

Year Four

Science and Nature Study

Students in Year Four will study botany, primarily through object lessons, using *The First Book of Botany*. They will expand on this study of botany by reading about other botanists, plants and trees using *George Washington Carver, A First Book of Plants, Trees and Shrubs* and several other books. Finally, students will also learn about geology topics such as rocks, stones and volcanoes as well as study fossils and meet Mary Anning.

History & Geography

This year, students will begin to study British history with *Our Island Story*, supplemented with *When Knights Were Bold* by Eva March Tappan. They will also read more about the Vikings, particularly Leif Eriksson.

They will also begin the first of four years of a study of American history, designed to flow chronologically through the years and based on nonfiction, biography and historical fiction books. Since American history and British history are studied concurrently, this year will focus on Native Americans with books such as *Indians of the Northeast Woodlands* and *Children of the Longhouse*.

Geography

In Geography, students will follow the travels of Marco Polo, read about Champlain and spend time learning about all 50 states.

Literature & Poetry

This year, students will read selected historical poems and ballads, including works by Southey, Longfellow and Noyes. Narrative poetry will include *The Song of Hiawatha* by Longfellow. Students will also study Christian Rossetti and William Blake.

Literature selections will include *The Merry Adventures of Robin Hood* by Howard Pyle, *The Arabian Nights Entertainment* by Andrew Lang, 3 selections *Tales from Shakespeare* by C. & M. Lamb, *The Lion the Witch and the Wardrobe*, *The Wind in the Willows* and more.

The Arts

Artists Studied: Pieter Bruegel the Elder, Jan Steen and Vittore Carpaccio

Composers Studied: Johann Sebastian Bach, Domenico Scarlatti and Wolfgang A Mozart