

SIMPLE STUDIES

# SAMPLE



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SIMPLE STUDIES™



# AMERICA



**A LIVING HISTORY GUIDE FOR K-6 STUDENTS**

BY CRYSTAL WILEY

# Materials Needed for Entire Study

You can find these books at the library, but they are recommended for your personal library as you will need them for the entire course of this study:

- ❑ ***The Children's Book of America*** by William J. Bennett
- ❑ **America Coloring Pages** (*print off copies for each student*)
- ❑ **Personal History Notebook or Loose Leaf Paper** (*older students, each lesson*)
- ❑ **Quality Coloring Pencils** (*Recommended: Prismacolor*)
- ❑ **A Computer or Device** (*for listening to songs and optional research*)
- ❑ **U.S. Maps** (*attached, print off several copies for older students*)

## Materials for Further Study (optional)

- ❑ **Picture Booklist** (*attached*) (*I will remind you ahead of time to place Lesson-specific picture books on hold at the library*)
- ❑ **Additional Family Tree Printable** (*attached*)
- ❑ **Poems about America** (*attached*) (*Feel free to offer poems to older students for copywork throughout the lessons — after the instructor previews the poem.*)
- ❑ **Book of Centuries** (*for older students currently using one*)

# American History Picture Booklist by Lesson

There are a plethora of wonderful picture books about American history but the books listed in the book lists offer the opportunity for students to build *joyful relations through story specifically with the stories William J. Bennett tells us about* as well as a few other notable figures or events in American history. This is by no means an exhaustive list — obviously, it would be impossible to cover every aspect of American history in one large booklist.

*\*I would like to encourage instructors to do their due diligence in previewing picture books you offer your students. I am not the author of any books listed and therefore am not responsible for each author's viewpoint or the language used. In curating these booklists, please know I did my very best to offer multiple perspectives from all walks of life in our American history.*

*\*\*Finally, while I researched books for hours trying to adhere to the living book recommendations, several books do not fit into this category and were chosen for their childlike, whimsical prose and overall message featuring stories from American History in each lesson. I tried to offer more than one suggestion should you be unable to secure them all at your local library. Sadly, many of the classic American history books are out of print.*

**HELPFUL TIP:** *I recommend gathering the picture books from the library for the first 8 lessons before you begin Lesson 1.*

## Lesson 1:

- We the People: The Constitution of the United States* by Peter Spier
- The Fourth of July Story* by Alice Dalgliesh
- America: A Patriotic Primer* by Lynne Cheney
- The Berenstain Bears God Bless Our Country* by Mike Berenstain

# General American History Picture Booklist

I do not list books discussing World Wars despite their having a major effect on the nation and our citizens as they are not discussed in Bennett's book. Therefore, this is not, nor could it be, an exhaustive booklist. They are listed in no particular order.

*\*Again, I would like to encourage instructors to do their due diligence in previewing any picture book you offer your students. I am not the author of any books listed and therefore am not responsible for each author's viewpoint or the language used. In curating these booklists, please know I did my very best to offer multiple perspectives from all walks of life in our American history.*

- ❑ *Dangerous Journey: The Story of Pilgrim's Progress* by Oliver Hunkin
- ❑ *George vs. George: The American Revolution As Seen from Both Sides* by Rosalyn Schanzer
- ❑ *National Geographic Kids United States Atlas* by National Geographic
- ❑ *The Interactive Constitution: Explore the Constitution with flaps, wheels, color-changing words and more!* by David Miles and Albert Pinilla
- ❑ *America is...* by Louise Borden
- ❑ *L is for Liberty* by Wendy Cheyette Lewison
- ❑ *We the Kids: The Preamble to the Constitution of the United States* by David Catrow
- ❑ *American Voices* by Ray Notgrass
- ❑ *Discovery of the Americas* by Betsy and Giulio Maestro
- ❑ *A Child's First Book of American History* by Earl Schenck Miers
- ❑ *The Story of the Declaration of Independence: Cornerstones of Freedom* by Conrad R. Stein

# Lesson 7

## MATERIALS NEEDED:

- *The Children's Book of America*
- *America Coloring Pages (provided) (one per student)*
- Colored Pencils
- Picture Books see below (*optional*)
- Personal History Notebook (*older students*)
- "America the Beautiful", 1911 Version (*provided*)(*optional*)
- Blank U.S. Map with state outlines (*provided*)(*optional*)

**(optional) Sing “America the Beautiful” together. Continue memorizing.**

Ask the students what they recall from last time’s reading about Yankee Doodle.

Read together, *The Children's Book of America*, chapter 7, “Westward with Lewis and Clark,” and ask for an oral narration. Discuss everyone’s endurance and bravery, including Sacagawea. Discuss how their expedition helped pave the way for more settlers. Let your students color the picture of Meriwether Lewis and Sacagawea on page 7 of the *America Coloring Pages*.

**Older students:** Using a map of your choice or [this](#) map, have students either use the Blank U.S. Map with state outlines (*provided*) or their personal history notebooks to draw Lewis and Clark’s expedition trail. Have students take time to add the Lewis and Clark expedition into their Book of Centuries if applicable.

**Picture Books for Lesson 7:** *How We Crossed the West: The Adventures of Lewis & Clark* by Rosalyn Schanzer, *Who Was Sacagawea?* by Judith Bloom Fradin and Dennis Brindell Fradin, *The Land Beyond the Setting Sun* by Tracy M. Leininger (*Lewis and Clark picture story book from the viewpoint of Native American Sacagawea*), *Of Courage Undaunted* by James Daugherty

**REVIEW 1 (optional). Page 50.**

# A Nation's Strength

By Ralph Waldo Emerson

What makes a nation's pillars high  
And its foundations strong?  
What makes it mighty to defy  
The foes that round it throng?

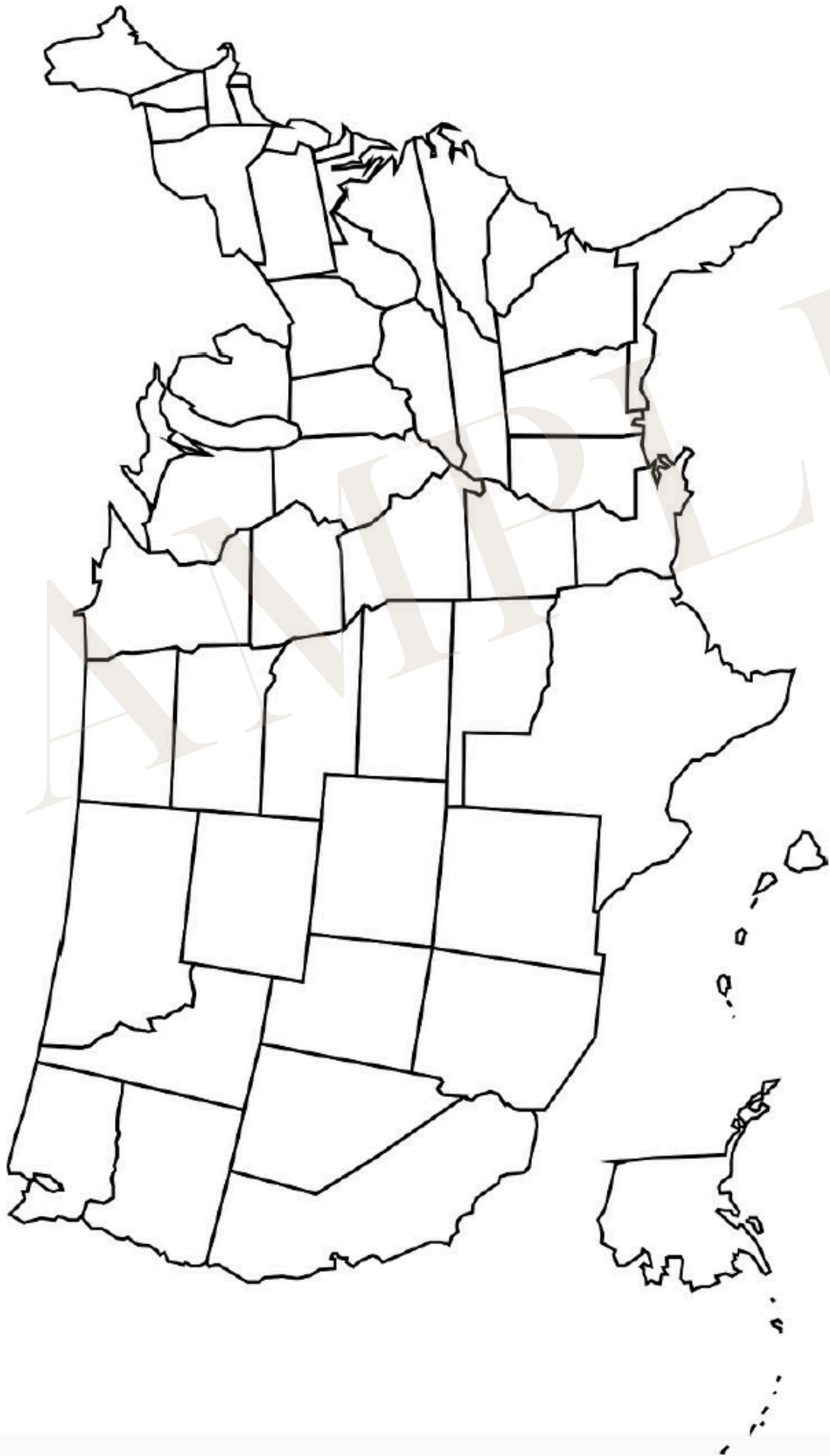
It is not gold. Its kingdoms grand  
Go down in battle shock;  
Its shafts are laid on sinking sand,  
Not on abiding rock.

Is it the sword? Ask the red dust  
Of empires passed away;  
The blood has turned their stones to rust,  
Their glory to decay.

And is it pride? Ah, that bright crown  
Has seemed to nations sweet;  
But God has struck its luster down  
In ashes at his feet.

Not gold but only men can make  
A people great and strong;  
Men who for truth and honor's sake  
Stand fast and suffer long.

Brave men who work while others sleep,  
Who dare while others fly...  
They build a nation's pillars deep  
And lift them to the sky.



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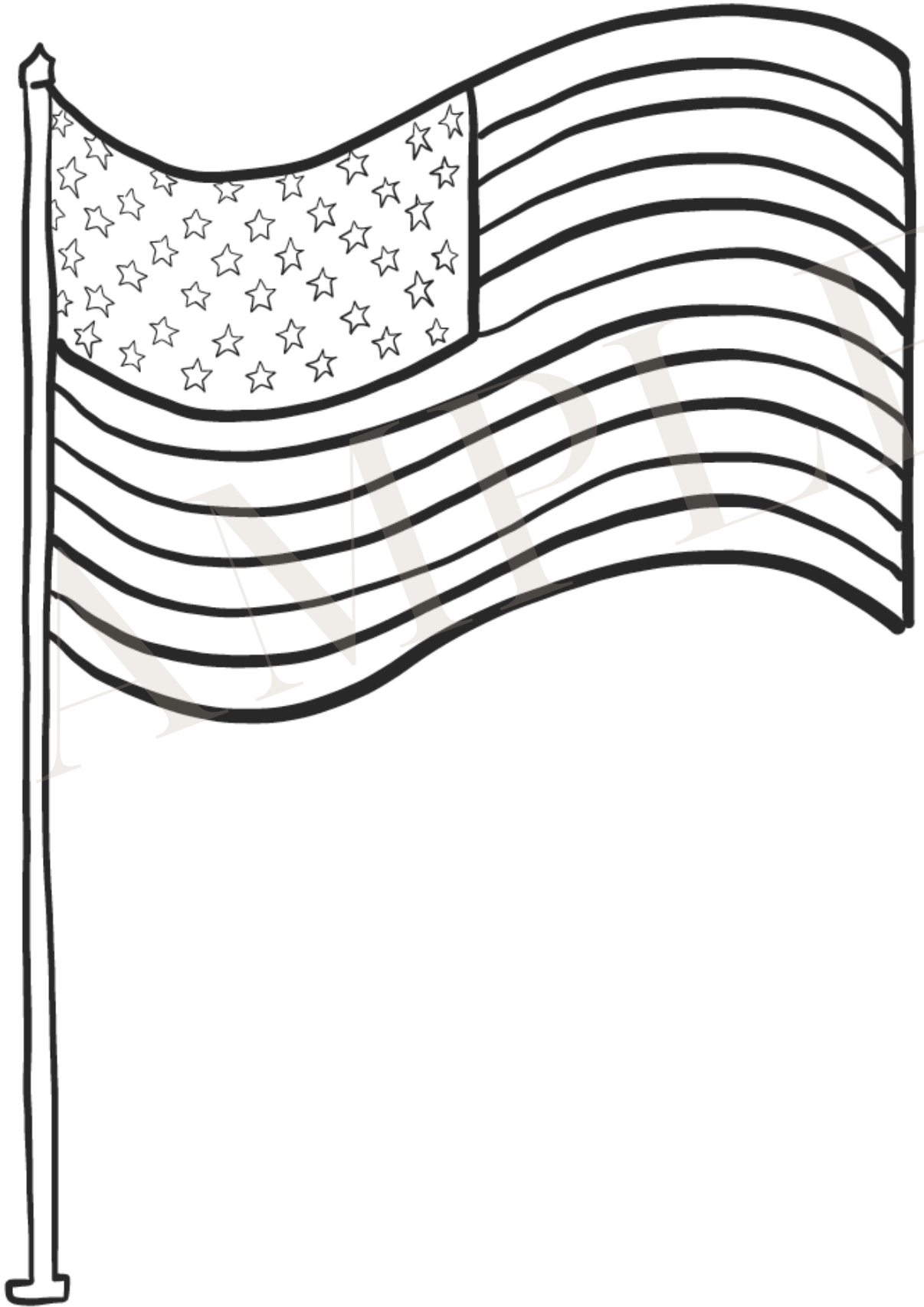
**AMERICA**



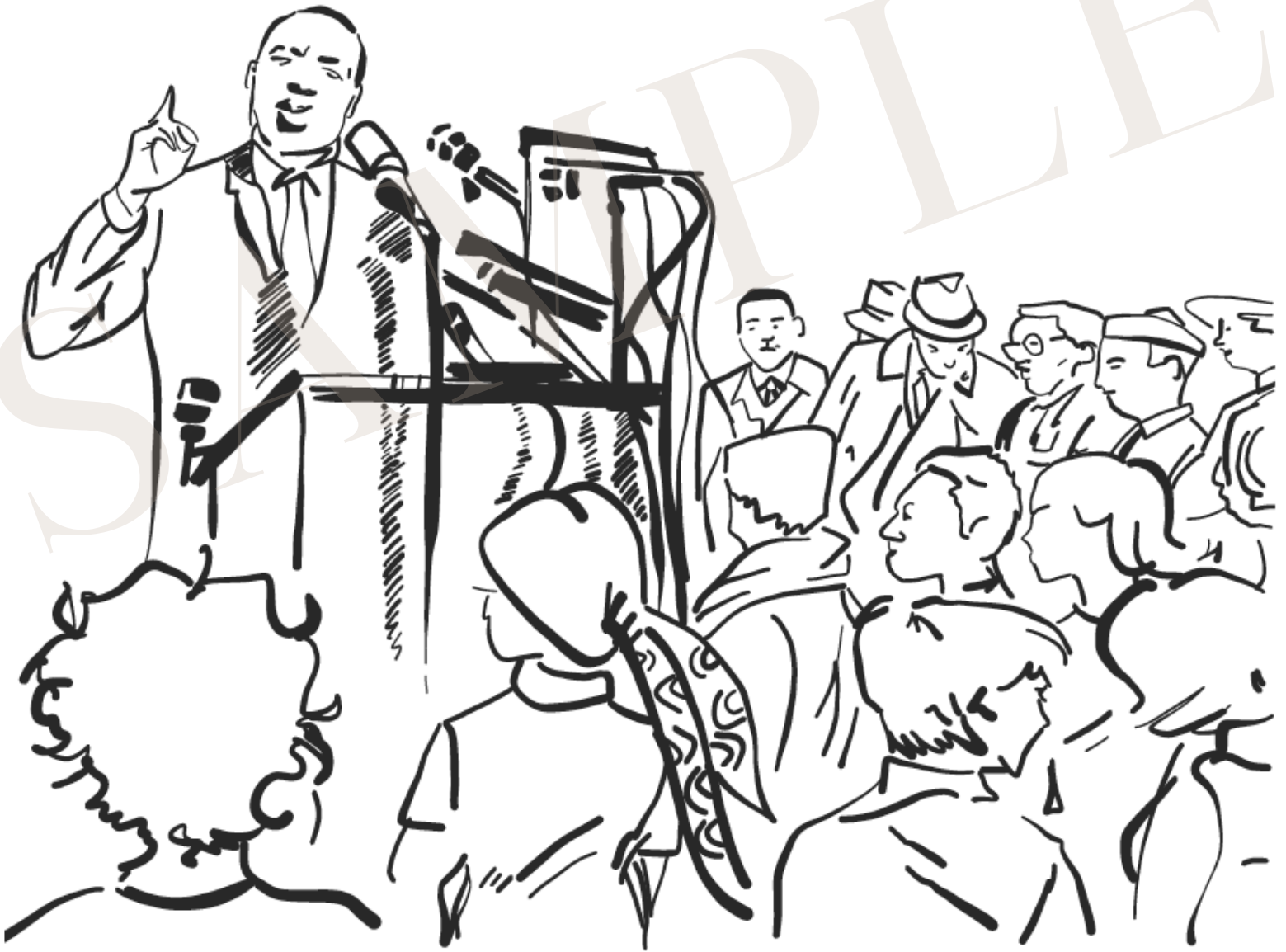
**COLORING PAGES**

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**NAME**







# The Children's Book of America



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# AMERICA



A LIVING HISTORY GUIDE FOR K-6 STUDENTS  
BY CRYSTAL WILEY



# TESTIMONIALS

CMSIMPLESTUDIES.COM

*I have been searching for a few years for the right addition to our morning time. I needed something that has poetry, reading, Biblical principles and nature oriented lessons. I would find something but become overwhelmed by the amount of "fluff" and extra content. These studies are so feasible and attainable and have added a wonderful component to our Charlotte Mason homeschool! My only problem is choosing which one to do next!!!! Love them all!!! - Katie Woodruff*

OUR KIDS RECENTLY FINISHED YOUR JUNGLE STUDY AND REALLY ENJOYED IT. :) — GENEVIEVE D.

*We've used your guides from the beginning, gosh, so many years ago. I love how you take the cream off the top of so many different curriculum and put it together in a way that's custom fit for your family. - Miette Allison*

I LOVE YOUR STUDIES. I HAVE AN 8 AND 5 YEAR OLD AND WE ARE CURRENTLY WORKING THROUGH THE FOREST ANIMALS GUIDE. IT'S SO FUN. - LYDIA JENKINS

*I like all of these guides because they're simple but interesting and give just enough further resources (links, booklists, ideas) to be fun without being overwhelming, an important factor for us! - @thesunrisemama*

TRULY LOVE YOUR PRODUCTS; THEY ARE A GREAT FIT FOR OUR FAMILY. I LOVE HOW THE LESSONS ARE SO FLEXIBLE. THEY CAN BE SHORT (JUST READING AND COLORING) OR WE CAN GO DOWN A RABBIT HOLE FOR THE AFTERNOON. WE ARE SO GRATEFUL TO YOU FOR CREATING THEM! — KÀRIN MANCINI

# TESTIMONIALS

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*We did the Simple Studies Burgess Birds and it was our favorite homeschool study we've ever done! We have kids in 8th grade down to kindergarten and all my children enjoyed doing this study together. It's amazing to see each bird that they drew in their nature journal. I printed "how to draw" pages for my youngest sons so it gave them step by step instructions on how to draw each bird. They loved that. My young ones also loved the coloring pages! We were sad when the book came to an end. I would highly recommend this study and you can make it work with a variety of ages.*

– Claire Jones

US HISTORY IS FINALLY STARTING TO BE INTERESTING FOR MY 7 YEAR OLD. THANK YOU FOR CREATING AN INTERESTING, AFFORDABLE WAY FOR YOUNG CHILDREN TO LEARN ABOUT US HISTORY! – SARAH W.

*My daughters and I started with Among the Meadow People and I truly appreciate your simple studies. They are enjoying them and sharing facts with family. They loved how God created the robin with a pocket of oil for when it rains. Thank you for serving the homeschool community with your time and talent. – Nicole M*

JUST FINISHED COURAGE. WE LOVED IT! IT WAS OUR FIRST STUDY AND NOW I WANT TO BUY THEM ALL!! -MAGGIE MILLER

*I'm officially obsessed with your studies. They've been a life-giving presence in our homeschool this year & I'm so grateful to have found them. – Hannah Connor*

I AM SO PLEASED WITH WHAT I FOUND! I AM PLANNING ON INCORPORATING 3 OF THE SIMPLE STUDIES IN OUR YEAR. THEY ARE SO CUTE!! AND ARE GREAT FOR MY BROOD-- 8, 6, 3.5 AND 14 MONTHS. THANK YOU FOR YOUR HARD WORK AND DEDICATION. – MARIA DOUGLASS

# CHECK OUT OUR OTHER PRODUCTS!

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