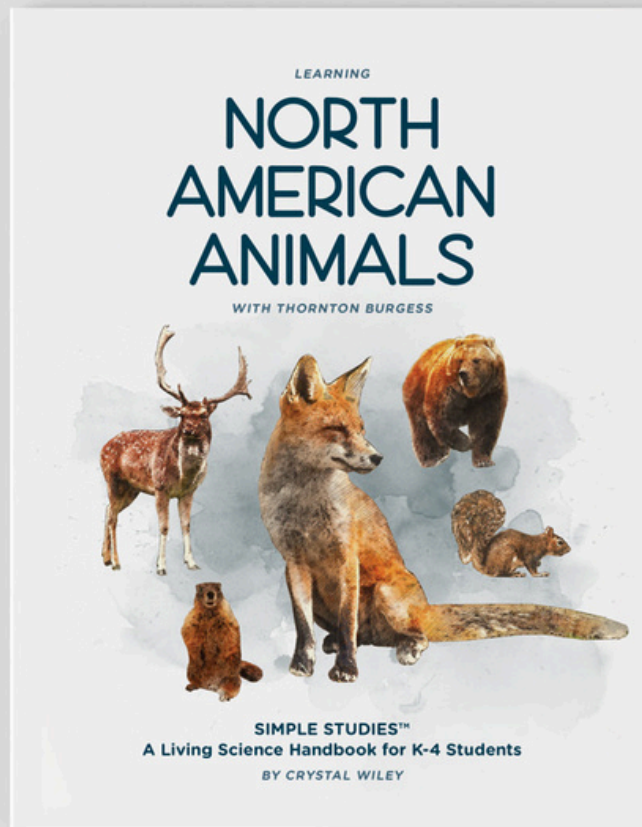


SIMPLE STUDIES

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LEARNING

NORTH AMERICAN ANIMALS

WITH THORNTON BURGESS



SIMPLE STUDIES™
A Living Science Handbook for K-4 Students

BY CRYSTAL WILEY

Materials Needed for Entire Study

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

The Burgess Animal Book for Children by Thornton Burgess

Small Animals of North America Coloring Book by Elizabeth A McClelland (one per student)

Nature Journal or Sketchbook (one per student)

Field Guide (Recommended *Mammals of North America*, a Kaufman Focus Guide by Nora Bowers, Rick Bowers, & Kenn Kaufman, or *Mammals of North America*, a Peterson Field Guide by Fiona A. Reid)

Quality Coloring Pencils (Recommended: Prismacolor)

Handbook of Nature Study by Anna Botsford Cornstock (optional)

Further study (optional):

Optional additions for older students and further study (try the library first):

The Imperial Collection of Audubon Animals by John James Audubon, F.R.S. and The Rev. John Backman, D.D. and/or *The Art of Audubon: The Complete Birds and Mammals* by John James Audubon

The Smithsonian Book of North American Mammals by Don Wilson and Sue Ruff

Nature Anatomy by Julia Rothman

Learn to Draw Forest Animals: Step-by-step Instructions for More Than 25 Woodland Creatures by Robbin Cuddy

The Adventures of Johnny Chuck by Thornton Burgess

Picture books for weekly lessons listed below (*I will remind you ahead of time to place them on hold at the library or to purchase in time*). Please note 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 animals 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 wonderful animal books are now out of print.

Suggested Schedule for a Year of Study

There are 40 lessons that align for a total of 24 weeks of study (if you do two lessons each week). You may only get to one lesson each week. You may get to four lessons. It's entirely up to you. I have a recommended schedule below that offers a schedule breakdown of two lessons each week with week 4 being your catch-up week.

Ultimately, you know your young student best. If he or she is not ready to sit down and color for the full reading, that is fine. Allow your student to move or play while you continue to read aloud. Splitting one lesson into two parts is not going to stall your study.

The important thing to remember is that you control your curriculum – your curriculum should never control you or your homeschool. So be at peace going at your own pace.

Week 1: Lessons 1 and 2
Week 2: Lessons 3 and 4
Week 3: Lessons 5 and 6
Week 4: Catch Up, Lesson 7 and Review 1
Week 5: Lessons 8 and 9
Week 6: Lessons 10 and 11
Week 7: Lessons 12 and 13
Week 8: Catch Up and Lesson 14
Week 9: Lessons 15 and 16
Week 10: Lessons 17 and 18
Week 11: Lessons 19 and 20
Week 12: Catch Up, Lesson 21 and Review 2
Week 13: Lessons 22 and 23
Week 14: Lessons 24 and 25
Week 15: Lessons 26 and 27
Week 16: Catch Up and Lesson 28
Week 17: Lessons 29 and 30
Week 18: Lessons 31 and 32
Week 19: Lessons 33 and 34
Week 20: Catch Up and Lesson 35
Week 21: Lessons 36 and 37
Week 22: Lessons 38 and 39
Week 23: Lesson 40
Week 24: Review 3

Learning North American Animals with Thornton Burgess Lessons

Lesson 1

MATERIALS NEEDED:

- *The Burgess Animal Book for Children*
- Field Guide
- *Small Animals of North America Coloring Book (one per student)*
- Colored Pencils
- *Handbook of Nature Study (optional)*
- Picture Books see below (*optional*)

Read together, *The Burgess Animal Book for Children*, chapter 1, “Jenny Wren Gives Peter Rabbit an Idea,” and ask for an oral narration. Let your students look at and color the picture of the Eastern Cottontail on page 23 in the *Small Animals of North America Coloring Book*.

Older students: Look up a Cottontail Rabbit in the field guide and draw it in their nature journal. Written notes on habits or what they learned in this chapter should be encouraged. Make sure they label their drawings.

Optional: *Handbook of Nature Study* p. 218-219

Optional: Picture books for lesson 1 (*The Tale of Peter Rabbit* or *The Tale of Benjamin Bunny* by Beatrix Potter, *Animal Lives: The Rabbit* by Sally Tagholm, *Rabbits and Raindrops* by Jim Arnosky, *Muncha! Muncha! Muncha!* By Candace Fleming, *Quiet Bunny* by Lisa McCare)

Lesson 12

MATERIALS NEEDED:

- *The Burgess Animal Book for Children*
- *Small Animals of North America Coloring Book (one per student)*
- Colored Pencils
- *Handbook of Nature Study (optional)*
- Picture Books see below (*optional*)

Ask the students what they recall from last time's reading about Prickly Porky's spears. Read together, *The Burgess Animal Book for Children*, chapter 12, "A Lumberman and Engineer," and ask for an oral narration. Let your students look at and color the picture of the Beaver on page 27 of the *Small Animals of North America Coloring Book*.

Optional: *Handbook of Nature Study* p. 219-223

Optional: Picture books for Lesson 12 (*Build Beaver Build: Life at the Longest Beaver Dam* by Sandra Markle, *Beavers* by Gail Gibbons, *Think of a Beaver* by Karen Wallace)

****REMINDER: Begin gathering picture books for lessons 15-21**



Red Fox (*Urocyon v. cinnereus*). About 45 inches long. Grizzled body. Black stripe down neck. Nocturnal hunter in open forests and shrubby regions through most of U.S. East in northeast quadrant and Mexico.



Gray Fox (*Urocyon cinereoargenteus*). About 45 in. Nocturnal hunter in open forests and shrubby regions through most of U.S. East in northeast quadrant and Mexico.

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TESTIMONIALS

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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!

CMSIMPLESTUDIES.COM

