	Each term student memorizes one poem, Psalm, or other appropriate Scripture chosen from readings or from <i>Recitations for the Assembly and Class-room: With suggested programs.</i> Shakespeare: selected passages from <i>Hamlet</i> .			
	Grammar (Optional Review)	<i>The Blue Book of Grammar and Punctuation.</i> This book was used in Grade 6 and 7 and will provide an excellent review of the rules of grammar and usage should you feel your student requires it.			
SCIENCE	Exploring Creation with Physical Science, Module 1-4.	Exploring Creation with Physical Science, Module 5-8.	Exploring Creation with Physical Science, Module 9-12.	Exploring Creation with Physical Science, Module 13-16.	

SUBJECT	TERM ONE	TERM TWO	TERM THREE	TERM FOUR
<p>WORLD HISTORY Current Events See World History Report Template on <i>Grade Eight Resource</i> CD for guidelines to research project.</p>	<p><i>Our Empire Story:</i> Canada. Research project. Read a newspaper or <i>God's World News</i> and keep a Current Events notebook where student enters a written narration of events.</p>	<p><i>Our Empire Story:</i> Australia, New Zealand. Research project. Read a newspaper or <i>God's World News</i> and keep a Current Events notebook where student enters a written narration of events.</p>	<p><i>Our Empire Story:</i> South Africa Research project. Read a newspaper or <i>God's World News</i> and keep a Current Events notebook where student enters a written narration of events.</p>	<p><i>Our Empire Story:</i> India. Research project. Read a newspaper or <i>God's World News</i> and keep a Current Events notebook where student enters a written narration of events.</p>
<p>AMERICAN HISTORY</p>	<p><i>This Country of Ours</i> Chapters 64-77. <i>A History of US: Sourcebook and Index:</i> Sections 23-44.</p>	<p><i>This Country of Ours</i> Chapters 78-91. <i>A History of US: Sourcebook and Index:</i> Sections 45-57.</p>	<p><i>This Country of Ours</i> Chapters 92-99. <i>A History of US: Sourcebook and Index:</i> Sections 58-74.</p>	<p>20th Century: Study Topics assigned. <i>Sourcebook and Index:</i> Sections 75-94.</p>
<p>GEOGRAPHY</p>	<p><i>A Book of Discovery,</i> Chapters 36-44. Note places from the day's reading on map provided.</p>	<p><i>A Book of Discovery,</i> Chapters 45-53. Note places from the day's reading on map provided.</p>	<p><i>A Book of Discovery,</i> Chapters 54-62. Note places from the day's reading on map provided.</p>	<p><i>A Book of Discovery,</i> Chapters 63-73. Note places from the day's reading on map provided.</p>

SUBJECT	TERM ONE	TERM TWO	TERM THREE	TERM FOUR
<p>NATURE STUDY Parent: Read "Better Nature Journaling" and "Dry Brush Technique" (<i>Grade Eight Resource CD</i>) and <i>Handbook of Nature Study</i>, "The Teaching of Nature-Study", pp. 1-24.</p>	<p>Keep a flower, tree, and bird list (see template in LBC Nature Journal on CD). Maintain a nature journal. <i>Handbook of Nature Study: Climate and Weather</i>, p. 780 ff.; Water Forms, p. 808.</p>	<p>Keep a flower, tree, and bird list (see template in LBC Nature Journal on CD). Maintain a nature journal. <i>Handbook of Nature Study: Minerals</i>, p. 750 ff.; <i>The Soil</i>, p. 760 ff.</p>	<p>Keep a flower, tree, and bird list (see template in LBC Nature Journal on CD). Maintain a nature journal. <i>Handbook of Nature Study: Trees II</i>, p. 655 ff.</p>	<p>Keep a flower, tree, and bird list (see template in LBC Nature Journal on CD). Maintain a nature journal. <i>Handbook of Nature Study: The Skies</i>, p. 815 ff.</p>
<p>PICTURE STUDY Read "Picture Study: Teaching Your Children to Love Great Art", found on <i>Grade Eight Resource Grade Eight Resource CD</i>.</p>	<p>Come Look with Me: <i>Exploring Modern Art: Matisse, Picasso, Marc</i>.</p>	<p>Come Look with Me: <i>Exploring Modern Art: Sloan, Stella, Wood</i>.</p>	<p>Come Look with Me: <i>Exploring Modern Art: Johnson, Rivera, O'Keefe</i>.</p>	<p>Come Look with Me: <i>Exploring Modern Art: Tiffany, Warhol, Frankenthaler</i>.</p>
<p>COMPOSER STUDY</p>	<p>Meet the Great Composers 2, Units 1-4.</p>	<p>Meet the Great Composers 2, Units 5-9.</p>	<p>Meet the Great Composers 2, Units 10-13.</p>	<p>Meet the Great Composers 2, Units 14-17.</p>
<p>BOOK OF THE CENTURIES</p>	<p><i>History Through the Ages Timeline</i>. To be updated each week from World and American history, Literature, Composer Study and Picture Study, using the timeline figures provided and adding additional figures as needed.</p>			



TERM ONE

TERM ONE • WEEKS 1-4

SUBJECT		WEEK 1	WEEK 2	WEEK 3	WEEK 4
CHRISTIAN STUDIES	Devotional	<p><i>A Closer Look at the Evidence:</i> Choose a date to begin reading the devotional (see notes in Part 2: Notes for Grade Eight). Each day read a devotional and pray for others to see the glory of God’s creation.</p>			
	Scripture	2 <i>Samuel</i> 5-6.	2 <i>Samuel</i> 7-8.	2 <i>Samuel</i> 9-11.	2 <i>Samuel</i> 12-14.
	Practical Work	<p>Choose a project for this term that has regular commitments, such as volunteering in a soup kitchen or tutoring slow readers in a local school. Further suggestions are given in Part 4, Suggestions for Practical Work in Christian Faith Studies.</p>			
LANGUAGE ARTS	Literature	<i>English Literature</i> , Chapter 1: In the Listening Time.	<i>English Literature</i> , Chapter 2: The Story of The Cattle Raid of Cooley.	<i>English Literature</i> , Chapter 3: One of the Sorrows of Storytelling.	<i>English Literature</i> , Chapter 4: The Story of a Literary Lie and 5: The Story of Fingal.
	Storytelling	Choose a story to tell this term. Follow the guidelines given in Part 4, Suggested Bible Stories to Learn and Tell.	Continue learning your Bible story.	Continue learning your Bible story.	Write the Bible story you have learned as a narration. Check Scripture for accuracy.
	Narration Written and Oral	<p>Written narrations should be determined ahead of time and kept in a notebook when completed. Preview the readings for this four-week period and select from history, geography or literature. The remainders are narrated orally. Please see the article in Part 4, Successful Narration, for suggestions on alternate ways to narrate orally.</p>			

SUBJECT	WEEK 1	WEEK 2	WEEK 3	WEEK 4
LANGUAGE ARTS	Copywork/ Dictation Student chooses copywork from personal reading, current readings, Scripture, <i>A Closer Look at the Evidence</i> (see Christian Studies) or <i>Bartlett's Quotations</i> (found online at www.bartleby.com) and spends 10-15 minutes 3 times per week copying. Parent chooses the dictation from current readings. See Part 1: Notes for Grade Eight and "The Royal Road to Spelling" on <i>Grade Eight Resource CD</i> for dictation guidelines.			
	Grammar (optional) 1-2 times a week do a review quiz in <i>The Blue Book of Grammar and Punctuation: An Easy-To-Use Guide with Clear Rules, Real-World Examples, and Reproducible Quizzes</i> , if you used this book in Grade Six. Or, go to the author's website for short quizzes: www.grammarbook.com .	Poetry Read a biography of William Wordsworth (www.poemhunter.com has a short one) <i>Favorite Poems</i> , "We Are Seven". During this term read the poem aloud twice during the week and narrate the poem, looking up any unfamiliar terms.	<i>Favorite Poems</i> , "Lines Written In Early Spring". After narrating, explain what Wordsworth meant when he said that poems were, "'truth...carried alive into the heart by passion".	<i>Favorite Poems</i> , "Lines Composed a Few Miles Above Tintern Abbey".
	Recitation Choose one poem, Psalm, or other Scripture to memorize this term. See Part 4, Suggested Recitations and <i>Recitations for the Assembly and Class-Room: With suggested programs on Grade 8 Resource CD</i> .			
SCIENCE	<i>Exploring Creation with Physical Science:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Module 1. Check "Lab Supplies" list for materials. 	<i>Exploring Creation with Physical Science:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Module 1 (continued). 	<i>Exploring Creation with Physical Science:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Module 2. Check "Lab Supplies" list for materials. 	<i>Exploring Creation with Physical Science:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Module 2 (continued).

SUBJECT	WEEK 1	WEEK 2	WEEK 3	WEEK 4
<p>GEOGRAPHY Identify the maps to be used this term. Samples are in Part 4: Support Materials.</p>	<p><i>A Book of Discovery</i>, Chapter XXXVI (p. 258). Update timeline figures and trace the journey of Spitsbergen on a map.</p>	<p><i>A Book of Discovery</i>, Chapter XXXVII (p. 266). Update timeline figures and trace the journey of Hudson on a map. Write a short explanation of Hudson's journey and mysterious end.</p>	<p><i>A Book of Discovery</i>, Chapter XXXVIII (p. 273). Update timeline figures and trace the journey of Baffin on a map.</p>	<p><i>A Book of Discovery</i>, Chapter XXXIX (p. 277). Update timeline figures and trace the journey of Sir Walter Raleigh on a map.</p>
<p>WORLD HISTORY See <i>Grade Eight Resource CD</i> for "Charlotte Mason on History" and "World History Report Template" (includes instructions for research and writing). Identify and print the maps to be used this term. Samples are in Part 4: Support Materials.</p>	<p>The focus this term is Canada. During the next 8 weeks you will complete a research project on Canada. <i>Our Empire Story</i>, Chapters 1-3. Current Events: Read national and international news and enter brief narration on each in your Current Events notebook.</p>	<p><i>Our Empire Story</i>, Chapters 4-6. Current Events: Read national and international news and enter brief narration on each in your Current Events notebook.</p>	<p><i>Our Empire Story</i>, Chapters 7-9. Current Events: Read national and international news and enter brief narration on each in your Current Events notebook.</p>	<p><i>Our Empire Story</i>, Chapters 10-11. Current Events: Read national and international news and enter brief narration on each in your Current Events notebook.</p>
<p>AMERICAN HISTORY</p>	<p><i>This Country of Ours</i>, Chapter 64. <i>A History of US: Sourcebook and Index</i>, Sections 23-24.</p>	<p><i>This Country of Ours</i>: No readings. <i>A History of US: Sourcebook and Index</i>, Sections 25-26.</p>	<p><i>This Country of Ours</i>, Chapter 65. <i>A History of US: Sourcebook and Index</i>, no readings.</p>	<p><i>This Country of Ours</i>, Chapters 66-68. <i>A History of US: Sourcebook and Index</i>, Sections 27-28.</p>

SUBJECT	WEEK 1	WEEK 2	WEEK 3	WEEK 4
<p>NATURE STUDY Read "Tips for Better Nature Journaling" and "Dry Brush Technique" found on <i>Grade Eight Resource CD</i>.</p>	<p>Parent: Read "Tips for Better Nature Journaling" and "Dry Brush Technique" (<i>Grade Eight Resource CD</i>) and <i>Handbook of Nature Study</i>, pp. 1-24. The focus for this term in <i>Handbook of Nature Study</i> is: "Climate and Weather", p. 780 ff and "Water Forms", p. 808. Read pp. 780-782. Take a nature walk and make an entry in Nature Journal.</p>	<p><i>Handbook of Nature Study</i>, pp. 783-786. Continue weekly nature walks and making 1-3 entries into your Nature Journal. Begin keeping a weather chart as directed on p. 807. The weather chart template is on <i>Grade Eight Resource CD</i>. It can be added to the Nature Journal.</p>	<p><i>Handbook of Nature Study</i>: Do Lessons 220 and 221 (pp. 786-787) Continue weekly nature walks and making 1-3 entries into your Nature Journal. Continue keeping a weather chart.</p>	<p><i>Handbook of Nature Study</i>, pp. 788-791. Continue weekly nature walks and making 1-3 entries into your Nature Journal. This week when recording temperature practice converting Fahrenheit to centigrade.</p>
<p>PICTURE STUDY Read "Picture Study: Teaching Children to Love Great Art" found on <i>Grade Eight Resource CD</i>.</p>	<p><i>Come Look with Me: Exploring modern art</i> Henri Matisse Read "How to Use this Book", p. 7.</p>	<p><i>Come Look with Me: Exploring modern art</i> Henri Matisse (continued).</p>	<p><i>Come Look with Me: Exploring modern art</i> Pablo Picasso (continued).</p>	<p><i>Come Look with Me: Exploring modern art</i> Pablo Picasso (continued).</p>
<p>COMPOSER STUDY</p>	<p><i>Music of the Great Composers, 2:</i> Unit 1—Couperin.</p>	<p><i>Music of the Great Composers, 2:</i> Unit 1—Couperin (continued).</p>	<p><i>Music of the Great Composers, 2:</i> Unit 2—Kuhlau.</p>	<p><i>Music of the Great Composers, 2:</i> Unit 2—Kuhlau (continued).</p>
<p>BOOK OF THE CENTURIES</p>	<p>1) Read the article "A Book of the Centuries in Living Books Curriculum" found on <i>Grade Eight Resource CD</i>. 2) Determine the most effective way to keep the timeline up to date. It may be done at the end of the week or as the reading is completed. 3) Timeline figures for many of the historical persons are provided on <i>Grade Eight Resource CD</i>. Print these and keep them available. Those that do not appear on the CD can be found easily online at www.wikipedia.com.</p>			

SUBJECT	WEEK 1	WEEK 2	WEEK 3	WEEK 4
FOREIGN LANGUAGE	<p>In a Charlotte Mason curriculum, your student, ideally, should be learning Latin and a foreign language such as French, Spanish or German, and incorporating it into daily studies. The LBC Planner has allotted time and space for this.</p>			