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An introduction to Tapestry

What is Integrated *Tapestry of Grace*?

Integrated *Tapestry of Grace* is a homeschool curriculum: a plan of study that helps parents provide a Christian, classical education using a guided unit study approach organized chronologically around the history of the world. All students cycle through world history every four years, and all ages study the same slice of history each week, each at their own learning level. Detailed lesson plans and discussion outlines help parents to be their children's primary teachers and mentors with the goal of shaping biblical worldviews.

Integrated *Tapestry of Grace* currently covers the humanities and arts: history, church history, worldview, literature, geography, fine arts, government, and philosophy, as well as writing prompts. You can also purchase our history-based English Grammar program. Tapestry does not currently include phonics, spelling, Latin, Logic, math, science, or foreign language. (We are working on science and math programs, but they are not yet complete for all levels.)

Week to week, Integrated *Tapestry* connects all subjects—people, places, ideas, events, and movements. These are presented in a variety of modalities: visual, auditory, and tactile, and we provide a variety of hands-on ideas each week for younger students. Teachers select content and quantity for their students from a range of educational options.

Philosophy of Education

Tapestry of Grace exists to help parents discern patterns of God's personality and works in the tapestry of time. Through the study and discussion of chronological history, we also teach our children the facts, thoughts, and experiences of humankind as they unfolded. This organizational framework encompasses most of what our children need to learn in the humanities because, after all, everything we want to teach them happened sometime in history!

Using elements of both Classical and Charlotte Mason educational approaches, we arrange resources for learning levels — stages, not ages. All subjects are interrelated (since they all come from the hand of God), but they need not all be studied at the same level at all times. God's story is simultaneously simple and complex.

Parents can successfully teach humanities subjects to all of their children simultaneously because the content has been well organized. Also, remember that content is not the only thing — not even the primary thing — being taught. Parents are primarily seeking to make disciples of their children and secondarily to give them skills that will enable them to succeed at whatever God may call them to do in His service.

The Structure of *Tapestry*

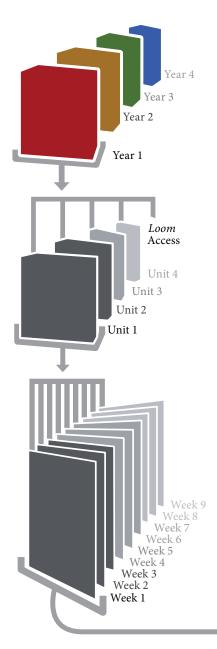
What is a Year-Plan?

FOUR YEAR-PLANS take your family through the whole of recorded human history in a four-year cycle, meaning that in a twelve-year education, all of history is surveyed three times at higher and higher levels of understanding.

FOUR UNITS

make up each year-plan of Tapestry. Units divide the year's work into more manageable amounts. The *Loom* is a digital resource which contains materials that apply to the year-plan as a whole, such as the Introduction and forms and resources you'll find useful all year round.

NINE WEEK-PLANS make up most Tapestry units (some have eight or ten). These are the weekly study plans and tools that your family will use to homeschool.





THREADS summarize the main topics of the week and offer the teacher objective goals. Threads also list page numbers for easy reference to Teacher's Notes within each week-plan.



READING ASSIGNMENT CHARTS are organized on four learning levels so that all students can read different and age-appropriate books while studying the same historical topic(s) . . . and graduate to increasingly complex books as they get older.



WEEKLY OVERVIEW CHARTS show you the week at a glance for all suggested activities except reading. They are written to the students to encourage independent planning, but you are the teacher and will be able to guide your student's choices each week.



WRITING ASSIGNMENTS are organized into twelve levels to keep your students challenged! Assignments cover a wide range of genres to give you a rich writing program, but they are still connected to each week's history topics.

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STUDENT ACTIVITY PAGES detail assignments mentioned in the Weekly Overviews. Activities, discussion questions, geography assignments, and more, are are all spelled out here in language addressed to the student.



PAGEANT OF PHILOSOPHY offers a unique approach to philosophy throughout history! Using a play format with scripts, students and parents follow the adventures of Simplicio, the questioner, as he dialogues with the famous minds of the ages.



TEACHER'S NOTES supply detailed information by discipline. You learn in summary what your children are reading about in detail. Because you are "in the know," you can be the teacher every week while streamlining your preparation time.



SUPPLEMENTS contain bonus information that will benefit your student, and are not included in all week-plans. They can include anything from in-depth articles to extra instructions for extended projects.

What is the Loom?

The Loom is a crucial digital resource. It holds all kinds of downloadable digital documents that are useful throughout the entire year-plan, and it can be accessed via the *Tapestry of Grace* website. On the *Loom*, you'll find...

- Summer reading list: assignments for students to complete before starting the first unit of each year-plan
- Important Year-Plan Introduction documents, with in-depth information about our philosophy of education and many useful tips for getting started and set up with your new curriculum
- Overview documents for teaching Rhetoric Literature and Dialectic Literature
- Extra hands-on project helps for some activities
- Writing Level Overview: a helpful tool for placing your students in the proper writing level at the start of the year
- Detailed information about high school credits that can be earned for Tapestry work
- People and Vocabulary Glossaries
- Copies of Student Activity Pages content made up as full-year packets for each level

What is a Week Plan?

What is a week-plan? It's a plan of study for one typical school week, based on the pace that a high school student must keep in order to cover all of world history, literature, church history, government, philosophy, and arts in a four-year time frame.

Remember, you are the teacher! Tapestry is your tool, not your master. Each week-plan presents an educational buffet of options: reading assignments, activities, questions to answer, writing assignments, and more! However, as with any buffet, you simply can't eat it all. You must customize this curriculum to your individual family. No one student will do all the suggested reading and activities.

How do you choose? This is a question that many teachers ask. The answer is, "you just have to try it." While reviewing this Simple Start Guide will give you confidence to begin, you'll gain far more expertise at customizing *Tapestry of Grace* by simply starting school with your first week-plan and learning to tweak as you go! Be patient with yourself and your students. It takes time to learn new ways of doing school, but the rewards can be worth the effort!

Colors have meanings! Look at the top of each page to check the section of the week-plan:

Threads (Weekly Learning Objectives)
Overview/Reading Assignments
Writing Assignments
Student Activity Pages
Pageant of Philosophy
Teacher's Notes
Supplements

Look at the bottom of charts and Student Activity Pages to see learning level indicators:



What Are Learning Levels?

Most Tapestry assignments are divided into four distinct learning levels. Each of these levels roughly correspond with a range of grades and ages so that you can adjust your student up and down as suits his individual development.









LOWER GRAMMAR

- Non-fluent reader
- Approximately grades K–3
- Enjoys learning basic facts

UPPER GRAMMAR

- Independent reader
- Approximately grades 4–6
- Enjoys exploring concrete, sequential facts and "fun facts"

DIALECTIC

- Reads to learn
- Approximately grades 7-9
- Enjoys exploring connections, comparisons, categories, and definitions

RHETORIC

- Reads the Great Books
- Approximately grades 10–12
- Enjoys analyzing and synthesizing ideas and arguments as well as discovering means of persuasion

Threads

The first two or three pages of each week-plan are designed to provide teachers with the main emphases. Threads offer objective goals for the week so that you are assured that you've covered the right amount of information for the week.

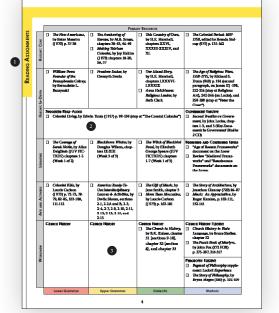
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8	redus: history 5
Lower Gramm	Study the early holezzine of Pennsylvania and Delaware. Lawre about the furnator of Pennsylvania, William Penn. Read about Quadam call lawze some haste information about that rbailsto.
Upper Grammar	Staby the early histories of Plenarylvania and Delawara. Laser aboot the formator of Plenarylvania, William Plena. Zasal shout bruch teaders to woodshood food food y was care mason for the founding of Plenarylvania. Introduce Junce II and the Glorious Revolution.
Dialectic	Learn short the familing of the Quaker colory, Pennsylvania, Becuase this colory originally included have the bacame Delawara, here it also about the foundage (Delaware. E and about the regime of Timen II. Williams of Mary, and the Galmonia Deviation. Learn there foculted and England planed their Pathments in bacame Greet Hefatin during Queen Anna's regim. See here both constitics were requesting in a zer edge.
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All Levels	Staalest exignments are found in the Writing Assignment Charton protogramment of the work plan. Mate area your of thil writes every work Tandowra Johon Consult Writing (Asla or their choice of writing handhock each week for additional help in teaching the week's assignment.
Th	reads: Literature Teacher's Notes, p. 45-5
All Levels	 Tassiwar will find hackground hafmastion, discauston acripta and nanwear to student workshoets or

Note these key features: The week-plan title

- and number are found here.These colored page
- edges make quick reference tabs, so finding your place is easy once you learn the color codes (purple for Threads, yellow for Overview pages, etc!)
- Threads are divided by subject, so you can quickly see your goals for each discipline.
- Colors on the left show learning levels: red for lower grammar, gold for upper grammar, green for dialectic, and blue for rhetoric!
- Quick lookup page numbers function as a Table of Contents for the Teacher's Notes in each week-plan. They mean you never need to go hunting for helps for teaching the week — we tell you just where to find them.

Reading Assignments

All students are reading about the same historical topic, but using resources specially chosen for their reading ability and level of comprehension. The **Primary Resources** provide families with all they will need for that week's reading assignments.

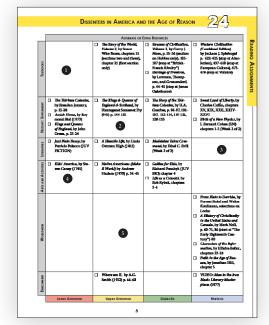


- Reading charts are divided horizontally by subject. You only need to assign books in disciplines that your student is covering!
- Read-alouds add interest and more information to your week. Designed for grammar and dialectic levels to hear together, these book choices do not answer questions found in the Student Activity Pages. They simply promote "couch time" and provide a bigger glimpse into the time frame at hand.

Primary Resources 🕢

- Sometimes a chart block will have no assignment in certain subjects. This is fine!
- Here on the Primary Resources we have tried to assign a reasonable amount for an average student on that learning level to read in a week. But, you are the teacher! Assign as much or as little as is right for your student.

On the **Alternate or Extra Resources** we list additional titles that may or may not be in print, in case you have trouble finding a recommended book

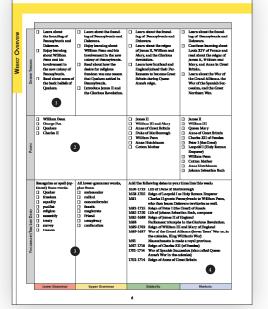


Alternate or Extra Resources

- Many old favorites are listed here: take a look in your public library if you wish to supplement the primary resources we list. You may also want to check your own home bookshelves — many titles listed here are popular among homeschooling families.
- The history supplement row lists optional books that are not guaranteed to answer questions from the Student Activity Pages. Enjoy these optional books if you are expanding your week.
- There are no worksheets or helps available for these titles, but they do provide excellent alternatives if you have already read the primary suggestions.
- These activity books are easily substituted for those listed on the primary page.
- Supplemental worldview assignments offer greater depth and help with church history studies or praying for unreached peoples.

Weekly Overview

Weekly, these two charts show the student all of his options (except reading and writing assignments) at a glance. They are written to the students to encourage independent planning, but you are the teacher and will be able to guide the student's choices each week.

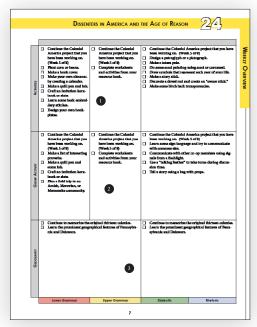


• Student Threads are the weekly Threads rephrased for the benefit of your student.

- People introduces students to important historical figures they may encounter in the week's reading.
- Younger students are given a set of words that may appear in the week's reading, and which may be used for vocabulary memorization, spelling words, or just as an easy way for you to familiarize them with words of the period.

First Page

Older students are encouraged to add this short, weekly list of dates to a cumulative timeline project. This four-year activity can be started with any year-plan. This work will aid students in making connections between simultaneous events occurring across oceans.



- This first Activities row is designed to give students ideas for individual projects. Details are provided in related resources or the Student Activity Pages.
- The Group Activities row gives co-ops or families the opportunity to engage in team building or group interaction while enhancing learning.

Second Page

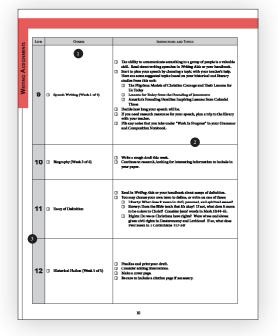
The Geography row summarizes the student assignments that are expanded in the Student Activity Pages. Families will need age-appropriate atlases in order to complete the geography assignments.



Lampstand Press sells a supplemental geography studies product called *Map Aids*. Print off as many custom-drawn, learninglevel specific outline maps as you need each week. Then, your students can check his answers with the provided teacher's maps!

Writing Assignments

Writing assignments are found on pages 8–10 each week. There are twelve learning levels that correlate with normal grade levels. You are the teacher! You can mix and match, jumping between levels, weeks, and units. More choices mean total flexibility!



- Writing Assignments are summarized by genre, so you know at a glance what your student is working on this week.
- Instructions and topics give specific, weekly direction for your student.
- While roughly correlated to grade levels, we know that many students need customized training. Thus, you should feel free to adjust your student lower or higher depending on his skill level.

You will need a handbook to implement our Writing program. We highly recommend Writing Aids, our



companion guide for students and teachers! This product is available in digital or digital plus a printout of the Teacher's Manual. it offers teacher summaries, teaching, and grading tools for all students, K–12, for the entire life of your homeschool.

Student Activity Pages

Weekly, these pages provide worksheets, questions, or other assignments for students. The information is written to the student, but you will help him choose wisely so that he can learn through a variety of modalities — visual, tactile, or auditory.

	DISSENTERS IN AMERICA AND THE AGE OF REASON
LITERATURE	
Wurksheet fur Ibe C Practice finding page quastions.	varage of Samit NoMe, by Alice Dalglinsh numbers and chapter (tiles in your book. Using only the Table of Controls, answer the follow: & * *
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2. WHKH	CHAPTER IS ENTITLED "NIGHT OF FEAR?
3. W	HAT IS THE TITLE OF CHAPTER 17
0	
•	A. WHICH CHAPTER BEGINS ON PAGE 23?
	AHICH CHAPTER BEGINS ON PAGE 47?
3. W	HICH CHAPTER BEGINS ON PAGE 477
6. ON WHIC	H PAGE DOES THE CHAPTER ENTITLED "KEEP UP YOUR COURAGE" BEGIN?
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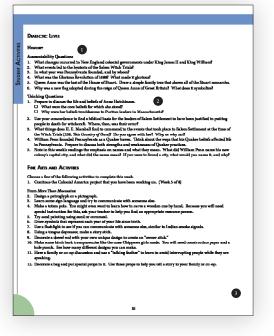
- For grammar and dialectic students, colorful worksheets provide reinforcement activities for the Literature selection students read.
- Weekly, a colored quarter circle in the lower corner tells your student which pages are meant for him.
- Additionally,grammar and dialectic Student Activity Pages contain ideas for activities and hands-on projects and geography assignments that make learning come alive for many young students.



For more great grammar-level activities, be sure to check out the Lampstand Press Lapbooks — and watch history unfold in your child's hands!

More Student Activity Pages

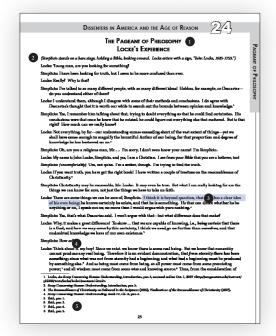
Pages for older students (dialectic and rhetoric levels) include questions that prepare them for discussions. These are divided into Accountability and Thinking Questions each week. Be sure to read the *Loom* supplement so you get the most from these resources!



- Accountability Questions (AQs) help students find and focus on the main ideas for each weekly history topic. Answers to AQs are found in books listed on the Primary Reading Assignment Chart.
- Thinking Questions (TQs) are not typically factual in nature. Students must often extrapolate answers from their readings. They may not reach the full answer before discussion time, when you, the teacher, will help them connect the dots. The purpose for these questions is to "prime the pump" for discussion time, where you lead your child by Socratic questioning to form his own Christian worldview.
- Weekly, rhetoric Literature directions lead older students through detailed analyses of the Great Books.

Pageant of Philosophy

Tapestry helps you prepare your students to engage intelligently with other worldviews as they move out into the world. Over the four years of rhetoric level studies, our Pageant of Philosophy uses a play format to survey major philosophies throughout history.



- This is an elective component, and does not appear in every week-plan.
- The play format is a fun way to explore complex philosophical concepts. Students read the role of a youth looking for truth. Parents can read the role of the week's philosopher, and then use a discussion outline in the Teacher's Notes to help students biblically analyze the philosopher's views.
- Weekly, statements from the Pageant script are highlighted in blue. The discussion outline in the Teacher's Notes helps you to expand on these three points.

- Creative dialogue makes philosophers approachable to the student. Direct quotations from the philosophers are in bold text, so there's no confusion as to what's real and what's been creatively written to help your student understand.
- Footnotes reference the source of any original quotation, making an interesting remark the perfect jumping-in point for a curious student who wants to read a philosopher's thoughts in context.

Teacher's Notes

The heart of our week-plans are your "cheat sheets" where we supply detailed information by subject. You learn in summary what your children read about in detail. Because you are "in the know," you truly can teach every week with minimum preparation time.



We pull background information together for you in the form of articles from World Book encyclopedia (indicated by creamcolored backgrounds behind the text) and also add our own commentary. Each discipline has its own section each week. This is one place that you can find answers to the Accountability Questions listed for dialectic and rhetoric students.

- Often, sidebars contain scripture references that help parents bring biblical perspective to historical topics.
- Weekly Socratic discussion outlines are offered so that you can help your dialectic and rhetoric students make crucial connections and/or analyses of the history, church history, literature, government, and philosophy readings that they may have done. There is a helpful overview of Socratic discussion methods on the Loom.
- The Glance Ahead (at the end of each Teacher's Notes section) offers helpful information for preparing for the week ahead and warnings if there is questionable content in upcoming assignments.

What's the difference between Accountability Questions (AQs) and Thinking Questions (TQs)?

Answering AQs in written form can keep students focused on the lesson and train them to find the main ideas so that students are not at a loss when discussion time comes. Some AQ sections include instructions for filling in provided charts and other study aids.

The TQs help students prepare to discuss the pith of the week's lesson, offering a chance to "limber up" for mental wrestling with profound issues during upcoming Socratic discussions.

Unlike AQs, TQs do not focus on factual information or the main ideas. Rather, these questions ask students to begin a process of either connecting facts (dialectic) or analyzing them (rhetoric) before class. As a result, many of the TQs won't be fully answered independently. Instruct students to do their best preparation work, and anticipate that, during the Socratic discussion process, their comprehension of the material will increase.

AQs and TQs work towards the Socratic discussion. Rather than a more traditional Q&A parroting session, or a dull game of educational ping-pong, our discussion outlines attempt to enliven your individual experiences, producing memorable learning. As a result, you will not find a quick "answer key" to the AQs and TQs in our discussion outlines, and your goal is not to "check students' answers." Our Teacher's Notes taken as a whole constitute each week's "answer key." The goal of each week's discussion is to help students reach that "Ohhhh!" moment, which indicates that they have worked through worldview issues and come to satisfying conclusions.

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Supplements

Supplements contain bonus information such as in-depth articles, teacher versions of student charts, or extended project instructions, and are not included in every week-plan.

Setting Up

Choose Your Format

Tapestry of Grace is available first in a digitally downloadable PDF format, but you can add a printout to the basic license. The content is the same for both.

Digital

Integrated *Tapestry of Grace* is a set of downloadable digital products found on our website. You need an internet connection at least once to download it. These digital PDFs are searchable, safe, inexpensive, and fully updatable. It is sold under a family license, which means that the family who purchases it is entitled to access it forever, but that it cannot be transferred or resold outside of your immediate nuclear family.

Digital + Printout

You can purchase the Digital Integrated *Tapestry of Grace* and then have a Printout made for you at an additional cost. This reduces the time and trouble of printing for you. However, please note that any printout of digital Integrated *Tapestry* is purchased under the same license agreements as the base digital package, so the printouts cannot be resold, gifted to someone else, or transferred.

Four-Step Setup

Setup: Printed Units

Open your unit(s) and place them into binders. We recommend one 1.5" to 2" binder per unit (size depends on the unit). Many teachers choose to use this binder for their full unit and a smaller binder or folder for the week they're currently studying. If you bought our custom Tab Set, insert the tabs between the week-plans.

Setup: Digital

Go to our website, make sure you are logged in, then choose your year page and scroll down (to access *Loom* documents) or choose a unit page (to access all other curriculum documents). Decide what you will be accessing on the computer and what you'll be printing.

Read through introductory materials on the *Loom*. On the *Loom*, you'll find a number of helpful introductory materials, most notably the year introductions. On the same Year page, you can also find a Scope & Sequence, Supporting Links, and other goodies!

Check out your supplementary products

If you bought supplementary products such as *Writing Aids* or *MapAids*, take time to open them so that you will understand references to them in this guide and in your curriculum.

Start gathering resources

You will need to purchase and/or borrow books for your children's studies. You can find booklists on the *Loom*, and you can visit our Amazon store to browse! You'll want to consider whether it's better for your family to purchase unit-by-unit or for the whole year.

Supplementary Products

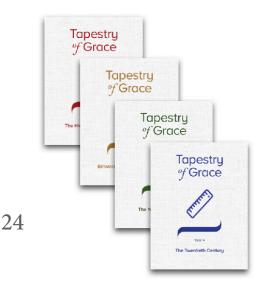
Evaluations

Weekly quizzes and tests, with both student and teacher versions, sample answers and answer keys, and unit tests for some levels. The subjects covered are history and (for some levels) literature. | Grades 1-12 | \$10 – \$15



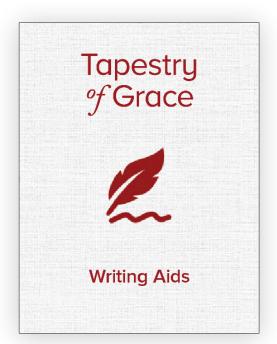
Planning Aids

Reading assignments organized by day according to several different weekly schemes. | Years 1-4 | Grades 1-6 | \$12.50



Writing Aids

A comprehensive teacher's manual, grading rubrics, and student explanation pages for writing genres. | Years 1-4 | Grades K-12 | \$40 – \$60



Shorter Works Anthology

Classic literary texts, primarily poems, short stories, and plays, reformatted and annotated for *Tapestry of Grace* students. | Grades 10-12 | \$25



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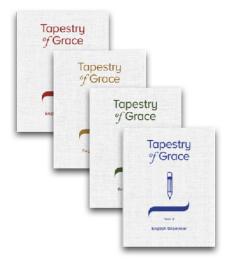
Handwriting

Print and cursive practice pages using history vocabulary words. | Years 1-4 | Grades K-3 | \$5 – \$15



English Grammar

History-based grammar lessons and exercises, with answer keys, that can be used either to teach or review English Grammar at any age. | Years 1-4 | Grades 4-6 | \$15 - \$30



Lapbooks

A colorful nine-week hands-on activity available as digital or printed kits | all sixteen units | Grades K-6 | \$15 – \$65



Grammar History Activities

Coloring, connect-the-dots, matching, sequencing, mazes, and some mapwork, covering most weeks in Years 1 and 2. | Grades 1-6 | \$15 - \$20



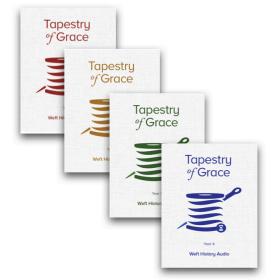
Map Aids

Student maps and teacher answer key maps that can be purchased as a supplement for Integrated but come for free with the corresponding levels of Spools Geography or Spools Full Rack. | Years 1-4 | Grades K-12 | \$10 – \$35



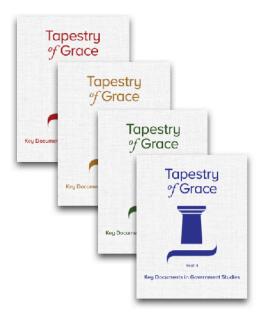
Weft History Audio

A history audio overview with funny voices and characters. | Years 1-4 | Grades K-6 | \$10 – \$35



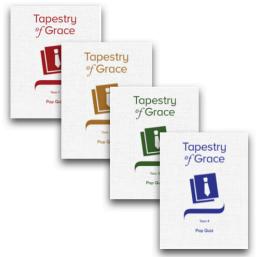
Key Documents in Government Studies

Excerpts from primary source documents in political theory and history. These documents are often required reading in Integrated *Tapestry of Grace* | Years 1-4 | Grades 10-12 | \$15



Pop Quiz

Short audio overview of all Tapestry subjects for fathers, with short discussion questions | Years 1-4 | Grades K-12 | \$15 – \$50



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Planning

Planning Your Year

Set Up Student Notebooks

Many newcomers ask us how to set up their student notebooks. As with all things homeschool, it's a matter of personal preference. Here are some popular options from which you may wish to choose:

- Divide the student notebook into 36 weeks. Then, have your student file all completed work behind each tab.
- Use dividers purchased at an office supply store to divide up your student's notebook by subjects. Thus, he would file geography work in a "Geography" section, and class notes in a "Class Notes: History" section. Obviously, you need to determine the subject headings for each individual student.
- Some students have one notebook per subject. We suggest that students make a separate one for Grammar & Composition, and some students prefer to have dedicated time line notebooks, too. See the curriculum directions on the *Loom* for details on this idea.

Read the Year-Plan Introduction

On the *Loom*, there is a detailed introduction to your year-plan. It is important to your success that you take time to understand the goals and philosophy behind *Tapestry*. Though it is not immediately apparent, *Tapestry* may be truly different than any other program you have yet used, so please do read this introduction.

Look at High School Credits

Many high school students are looking towards college. According to a cohesive four-year plan, determine which credits your high school student needs to earn this year. On the *Loom* there is information about options for giving students various credits for this year's Tapestry studies.

Rhetoric Electives

If your high school student is earning credits in specific disciplines, you may also need to purchase these:

- *Poetics:* Used in all four year-plans, your student who is earning either English or Literature credits cannot get by without this product.
- *Shorter Works Anthologies*: Buy this for your rhetoric Literature students who are working through either Year 2 or Year 3.
- *Key Documents in Government Studies*: If your student is earning a Government credit in any of the year-plans, this product will save hours in looking for specific original source documents. There is one to purchase for each year plan.

Determining the Year's Content

- Based on the needs of your oldest students, think about which of the subjects offered in Tapestry you plan to teach this year.
- Write out a master plan for each student that lists the subjects he will do this school year. (Don't forget to include math, science, and foreign languages in each plan where age-appropriate.)
- Plan to spend the bulk of your teaching time with your non-readers. They will need you to sit with them in order for lessons to be completed, but their lessons are usually brief: not more than ½ hour each.
- As you are able, work towards teaching your fluent readers to become independent learners. This takes time and training, but yields great dividends.
- With all of your independent readers, plan to have periodic (i.e. not daily) lessons with them. For instance, schedule science lessons for Tu/Th, and math lessons for M, W, and F. Independent readers can work towards class time, often doing two or three published lessons that you can then go over in one sitting.
- Plan where you will fit in read-aloud sessions and weekly discussions with older students.

Planning Your Unit

Browse the Entire Unit

- Whichever unit you are starting to use, read the Unit Introduction thoroughly to get the big picture of what you are trying to teach.
- Look closely at the Reading Assignment Charts, particularly page 4 of each week-plan (the Primary Reading Assignment Chart) to see how reading assignments work together, and how often specific books are used in each unit.
- Notice that each week-plan has the Glance Ahead which gives you valuable information about combining resources, avoiding troublesome content in some books, and managing your work load.

Find Your Books

- Find the Booklists for your student's levels on the *Loom!* These include links to both WorldCat (for library searches) and our Amazon store (for shopping).
- Alternatively, you can use links on the year pages to go directly to our Amazon store and browse options arranged by year, learning level, and subject.
- Some of our primary books may already be on your family bookshelves. Be sure to check there before making purchases.

Print Supplemental Materials

- Look through each week-plan and print from your supplemental Tapestry products (such as *Writing Aids, Map Aids, Lapbooks,* and *Evaluations*) any maps, graphic organizers, rubrics, quizzes, etc. that will be needed for you or your students for the subjects you plan to teach. (Remember that for Print customers, the *Loom* has digital copies of Student Activity Pages for easy printing.)
- You can place all these materials into your students' notebooks or file system before the unit begins, and thus get a running start.

Scheduling

There's so much to do in any given week in a busy homeschooling family! We highly recommend that you take the time to write out individual schedules for each of your students. Though in many cases you will not stick to the schedule you write, drafting one gives you the confidence to feel that—barring unforeseen interruptions—you can fit it all in.

On the *Loom* we offer suggested schedules for families with multiple levels that are too detailed to print here, so be sure to access those as you get time.

If desired, you can also access our online planning video via our website's Planning page.

Involving Your Children

We strongly suggest that students be involved in planning their work week-to-week. We offer various blank charts on the *Loom* that help you do this. Plan to have a weekly meeting with your students at your kitchen table. Weekly, help them to understand what you have determined their tasks-to-be and how to record them for themselves in the age-appropriate one-page chart. See more suggestions for this process in your year-plan introduction.

Planning Tapestry

Many newcomers ask, "How do I make choices from the educational buffet that is *Tapestry*?" Our answer is, "It depends!" Only you can assess your students' capacity for reading, writing, and discussion. We suggest that you look over the Tapestry lesson plans, make your best guess, and then begin. So many people have written to tell us that, though they planned and planned, they never really got their minds around *Tapestry* until they had used it for a few weeks. So our best advice is, "Begin!"

Another well-loved strategy is to begin by using only part of the program, and then add elements in after a week or two of gaining momentum into the year. For instance, you might do only History assignments for the first week, then add in Literature readings in the next, then start requiring Geography or Vocabulary work.

Tapestry plans offer all levels at all times, which means ultimate flexibility for you. If you have questions about where to place your student in reading or writing assignments, again, we recommend, "Try and see!" You can so easily adjust things up or down if you guess wrong.

Note that this is the reason that our Writing assignments start very slowly in the first few week-plans of each *Tapestry* year-plan. Our goal is to facilitate the start-up process for each year. Taken as a whole, each year-plan's writing program is very full. Your student loses nothing by working slowly in Unit 1 and then spending more and more time on writing assignments as the year progresses.

More Support

Online Support

On our website—tapestryofgrace.com—you will find a variety of support options:

- Community Page: Accessible from the Menu, this
 page offers links to Presentation Specialists (with
 whom you can schedule a free tour or consultation), Facebook Groups, a Groups Directory, and
 personal ads (which we run for you free of charge).
- Newsletters and Announcements Page: Our mostly-monthly newsletter is packed with information, and we post all of it on our website's Announcements page as well.
- Help Button: This button, located in the bottom right-hand corner of each webpage on our site, will allow you to access both the Knowledge Database (which you can search for articles) and the Help Tickets (which you can use to send us a direct message, schedule a phone call, or schedule an online meeting).

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