



EXPLORATION TO 1850

Synergy Groups – Learning Together!™

See Note
from Marie
page 3



Synergy Group™ Guide
for

EXPLORATION TO 1850

Synergy Groups – Learning Together!™

MY FATHER'S WORLD®

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A Note from Marie

Synergy Groups – Learning Together!™

I'm excited to share this Synergy Group Guide with you. It's designed to meet the need for community among homeschooling families. *Synergy*, "working together," describes the multiplying results when families join together, creating something greater than our individual efforts.

Synergy Groups are simple. You don't need a large group, or a lot of advance planning, or a huge time commitment. We want to make your life easier while providing friendship and encouragement. Our easy-to-teach *Synergy Group Guide* provides flexible structure with minimal preparation.

What Is a Synergy Group™?

- weekly groups of two or more families, all using the same year of MFW curriculum
- friendship and accountability with like-minded families
- science, history/geography, Bible memory, art, and music (all from your MFW Teacher's Manual) – freeing up more of your time at home – as well as speech opportunities

How Do I Begin a Synergy Group?

It's simple – just invite one or more of your friends to use the same year of curriculum as you. You can use MFW catalogs to share about the curriculum. Perhaps you can find a family at your church or in your local homeschool group. You might invite a new family to consider homeschooling, with your mentoring assistance and the encouragement of weekly group times.

Special Note: If you invite a friend who is new to MFW, they would usually begin with *ECC*.

However, because we believe so strongly in the strength of community, we make an exception to this guideline. Your friend can meet with you weekly in a Synergy Group and use *EXP to 1850* at home, benefiting from your past experience with MFW as well as your mentoring and encouragement.

Each family needs their own *Exploration to 1850* curriculum package to teach at home – Deluxe (or Basic plus the music CDs and *Then Sings My Soul*) as well as *God and the History of Art*. The Group Leader and any other parents who are teaching will need a *Synergy Group Guide* to lead you through group activities that match your MFW curriculum, week by week.

If you're new to homeschooling, *Synergy Group Guides* make it easy to partner with another family. If you've homeschooled before, these groups are an easy way to reach out and mentor other families just beginning the homeschool journey.

We hope you have a wonderful year learning together!

Marie

Welcome to My Father's World *Exploration to 1850*, where you'll see the sovereign hand of God unfold the pages of history and knit together the beauty of creation. Be prepared to deeply connect with other like-minded families and join together in community.

Overview

Synergy Group Guides are written so that families using the same year of MFW curriculum can meet and participate in group activities. Activities are primarily those already scheduled in the MFW Teacher's Manuals. We were careful not to increase the weekly time or work load for the parent and student. Group activities reinforce lessons learned during the week at home while also giving an opportunity for public speaking, public prayer, and group interaction.

Synergy Group Guides can be used with as few as two families. It's best to split into smaller groups if more than five families join. Attendance of all group members every week is encouraged but not required; most missed activities can be completed at home.

Schedule

We encourage groups to meet **Thursday afternoon or any time Friday** because some group activities assume parents have already taught lessons from their MFW Teacher's Manual for that week. We believe afternoon meetings are best so that valuable morning home teaching time is not lost. MFW lesson plans generally are much lighter on Friday, so Friday afternoon may be an ideal time to meet.

Groups meet for about **two hours a week**. Plan for quick transitions between activities and a short mid-meeting break. Actual time will vary from week to week.

- Opening Prayer – 3 minutes
- Recite Memory Verses (Current and Review) – 10 minutes
- Public Speaking Opportunity – 10 minutes
- History – 25 minutes
- Science – 25 minutes
- Music and Art – 25 minutes

The Group Leader can set a schedule for the year that works best for your group and distribute it to all families at the first group meeting. See the sample Synergy Group schedule page.

Activities

Groups work best with a defined, repeatable structure. In Synergy groups, activities change each week, but the structure remains the same, greatly reducing the Group Leader's preparation time.

Activities are designed for grades 2-8. Often, older children can help younger ones with an activity for true group learning. Younger siblings may participate as they are able. Parents are expected to attend all group sessions with their children.

Families teach lessons at home from their MFW Teacher's Manual for the same week being taught in the group. Weekly summary sheets list activities from your MFW Teacher's Manual that will be completed in group and won't need to be taught at home.

No homework is assigned, except for occasional minimal preparation for public speaking opportunities.

Sample Synergy Group Schedule

This is only a sample. Modify this calendar to match the current year and your group's scheduling needs.

JULY							AUGUST							SEPTEMBER						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4							1			1	2	3	4	5
5	6	7	8	9	10	11		2	3	4	5	6	7	8	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	wk 1	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	wk 5	13	14	15	16	17
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	wk 2	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	wk 6	20	21	22	23	24
26	27	28	29	30	31		wk 3	23	24	25	26	27	28	29		27	28	29	30	
							wk 4	30	31											
OCTOBER							NOVEMBER							DECEMBER						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3											1	2	3	4
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	wk 11	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	6	7	8	9	10	11
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	wk 12	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	wk 14	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24		15	16	17	18	19	20	21	wk 15	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	wk 13	22	23	24	25	26	27	28		27	28	29	30	31
								29	30											
JANUARY							FEBRUARY							MARCH						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2											1	2	3	4
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	wk 20	1	2	3	4	5	6	wk 22	1	2	3	4	5	6
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	wk 21	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	7	8	9	10	11	12
17	18	19	20	21	22	23		14	15	16	17	18	19	20	wk 23	14	15	16	17	18
24	25	26	27	28	29	30		21	22	23	24	25	26	27	wk 25	21	22	23	24	25
31								28							wk 26	28	29	30	31	
APRIL							MAY							JUNE						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3											1	2	3	4
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	wk 29	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	wk 34	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	wk 30	9	10	11	12	13	14	15		13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	wk 31	16	17	18	19	20	21	22		20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30		wk 32	23	24	25	26	27	28	29		27	28	29	30	
							wk 33	30	31											

Group Leaders should set the schedule at the beginning of the year and pass it out to all participating families. This is a key to helping everyone stay on schedule. We recommend:

- Begin in early August to end in June, with significant breaks throughout the year.
- Meet about six weeks; then break for two weeks. Why?
 - First week is school catch-up: math lessons that need to be reinforced, books you didn't finish reading, hands-on projects you didn't complete, missed lessons due to illness. This is a relaxed time, but don't neglect the purpose. If you are all caught up, pursue any extras that didn't quite fit in your schedule—field trips, service/ministry opportunities, more projects, more books, other areas of interest.
 - Second week is vacation: No school work! Visit Grandma and Grandpa. Take a family vacation when sites aren't crowded. Enjoy a "staycation"—fun time at places near home. Clean out the closet. Pack away summer clothes and take out winter clothes. Etc.
 - When you begin your next six weeks of school, you'll be caught up. You'll feel rested and prepared. And you'll know a two-week break is already scheduled.

Leader

One person is the designated Group Leader, providing cohesive leadership for the year and teaching all activities. Your group can designate a second parent as a co-teacher, or divide tasks so that each parent teaches a specific activity all year, such as science. However, it is still important to designate one individual as the Group Leader. All teaching parents will need their own *Synergy Group Guide*.

Preparation

Fill out the top half of the **Parent Handout** page. Photocopy and distribute it and the **Week 1 Summary** to all participating families before your Week 1 meeting.

Begin to gather materials:

- The *Synergy Group Guide* lists materials each week for the Group Leader (or other parents) to provide. Each group will need to decide how to share the expense of any materials that are purchased. In addition, materials are listed for each family to bring.
- School Supply Box – Every week each child will need to bring a School Supply Box with several pens and pencils, kid-safe scissors, white school glue, and colored pencils. Also include crayons and/or markers. These items will not be listed in the weekly supply lists; we will assume you have them on hand each week.
- Leader Supply Box – Each week the leader will need to bring a Leader Supply Box with 9” x 12” colored construction paper (50-sheet pack, multicolored), one ream of white copy paper, adult scissors, several glue sticks, several rulers, pencils, scotch tape, paper towels (for art clean up), and 6” paper plates (for students to mix paints). These items will not be listed in the weekly supply lists; we will assume you have them on hand each week.
- Art Supplies – See the information on Week 1 Summary sheet. Parents will bring art supplies each week.
- Owl Pellets – You’ll need these for Week 6. Order from www.hometrainingtools.com or other source; one per family or child.

Parent Handout



Synergy Group – *Exploration to 1850*

Date and Time of First Meeting

Group Location

Group Leader Information

Name:

Phone:

E-Mail:

Other Group Member Names and Contact Information

Planning Ahead

This year our group will have two opportunities to display work for guests. Each family will have a table where they can display selected items from their children's work from home and group reflecting their studies.

Plan to help your children pick out items to bring and display on your family table. Include things such as art, projects, the History Notebook, and other relevant items. Review with your children the importance of each item so they can explain it to other students, parents, and guests.

We will invite friends and family to see the children's work and share foods related to our history studies. Each of us will bring a typical food to share with guests. The group leader will coordinate this to make sure there is a good sampling of food for the guests.

Group events for guests are scheduled for the following weeks.

Week 14 – Display school work; Mid-Year Celebration

Week 34 – Display school work; End-of-Year Celebration

You might want to plan these events on Saturday or after work so that dads can participate also.

Week 1 Summary

Synergy Group – *Exploration to 1850*



Plan to teach Week 1 of *Exploration to 1850* at home in the same week as the initial group meeting.

At our Week 1 group meeting we will do the following activities from Week 1, *Exploration to 1850*. Mark these in your Teacher's Manual so you don't do them at home.

Day in TM	Group Activity	Notes to Parents
(not in TM)	Speech Opportunity – Impromptu Speech	no preparation needed
Mon	World Map Activity (optional cake)	Do World Map Activity at home. At group we will do “Make a world map cake” optional in TM notes.
Tues	History – Activity—Sailing Ships	
Tues	Science – This Is My Father's World	
At home, read about and sing “This Is My Father's World” from <i>Then Sings My Soul</i> , pages 254-255. We will also sing it in group.		

Materials for each FAMILY to bring:

- ☐ This Is My Father's World student sheet (Week 1:T) (for science)
- ☐ Bible (for science)
- ☐ School Supply Box – Every week each child needs to bring a School Supply Box with several pens and pencils, kid-safe scissors, white school glue, and colored pencils. Also include crayons and/or markers. These items won't be listed in the weekly supply lists; we'll assume you have them.
- ☐ art supplies – none this week; needed all year for lessons both at home and in group:
 - 12 colored pencils (Prismacolor recommended) drawing pencils
 - ultra-fine black marker pen washable markers
 - kneaded eraser 3 brushes (small, medium, large)
 - yellow, red, blue, white acrylic paints (Acrylic Paint
 - Set available at My Father's World)

Additional materials for LEADER (or designated parents) to bring:

- ☐ *Exploration to 1850* Teacher's Manual
- ☐ *Then Sings My Soul*
- ☐ rectangular cake – frosted like a world map with blue oceans and green continents
- ☐ candy stars to decorate the cake
- ☐ paper plates, napkins, forks, and knife
- ☐ aluminum foil
- ☐ modeling clay
- ☐ pencils (or bamboo skewers cut in half or coffee stirrers)

Photocopies:

- ☐ Week 2 Summary (one copy per family), given to the families at the end of the Week 1 class

Reminder: LEADER will need to bring the Leader Supply Box every week (see introduction). These items won't be listed in the weekly materials list; we'll assume you have them each week.

Group Activities – Week 1

Exploration to 1850



Summary

This is the first week, so relax! Welcome all of the group members and learn each other's names. You might read aloud or summarize the *Synergy Group Guide* introduction to the group.

Prayer (2-3 Minutes)

Note: Suggested minutes to complete activities are included in Week 1 to help you stay on track. Actual times will vary; adjust to the needs of your group.

Say a prayer for the parents and children in your group and the people of the world. Use the prayer below or write one of your own. You can pray for special circumstances or current world situations.

Sample Prayer: We pray for this group and that together we will learn more about God's world and grow to be better servants because of what we learn together. We pray for each parent and their children that they may grow in wisdom, knowledge, and strength to the glory of God and His kingdom. We pray for the people of the world, that they will come to know You and Your Son, Jesus Christ.

Memory Work (10 Minutes)

The goal this week is to discuss how memory work will be done this year.

In most cases, the entire group (students and parents) will recite the memory work chorally (all speaking together). This will build memory and public speaking skills. For older children, the group leader may alternate between students, asking them to recite the memory work individually.

Note: Allow plenty of time for young minds to remember and make mistakes. Be ready to help prompt and facilitate in a supportive and encouraging manner.

Memory verse recitation will begin next week.

Speech Opportunity (10 Minutes): Impromptu Speech

This is the first week, so give students and parents the following overview of the year's speech opportunities. Each week students will be assigned a speech opportunity for the following week. Initially, these will be conversational such as, "Tell me someplace you went over the summer." Over the next 34 weeks speech opportunities will become longer and more structured.

The speech opportunity this week is for each child to stand up and tell about a place they went over the summer or about an explorer they know something about. If the group is made up of only younger children or is small, have parents also take a turn. The goal is to get the children speaking in a group situation. We want to make speech opportunities enjoyable.

History (25 Minutes): Sailing Ships

See Week 1 Thursday notes in *Exploration to 1850* TM.

Break (5-10 Minutes) – Prepare for remaining activities.

Science (25 Minutes): This Is My Father's World

Help students read and discuss Psalm 24:1-2.

Read through the hymn "This Is My Father's World," using the student sheet. Students may color the illustrations. Plan to add these sheets at home to the students' science notebooks.

Hint: Be flexible! Not everything is going to go right. If an activity takes longer than the allotted time, it is better to finish the activity than to rush to the next activity. If an activity must be skipped due to family or facility time constraints, then the family knows they will need to do that activity at home.

* * * * *

Options for 7th/ 8th graders (who are completing Apologia Science):

- Participate in the Synergy group science activity, possibly as a mentor to a younger child
- Bring a quiet school task to complete independently during science time (reading, science, etc.)

Music: *Then Sings My Soul*, page 254, "This Is My Father's World"

Sing through the verses. You may use the audio clip found at mfwbooks.com/hymns.

Art: To celebrate our first week, we will decorate a World Cake. The cake is already decorated with the continents and oceans. Ask each child and parent to put a candy star on the cake representing one of the following:

- A place they have been
- A place a relative or friend was born or came from
- A place where they know an event has happened or is happening

As they place the star, have the person tell the story of where the star is placed and why that is important to them. It will be fun for each person to learn something about the others and the places they have been.

Cut up the cake and share it.

Give copies of Week 2 Summary to each family.

LEADER NOTES:

Week 2 Summary

Synergy Group – *Exploration to 1850*



Day in TM	Group Activity	Notes to Parents
(not in TM)	Speech Opportunity	Help your child prepare to talk 1-2 minutes about something they learned about a leader of a country (see names at top of Week 2 chart in TM). They may bring a photo or prop.
Mon	Art – <i>God and the History of Art</i> , p292 Lesson #171 Still Life	Read pages 290-292 at home. We'll do the Still Life project in group.
Tues	Music – <i>The Story of Schubert</i>	We'll listen to tracks 14-26 in group. Be sure you've listened to tracks 1-13 at home (assigned Week 1 in your TM).
Thurs	History – Activity—Make Shortbread	
Thurs	Science – Activity—Make a Model Backbone	

Mark these activities in your *Exploration to 1850* TM so you do not do them at home.

Materials for each FAMILY to bring:

- ☐ *God and the History of Art II* (or photocopies of the specified pages each week)
- ☐ art supplies – colored pencils
- ☐ School Supply Box

Additional materials for LEADER to bring:

- ☐ *Exploration to 1850* Teacher's Manual
- ☐ Bible
- ☐ *The Story of Schubert* CD and CD player
- ☐ flashlight
- ☐ household objects (for art)
- ☐ ingredients for shortbread (see TM, Week 2 Thursday) – may bake shortbread at home and bring to group to serve with tea
- ☐ bowl, pan, oven mitts, plates, napkins, etc.
- ☐ tea, cups

Materials for Science:

- ☐ bendable straws
- ☐ empty small (1") thread spools (4 per student or one set per group)
- ☐ optional: fish backbone

Photocopies:

- ☐ Week 3 Summary (one copy per family)

Group Activities – Week 2

Exploration to 1850



Prayer – Lord, help us remember what makes a good leader. Godly leaders know God’s Word and hide it in their heart. Lord, help us as we memorize James, that we would listen to Your Word and obey it.

Memory Work

The children should have started memorizing the book of James. Have the children recite James 1:1-4 with help. If parents are able, they can also recite the memory verses each week.

Families have chosen which plan (Plan A or Plan B) they will use for memorizing the book of James. We’ll list the verses for Plan A in this guide. Have all children recite them. Those using Plan B can drop out of saying the extra verses they haven’t memorized. (It’s beneficial for them to hear all the verses, as they will be memorizing some of them later.)

History: Make Shortbread

See Week 2 Thursday notes in *Exploration to 1850* TM.

Allow time to cool completely in the pan. Enjoy at the end of group with a cup of tea.

Speech Opportunity

Let each child talk 1-2 minutes about something they learned about a leader of a country, such as Charles V; William the Scott; or Mary, Queen of the Scots. They may share a photo or prop.

Break (5-10 Minutes) – Prepare for remaining activities.

Science: Make a Model Backbone

How does a backbone work? To find out, make a model of a backbone. Bend a straw at a right angle where it has a flexible bend. (You will be adding spools of thread, and the bend will keep them from sliding off.)

Hold the straw upright so that the small, bent end lies flat on a table. Slide the spools onto the straw. This is a simplified model of a backbone. All animals that are vertebrates have a back bone. Notice that a backbone is composed of smaller pieces, like your spools of thread, called vertebrae.

Push the top spool to the right. What does the rest of the backbone do? [it moves, too]

Stand up and bend over. Can you feel your backbone?

Optional: If available, examine a fish backbone. (You might serve a whole fish for supper or ask a fisherman friend to save a backbone for you.) Notice how the small bones of the backbone fit together.

Music: *The Story of Schubert*, #14 – #26

Show the picture of Shubert on *The Story of Schubert* CD. Read aloud the information about Schubert on the back of the CD. Remind the students to listen very carefully because when it is over, you will ask them to tell as many things as they remember about Schubert.

Art: *God and the History of Art*, page 292, Lesson #171 – Still Life

History: Shortbread Snack

Enjoy shortbread with cups of tea.

Give copies of Week 3 Summary to each family.

LEADER NOTES:

As you use the *Synergy Guide* this year, we want to hear from you. Please help us make these guides even better. Send us your suggestions, comments, or questions.

E-mail us at mfw.info@mfwbooks.com (include *Synergy* in the subject line).

*Two are better than one,
because they have a good return for their work:
If one falls down,
his friend can help him up.
But pity the man who falls
and has no one to help him up!
Though one may be overpowered,
two can defend themselves.
A cord of three strands is not quickly broken.
Ecclesiastes 4:9-10, 12*

Week 3 Summary

Synergy Group – *Exploration to 1850*



Day in TM	Group Activity	Notes to Parents
(not in TM)	Speech Opportunity – Impromptu Speech	Students will be asked to contribute a sentence or two about King James to continue a story.
(not in TM)	Art – Watercolor Painting	
Tues	History – Activity—Make a Wigwam	Cut cereal box into strips before class.
Tues	Music – <i>The Best of Schubert</i>	
Wed	Science – <i>The World of Animals-M</i>	Read some of the assigned pages. We'll do the activity in the TM notes in group.

Mark these activities in your *Exploration to 1850* TM so you do not do them at home.

Materials for each FAMILY to bring:

- ☐ cereal box to cut into strips
- ☐ art supplies – watercolor paints, cups for water
- ☐ School Supply Box

Additional materials for LEADER to bring:

- ☐ *Exploration to 1850* Teacher's Manual
- ☐ Bible
- ☐ *The Best of Schubert* CD and CD player
- ☐ brown construction paper
- ☐ stapler
- ☐ 12" x 12" cardboard (one per student)

Materials for Science:

- ☐ *Exploration to 1850* Teacher's Manual
- ☐ something to time seconds (watch, phone)

Photocopies:

- ☐ Week 4 Summary (one copy per family)

Group Activities – Week 3

Exploration to 1850



<p>Prayer – Lord, we pray for the leaders of America. Give them wisdom and strength to act in ways that honor You.</p>
<p>Memory Work</p> <p>Have the children recite James 1:1-8. Remember, we'll list the verses for Plan A in this guide. Have all children recite them. Those using Plan B can drop out of saying the extra verses they haven't memorized. (It's beneficial for them to hear the verses, as they will be memorizing some of them later.)</p>
<p>Speech Opportunity</p> <p>Say, "A long time ago, there was a king named King James." Have the children take turns to contribute a sentence or two about King James to continue the group's oral report.</p>
<p>History: Making a Wigwam</p> <p>The Indians near Jamestown lived in huts called wigwams. These were oval-shaped domes. The frame was made by bending light wooden poles and tying them together with bark. Pieces of bark were laid on the frame, somewhat like shingles.</p> <p>Follow the directions in the teacher's manual to cut the cereal box and place on the 12" x 12" cardboard as a base. Tear pieces of dark brown paper to cover the wigwam, overlapping pieces to give better protection from the rain. Don't glue any pieces at the very top of the wigwam, because you will cut a small smoke hole at the top tomorrow.</p>
<p>Break (5-10 Minutes) – Prepare for remaining activities.</p>
<p>Science: Heartbeat Activity</p> <p>Did You know? – Mammals have a heart that pumps blood. Use a watch with a second hand to count your heartbeats for one minute. Compare this to an elephant's heartbeat of 28 beats per minute. How fast do you think a mouse's heart beats? Smaller mammals have hearts that beat much faster. A mouse heart beats 500 times per minute.</p>
<p>Music: <i>The Best of Schubert</i>, #1</p> <p>See Week 3 Tuesday notes in <i>Exploration to 1850</i> TM.</p>
<p>Art: Have students paint with watercolors as they listen to the music.</p>

Give copies of Week 4 Summary to each family.

LEADER NOTES:

Week 4 Summary

Synergy Group – *Exploration to 1850*



Day in TM	Group Activity	Notes to Parents
(not in TM)	Speech Opportunity	Prepare index cards at home with points about life as a Pilgrim on the ship to America. Student will give a 1-2 minute speech as if they were a Pilgrim, including their thoughts and feelings.
Thurs	Science – <i>The World of Animals</i> , p26 Acting Like a Whale	Read the chapter at home. We'll do "Acting like a whale" (activities 1 and 2) in group.
Thurs	Art – <i>God and the History of Art</i> , p304-305 Lesson #179 David & Goliath	
Fri	History – Play Games	
At home, read about and sing "Leaning on the Everlasting Arms" from <i>Then Sings My Soul</i> , pages 218-219. We will also sing it in group.		

Mark these activities in your *Exploration to 1850* TM so you do not do them at home.

Materials for each FAMILY to bring:

- ☐ *Then Sings My Soul*
- ☐ toothbrush for each child for science
- ☐ *God and the History of Art II*
- ☐ art supplies – colored pencils
- ☐ School Supply Box

Additional materials for LEADER to bring:

- ☐ *Exploration to 1850* Teacher's Manual
- ☐ Bible
- ☐ almonds in their shells (6 per family)
- ☐ toothpicks
- ☐ 24" string (per family)
- ☐ 3" x 3" cardboard (2 per family)
- ☐ wooden craft sticks or 3" twigs (4 per family)
- ☐ small stick or stick-like bone (1 per family)

Materials for Science:

- ☐ *The World of Animals*
- ☐ stopwatch
- ☐ chopped nuts, fruits, or vegetables
- ☐ small paper cups (2 per child)

Photocopies:

- ☐ Week 5 Summary (one copy per family)

Group Activities – Week 4

Exploration to 1850



Prayer – Lord, we thank You for placing us right now in history, just where You can use us most!
Memory Work Have the children recite James 1:1-11. Those using Plan B can drop out of saying the extra verses they haven't memorized. (It's beneficial for them to hear the verses, as they will be memorizing some of them later.)
Speech Opportunity Students will give a 1-2 minute speech, using index cards, speaking as if they were a Pilgrim. They should include some of their thoughts and feelings.
History: Play Games See Week 4 Friday notes in <i>Exploration to 1850</i> TM. Make one of each game per family.
Break (5-10 Minutes) – Prepare for remaining activities.
Science: Acting Like a Whale Follow directions in <i>The World of Animals</i> , page 26, for Activities 1 and 2.
Music: <i>Then Sings My Soul</i> , page 218, "Leaning on the Everlasting Arms" You may use the audio clip found at mfwbooks.com/hymns .
Art: <i>God and the History of Art</i> , pages 304-305, Lesson #179 – David and Goliath

Give copies of Week 5 Summary to each family.

LEADER NOTES:

Week 5 Summary

Synergy Group – *Exploration to 1850*



Day in TM	Group Activity	Notes to Parents
(not in TM)	Speech Opportunity	Help your child prepare a 1-2 minute report about a marsupial, using a picture or other prop.
Mon	Science – <i>The World of Animals</i> p28	Read the chapter at home. We'll do the Koala Fun Facts Student Sheet (see Koalas p30) in group.
Tues	History – Make a Hornbook	
Tues	Music – <i>The Best of Schubert</i>	
Wed	Art – <i>God and the History of Art</i> , p307-308 Lesson #181 Painting with a Golden Light	

Mark these activities in your *Exploration to 1850* TM so you do not do them at home.

Materials for each FAMILY to bring:

- ☐ Koala Fun Facts student sheet (Week 5:M) for science
- ☐ Hornbook student sheet (Week 5:T)
- ☐ cereal box
- ☐ *God and the History of Art II*
- ☐ art supplies – Paint Card XIII, acrylic paint
- ☐ picture postcard – Prince Rupert
- ☐ School Supply Box

Additional materials for LEADER to bring:

- ☐ *Exploration to 1850* Teacher's Manual
- ☐ Bible
- ☐ chalkboard or dry-erase board (or a large sheet of paper and cover words with a black marker – see Memory Work)
- ☐ *World of Animals*
- ☐ *The Best of Schubert* CD and CD player
- ☐ clear contact paper or clear plastic wrap
- ☐ water in cups for rinsing brushes
- ☐ brushes
- ☐ 12" x 12" cardboard
- ☐ picture postcards – Prince Rupert, Portrait of the Artist's Son, Titus, Saint Joseph and the Infant Christ

Materials for Science:

- ☐ *Exploration to 1850* Teacher's Manual
- ☐ animal encyclopedias, books about koalas, printed internet pages about koalas, etc.

Photocopies:

- ☐ Week 6 Summary (one copy per family)

Group Activities – Week 5

Exploration to 1850



<p>Prayer – Lord, Creator of our amazing world, thank You for the “wonderful capacity for variety” You created within animals.</p>
<p>Memory Work</p> <p>This week, the class will review James 1:1-11. Write several verses that the children are having difficulty with on a chalkboard or dry-erase board. Read through one time, then have each student tell you one word to erase. Then reread as a group, inserting missing words. Continue with other verses, or with more words being erased.</p>
<p>Speech Opportunity</p> <p>Children have prepared a 1-2 minute report about a marsupial. They may show a picture or other prop. Alternate between older and younger children.</p>
<p>History: Make a Hornbook</p> <p>See Week 5 Tuesday notes in <i>Exploration to 1850</i> TM.</p>
<p>Break (5-10 Minutes) – Prepare for remaining activities.</p>
<p>Science: Koalas</p> <p>Complete the Koala Fun Facts student sheet together. Look at any books you have gathered about koalas. The answers are in Week 5 Monday notes in <i>Exploration to 1850</i> TM.</p>
<p>Music: <i>The Best of Schubert</i>, #3 – #4</p> <p>See Week 5 Tuesday notes in <i>Exploration to 1850</i> TM. Listen to these selections after instructions are given for painting.</p>
<p>Art: <i>God and the History of Art</i>, pages 307-308, Lesson #181 – Painting with a Golden Light</p>

Give copies of Week 6 Summary to each family.

LEADER NOTES:

Week 6 Summary

Synergy Group – *Exploration to 1850*



Day in TM	Group Activity	Notes to Parents
(not in TM)	Speech Opportunity	As a family, prepare to dramatize a part of <i>Almost Home</i> .
Mon	History – Activity—Play Ninepins	
Mon	Art – <i>God and the History of Art</i> , p65 Lesson #46 Drawing Rembrandt	
Thurs	Science – <i>World of Animals</i>	Read the chapter at home. We'll do "Dissect an owl pellet," p42, in group.
At home, read about and sing "The Lord's My Shepherd" from <i>Then Sings My Soul</i> , pages 18-19. We will also sing it in group.		

Mark these activities in your *Exploration to 1850* TM so you do not do them at home.

Materials for each FAMILY to bring:

- ☐ *Then Sings My Soul*
- ☐ *God and the History of Art I*
- ☐ art supplies – dark drawing pencil
- ☐ *World of Animals*
- ☐ School Supply Box

Additional materials for LEADER to bring:

- ☐ *Exploration to 1850* Teacher's Manual
- ☐ *Bible*
- ☐ clear contact paper or clear plastic wrap
- ☐ large plastic ball or basketball and 9 soda or water bottles (ask others to bring some) for Ninepins

Materials for Science:

- ☐ owl pellets – order from www.hometrainingtools.com (one per family or child)
- ☐ toothpicks
- ☐ magnifying glass
- ☐ 12" x 12" cardboard

Photocopies:

- ☐ Week 7 Summary (one copy per family)

Group Activities – Week 6

Exploration to 1850



Prayer – Lord, help us memorize our verses from James, and help us as we learn to apply them.
Memory Work Have the children recite James 1:1-15. Those using Plan B can drop out of saying the extra verses they haven't memorized. (It's beneficial for them to hear the verses, as they will be memorizing some of them later.)
Speech Opportunity At home each family will have prepared a short dramatization from a part of <i>Almost Home</i> . Let each family present their drama today.
History: Ninepins See Week 6 Monday notes in <i>Exploration to 1850</i> TM. Save the game to play again in Week 9.
Break (5-10 Minutes) – Prepare for remaining activities.
Science: Owl Pellet Review birds' digestive systems, using the picture in <i>The World of Animals</i> , page 46. Dissect owl pellet using toothpicks and magnifying glass. See page 42, "Dissect an owl pellet."
Music: <i>Then Sings My Soul</i> , page 18, "The Lord's My Shepherd"
Art: <i>God and the History of Art</i> , page 65, Lesson #46 – Drawing Rembrandt

Give copies of Week 7 Summary to each family.

LEADER NOTES:

Week 7 Summary

Synergy Group – *Exploration to 1850*



Day in TM	Group Activity	Notes to Parents
(not in TM)	Speech Opportunity	Have your child bring in a modern item such as a calculator or a battery. We'll switch items and brainstorm other uses for it, pretending to be Pilgrim children living 400 years ago.
Wed	Art – <i>God and the History of Art</i> , p70 Lesson #50 More Lines	
Thurs	History – Activity—Make Dried Corn	
Thurs	Science – Archerfish Activity	
At home, read about and sing “Now Thank We All Our God” from <i>Then Sings My Soul</i> , pages 16-17. We will also sing it in group.		

Mark these activities in your *Exploration to 1850* TM so you do not do them at home.

Materials for each FAMILY to bring:

- ☐ clear jar for science
- ☐ *Then Sings My Soul*
- ☐ *God and the History of Art I*
- ☐ art supplies – black drawing pen
- ☐ School Supply Box

Additional materials for LEADER to bring:

- ☐ *Exploration to 1850* Teacher's Manual
- ☐ Bible
- ☐ prepared dried corn

Materials for Science:

- ☐ *Exploration to 1850* TM

Photocopies:

- ☐ Week 8 Summary (one copy per family)

Group Activities – Week 7

Exploration to 1850



Prayer – Lord, help us to be thankful for all we have. Thank You for the faith of many of the colonists.
Memory Work Have the children recite James 1:1-18. Those using Plan B can drop out of saying the extra verses they haven't memorized. (It's beneficial for them to hear the verses, as they will be memorizing some of them later.)
Speech Opportunity Children should have brought in a modern item such as a calculator or a battery. Have students switch items and brainstorm other uses for it, pretending to be Pilgrim children living about 400 years ago.
History: Dried Corn Purchase or prepare dried corn ahead of time for the children to snack on while you read the information in the TM for "Activity – Make Dried Corn," Week 7 Thursday.
Break (5-10 Minutes) – Prepare for remaining activities.
Science: Archer Fish Activity See Week 7 Thursday notes in the <i>Exploration to 1850</i> TM.
Music: <i>Then Sings My Soul</i> , page 16, "Now Thank We All Our God"
Art: <i>God and the History of Art</i> , page 70, Lesson #50 – More Lines

Give copies of Week 8 Summary to each family.

LEADER NOTES:

Week 8 Summary

Synergy Group – *Exploration to 1850*



Day in TM	Group Activity	Notes to Parents
(not in TM)	Speech Opportunity	If your child has recently memorized a poem, have him practice reciting it. Otherwise, practice reading a poem with expression.
Tues	History – Activity—The New England Primer	
Wed	Art – God and the History of Art, p315 Lesson #183 Painting Pink Angels	
Thurs	Science – <i>World of Animals</i> , p61, Scaly Picture	Read the chapter at home.
At home, read about and sing “Now Thank We All Our God” from <i>Then Sings My Soul</i> , pages 16-17. We will also sing it in group.		

Mark these activities in your *Exploration to 1850* TM so you do not do them at home.

Materials for each FAMILY to bring:

- ☐ *Then Sings My Soul*
- ☐ The New England Primer student sheets (Week 8:T – two sheets)
- ☐ *God and the History of Art II*
- ☐ art supplies – Paint card XIV, acrylic paint
- ☐ School Supply Box

Additional materials for LEADER to bring:

- ☐ *Exploration to 1850* Teacher’s Manual
- ☐ *Bible*
- ☐ paper plates for palettes
- ☐ wet paper towels
- ☐ brushes

Materials for Science:

- ☐ *The World of Animals*
- ☐ sequins

Photocopies:

- ☐ Week 9 Summary (one copy per family)

Group Activities – Week 8

Exploration to 1850



<p>Prayer – Lord, help me think rightly about myself. Help me so I don’t think I am greater than others, as King Louis XIV did.</p>
<p>Memory Work</p> <p>Have the children recite James 1:12-22. Those using Plan B can drop out of saying the extra verses they haven’t memorized. (It’s beneficial for them to hear the verses, as they will be memorizing some of them later.)</p>
<p>Speech Opportunity: Poetry</p> <p>Have students take turns reading or reciting a poem with expression.</p>
<p>History: The New England Primer</p> <p>See Week 8 Tuesday notes in <i>Exploration to 1850</i> TM.</p>
<p>Break (5-10 Minutes) – Prepare for remaining activities.</p>
<p>Science: Scaly Picture</p> <p>Have students draw an outline of a reptile and glue sequins to represent the scales. See <i>The World of Animals</i>, page 67.</p>
<p>Music: <i>Then Sings My Soul</i>, page 16, “Now Thank We All Our God”</p>
<p>Art: <i>God and the History of Art</i>, page 315, Lesson #183 – Painting Pink Angels</p>

Give copies of Week 9 Summary to each family.

LEADER NOTES:

Week 9 Summary

Synergy Group – *Exploration to 1850*



Day in TM	Group Activity	Notes to Parents
(not in TM)	Speech Opportunity	As a family, prepare to dramatize a part of <i>Amos Fortune</i> .
Tues	Music – <i>The Story of Mendelssohn</i>	Add Mendelssohn figure to the Romantic Music strip on your timeline at home.
Thurs	Science – <i>World of Animals</i> , p70, People camouflage	Read the chapter at home.
Thurs	Art – <i>God and the History of Art</i> , p74 Lesson #54 A Nose Is a Nose Is a Nose	
Fri	History – Colonial Games	

Mark these activities in your *Exploration to 1850* TM so you do not do them at home.

Materials for each FAMILY to bring:

- ☐ 1-2 empty 2 lt. bottle(s) for games
- ☐ *God and the History of Art I*
- ☐ art supplies – drawing pencil
- ☐ School Supply Box

Additional materials for LEADER to bring:

- ☐ *Exploration to 1850* Teacher's Manual
- ☐ *Bible*
- ☐ *The Story of Mendelssohn* CD and CD player
- ☐ thimble
- ☐ sidewalk chalk
- ☐ Ninepins game
- ☐

Materials for Science: (If you prefer, do Animal camouflage activity instead of People camouflage.)

- ☐ *The World of Animals*
- ☐ wet paper towels
- ☐ washable face paints – green, brown, white, yellow
- ☐ optional – pictures from the Internet of soldiers with camouflage paint

Photocopies:

- ☐ Week 10 Summary (one copy per family)

Group Activities – Week 9

Exploration to 1850



Prayer – Lord, help me persevere in memorizing James.
Memory Work Have the children recite James 1:1-27. Those using Plan B can drop out of saying the extra verses they haven't memorized. (It's beneficial for them to hear the verses, as they will be memorizing some of them later.)
Speech Opportunity: Dramatization At home each family will have prepared a short dramatization from a part of <i>Amos Fortune</i> . Let each family present their drama today.
History: Colonial Games Choose to play some or all of the Colonial Games listed in the TM for Week 9 Friday, as time and weather permits.
Break (5-10 Minutes) – Prepare for remaining activities.
Science: People Camouflage Use face paint to cover students face or arms/hands so they can blend in with trees or bushes in the area. Take pictures! See <i>The World of Animals</i> , page 70.
Music: <i>The Story of Mendelssohn</i> , #1 – #10 See Week 9 Tuesday notes in <i>Exploration to 1850</i> TM.
Art: <i>God and the History of Art</i> , page 74, Lesson #54 – A Nose Is a Nose Is a Nose

Give copies of Week 10 Summary to each family.

LEADER NOTES:

Week 10 Summary

Synergy Group – *Exploration to 1850*



Day in TM	Group Activity	Notes to Parents
(not in TM)	Speech Opportunity	Help your child prepare: he is to pretend to be an animal and describe his day in 1-2 minutes.
Mon	Science – <i>World of Animals</i> , p77, Invertebrate pictionary	Read the chapter at home.
Mon	Art – <i>God and the History of Art</i> , p75 Lesson #55 Drawing a Self Portrait with Proportions	
Tues	History – Activity—Bake Peach Cobbler	
At home, read about and sing “Alas! and Did My Savior Bleed” from <i>Then Sings My Soul</i> , pages 32-33. We will also sing it in group.		

Mark these activities in your *Exploration to 1850* TM so you do not do them at home.

Materials for each FAMILY to bring:

- ☐ *Then Sings My Soul*
- ☐ *God and the History of Art I*
- ☐ art supplies – drawing pencil
- ☐ School Supply Box

Additional materials for LEADER to bring:

- ☐ *Exploration to 1850* Teacher’s Manual
- ☐ Bible
- ☐ chalkboard or dry-erase board (or large sheet of paper) for memory work
- ☐ ingredients for Peach Cobbler (see Week 10 Tuesday TM notes)
- ☐ oven

Materials for Science:

- ☐ chalkboard or dry-erase board (or large sheet of paper)
- ☐ *The World of Animals*

Photocopies:

- ☐ Week 11 Summary (one copy per family)

Group Activities – Week 10

Exploration to 1850



Prayer – Lord, thank You for the diversity of history from each state as we begin our studies.
History: Bake Peach Cobbler See Week 10 Tuesday notes in <i>Exploration to 1850</i> TM. Allow 45 minutes to bake.
Speech Opportunity Have each student speak for 1-2 minutes, pretending to be an animal and describing its day. Alternate between older and younger students.
Memory Work This week, the class will review James 1. Write several verses that the children are having difficulty with on a chalkboard or dry-erase board. Read through one time, then have each student tell you one word to erase. Then reread as a group, inserting missing words. Continue with other verses, or with more words being erased. If you don't have a chalkboard or dry-erase board, use a large sheet of paper and cover words with a black marker or small pieces of paper.
Break (5-10 Minutes) – Prepare for remaining activities.
Science: Invertebrate Pictionary Begin drawing an invertebrate animal on the dry erase board or pad of paper in view of every student. The student that guesses correctly first, gets to be the next artist.
Music: <i>Then Sings My Soul</i> , page 32, “Alas! and Did My Savior Bleed”
Art: <i>God and the History of Art</i> , page 75, Lesson #55 – Drawing A Self Portrait with Proportions

Give copies of Week 11 Summary to each family.

LEADER NOTES:

Week 11 Summary

Synergy Group – *Exploration to 1850*



Day in TM	Group Activity	Notes to Parents
(not in TM)	Speech Opportunity	Help students prepare a short summary on Peter the Great or another history topic. They may use a picture or other prop.
Tues	Music – <i>The Best of Mendelssohn</i>	
Wed	Science – <i>World of Animals</i> , p89, Spider and Scorpion Models	Read the chapter at home.
Wed	Art – <i>God and the History of Art</i> , p343 Lesson #201 Portraits Young and Old	
Thurs	History – Map: Ottoman Empire	

Mark these activities in your *Exploration to 1850* TM so you do not do them at home.

Materials for each FAMILY to bring:

- ☐ *The Last 500 Years*
- ☐ Ottoman Empire student sheet (Week 11:TH)
- ☐ *God and the History of Art II*
- ☐ art supplies – colored pencils
- ☐ School Supply Box

Additional materials for LEADER to bring:

- ☐ *Exploration to 1850* Teacher's Manual
- ☐ Bible
- ☐ *The Best of Mendelssohn* CD and CD player

Materials for Science:

- ☐ *World of Animals*
- ☐ marshmallows
- ☐ toothpicks
- ☐ marker
- ☐ round crackers
- ☐ peanut butter
- ☐ pipe cleaners (one per student)

Photocopies:

- ☐ Week 12 Summary (one copy per family)

Group Activities – Week 11

Exploration to 1850



Prayer – Dear Lord, help us keep ourselves from being polluted by the world in our speech, manners, and looks.

Memory Work

Have the children recite James 1:1 – 2:4. Those using Plan B can drop out of saying the extra verses they haven't memorized. (It's beneficial for them to hear the verses, as they will be memorizing some of them later.)

Speech Opportunity

Have students share their reports about Peter the Great or other history topic, 1-2 minutes each. They may use a picture or other prop.

History: Map of the Ottoman Empire

Refer to page 9, *The Last 500 Years*. Using the student sheet, students will draw and color the growth of the Ottoman Empire from 1500 to 1700.

Break (5-10 Minutes) – Prepare for remaining activities.

Science: Spider and Scorpion Models

Follow the directions in *The World of Animals*, page 89. This includes a spider snack.

Music: *The Best of Mendelssohn*, #1, #2, #6

See Week 11 Tuesday notes in *Exploration to 1850* TM.

Art: *God and the History of Art*, page 343, Lesson #201 – Portraits Young and Old

Give copies of Week 12 Summary to each family.

LEADER NOTES:

Week 12 Summary

Synergy Group – *Exploration to 1850*



Day in TM	Group Activity	Notes to Parents
(not in TM)	Speech Opportunity	Students will be asked to contribute a sentence or two about India to continue a story.
Mon	History – Activity—Play Pachisi	Make the game at home. We'll play Pachisi during group.
Wed	Science – <i>The World of Animals</i> , p98 Shell Identification	
Wed	Art – <i>God and the History of Art</i> , p346 Lesson #203 Dreams & Visions	Read Daniel 1-7 at home.
At home, read about and sing “Am I a Soldier of the Cross?” from <i>Then Sings My Soul</i> , pages 42-43. We will also sing it in group.		

Mark these activities in your *Exploration to 1850* TM so you do not do them at home.

Materials for each FAMILY to bring:

- ☐ *Then Sings My Soul*
- ☐ Pachisi game (made at home or purchased)
- ☐ *God and the History of Art II*
- ☐ art supplies – colored pencils
- ☐ School Supply Box
- ☐ optional – sea shells (a variety; will be returned) for science

Additional materials for LEADER to bring:

- ☐ *Exploration to 1850* Teacher's Manual
- ☐ Bible

Materials for Science:

- ☐ *World of Animals*
- ☐ sea shells (a variety)
- ☐ shell guidebook

Photocopies:

- ☐ Week 13 Summary (one copy per family)

Group Activities – Week 12

Exploration to 1850



Prayer – Lord, thank You for Your spirit that lives within us, giving us faith and bravery, like Madeleine.
Memory Work Have the children recite James 1:1 – 2:8. Those using Plan B can drop out of saying the extra verses they haven’t memorized. (It’s beneficial for them to hear the verses, as they will be memorizing some of them later.)
Speech Opportunity Ask the children some things they learned about India. Then have them each take turns to contribute a sentence or two to continue a story about a small child in India having an adventure.
History: Pachisi See Week 12 Monday notes in Exploration to 1850 TM. Students can play a shortened version of the game with only two buttons each, instead of four.
Break (5-10 Minutes) – Prepare for remaining activities.
Science: Shell Identification Use any shells that were brought to the group. Identify them as Bivalves (two parts) or Gastropods (one spiral part). Have students sketch pictures to include in their science notebook.
Music: <i>Then Sings My Soul</i> , page 42, “Am I a Soldier of the Cross?”
Art: <i>God and the History of Art</i> , page 346, Lesson #203 – Dreams & Visions

Give copies of Week 13 Summary to each family.

LEADER NOTES:

Week 13 Summary

Synergy Group – *Exploration to 1850*



Day in TM	Group Activity	Notes to Parents
(not in TM)	Speech Opportunity	Help students pick a topic about Japan or China to share in a short report. They may use a picture or other prop.
Mon	Science – Starfish Model, <i>The World of Animals</i> p105	Read the lesson at home.
Tues	History – Snack: green tea and Japanese rice crackers	
Tues	Music – <i>The Best of Mendelssohn</i>	

Mark these activities in your *Exploration to 1850* TM so you do not do them at home.

Materials for each FAMILY to bring:

- ☐ art supplies – watercolor paints
- ☐ School Supply Box

Additional materials for LEADER to bring:

- ☐ *Exploration to 1850* Teacher's Manual
- ☐ Bible
- ☐ *The Best of Mendelssohn* CD and CD player
- ☐ green tea
- ☐ Japanese rice crackers
- ☐ paper for watercolor painting

Materials for Science:

- ☐ *World of Animals*
- ☐ cups of salt
- ☐ cups of flour
- ☐ mini chocolate chips
- ☐ 8" x 8" cardboard squares (one per student)
- ☐ starfish – optional

Photocopies:

- ☐ Week 14 Summary (one copy per family)

Group Activities – Week 13

Exploration to 1850



Prayer – Lord, thank You for giving me a great mind to memorize Scripture.
Memory Work Have the children recite James 1:12 – 2:12. Those using Plan B can drop out of saying the extra verses they haven’t memorized. (It’s beneficial for them to hear the verses, as they will be memorizing some of them later.)
Speech Opportunity Have students share 1-2 minute reports about Japan or China. They may use a picture or other prop.
History: Snack Enjoy a snack of green tea and Japanese rice crackers.
Break (5-10 Minutes) – Prepare for remaining activities.
Science: Starfish Model Make salt dough and create models of a starfish. If available, examine an actual starfish. Pictures can be taken to add to students’ science notebook.
Music: <i>The Best of Mendelssohn</i>, #10, #7 See Week 13 Tuesday notes in <i>Exploration to 1850</i> TM.
Art: Listen to the music while painting a landscape scene with watercolor.

Give copies of Week 14 Summary to each family.

Next week is a presentation of student work from home and a Mid-Year Celebration. See Week 14 Summary.

- **Discuss what food each family will bring to the party.**
- **Set a time for guests to arrive, perhaps 15 minutes after group usually begins.**

LEADER NOTES:

Week 14 Summary
Synergy Group – *Exploration to 1850*
Mid-Year Celebration



Visitors will enjoy an informal presentation about this fall's school work, followed by a potluck. Each family will have a table where they can display their work.

Materials for each FAMILY to bring:

- ☐ Invite relatives and friends to join us for an informal presentation about this fall's school work, followed by snacks or a potluck.
- ☐ arts and crafts, history notebooks, and other school-related items to display and share with others
- ☐ food to share – either snacks or a potluck
- ☐ camera to take lots of pictures!

Other Preparations for Week 14:

- ☐ Students should be prepared to recite all memory work from James Weeks 1-13.

Additional materials for LEADER to bring:

- ☐ *Exploration to 1850* Teacher's Manual
- ☐ *Bible*
- ☐ *The Best of Mendelssohn* CD and CD player (optional background music while enjoying your feast)

Photocopies:

- ☐ Week 15 Summary (one copy per family)

Group Activities – Week 14

Exploration to 1850

Mid-Year Celebration



Preparation: Set up seating and a buffet line for refreshments. Each family sets up a table with their work, crafts, and projects from the first fourteen weeks of *Exploration to 1850*. Ideally, there should be one table per child, but space may necessitate that it be one table per family. Your group will have to decide the best approach.

Invite Guests into the Room: Give the guests time to come into the room and settle down.

Prayer: Let each child share a one-sentence thank you prayer.

Memory Work: Have all of the children gather and recite James 1:1 – 2:16 together.

Speech Opportunity: Have each child speak for 1-2 minutes in front of the group about something they brought from home.

View Tables: Have the students stand by their display tables. Then, encourage visitors and parents to visit each table and ask students about their displayed items.

Refreshments: Show courtesy to your guests by asking them to go first.

Listen to *The Best of Mendelssohn* CD as you enjoy refreshments.

After eating, the children can view each other's tables and show each other their projects.

Clean-up: Dismiss the guests. Encourage all family members to participate in clean-up.

Give copies of Week 15 Summary to each family.

LEADER NOTES:

Week 15 Summary

Synergy Group – *Exploration to 1850*



Day in TM	Group Activity	Notes to Parents
(not in TM)	Speech Opportunity – Impromptu Speech	no preparation needed
Mon	Art – God and the History of Art, p350 Lesson #207 Raining Cats & Dogs	
Wed	Science – <i>Botany</i> , p21, Activity 1.3, Journal About Nature	Read pages 19-21 at home.
Fri	History – Make Johnny Cakes	
At home, read about and sing “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing” from <i>Then Sings My Soul</i> , pages 48-49. We will also sing it in group.		

Mark these activities in your *Exploration to 1850* TM so you do not do them at home.

Materials for each FAMILY to bring:

- ☐ *Then Sings My Soul*
- ☐ clipboard and white paper for nature journaling
- ☐ *God and the History of Art II*
- ☐ art supplies – black drawing pen
- ☐ School Supply Box

Additional materials for LEADER to bring:

- ☐ *Exploration to 1850* Teacher’s Manual
- ☐ Bible
- ☐ ingredients and supplies for Johnny Cakes (see Week 15 Friday TM notes)
- ☐ stove

Materials for Science:

- ☐ *Exploring Creation with Botany*
- ☐ Plan for a nature walk outside. Even if there are no green leaves outside, students can observe and sketch trees and bushes.

Photocopies:

- ☐ Week 16 Summary (one copy per family)

Group Activities – Week 15

Exploration to 1850



Prayer – Encourage each child and adult to tell God one thing they are thankful for.
Memory Work Have the children recite James 1:12 – 2:20. Those using Plan B can drop out of saying the extra verses they haven’t memorized. (It’s beneficial for them to hear the verses, as they will be memorizing some of them later.)
Speech Opportunity Ask the children what they know about George Washington. Have them each take turns to contribute a sentence or two.
History: Make Johnny Cakes See Week 15 Friday notes in the <i>Exploration to 1850</i> TM. Share the cakes in class with apple butter or molasses. If you prefer, a parent may make Johnny Cakes ahead of time at home.
Break (5-10 Minutes) – Prepare for remaining activities.
Science: <i>Exploring Creation with Botany</i> , page 21, Activity 1.3, Journal About Nature Dress for the weather and enjoy a nature walk outside. Students use their clip[boards and white paper to sketch something from nature. They can finish the page inside (see page 20).
Music: <i>Then Sings My Soul</i> , page 48, “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”
Art: <i>God and the History of Art</i> , page 350, Lesson #207 – Raining Cats & Dogs

Give copies of Week 16 Summary to each family.

LEADER NOTES:

Week 16 Summary

Synergy Group – *Exploration to 1850*



Day in TM	Group Activity	Notes to Parents
(not in TM)	Speech Opportunity	Students will discuss or recreate their favorite science topic or project so far this year.
Mon	Science – <i>Botany</i> , p25 Activity 1.4 Observe Leaf Veins	We will do the activity and create a notebook page for it. Read pages 24-25 at home.
Thurs	History – Activity—Liberty Tea and Scones	
Thurs	Art – <i>God and the History of Art</i> , p401 Benjamin West	
At home, read about and sing “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing” from <i>Then Sings My Soul</i> , pages 48-49. We will also sing it in group.		

Mark these activities in your *Exploration to 1850* TM so you do not do them at home.

Materials for each FAMILY to bring:

- ☐ presentation on favorite science project
- ☐ *Exploring Creation with Botany*
- ☐ *Then Sings My Soul*
- ☐ *God and the History of Art II*
- ☐ School Supply Box

Additional materials for LEADER to bring:

- ☐ *Exploration to 1850* Teacher’s Manual
- ☐ *Bible*
- ☐ herb tea
- ☐ ingredients for scones: flour, sugar, baking powder, salt, butter, egg, cream
- ☐ bowl, pastry blender, knife, cookie sheet, oven

Materials for Science:

- ☐ leaves with a clear midrib if available (see page 25 in *Exploring Creation with Botany*)
- ☐ magnifying glass (1 per 2 students)

Photocopies:

- ☐ Week 17 Summary (one copy per family)

Group Activities – Week 16

Exploration to 1850



Prayer/Hymn – Lord, thank You for this wonderful world of science all around us in the plants and animals.

Sing – “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing,” *Then Sings My Soul*, page 48

Memory Work

Have the children recite James 1:12 – 2:24. Those using Plan B can drop out of saying the extra verses they haven’t memorized. (It’s beneficial for them to hear the verses, as they will be memorizing some of them later.)

Speech Opportunity: Favorite Science Project

Students will discuss or recreate their favorite science topic or project this year.

History: Liberty Tea and Scones

Read aloud the information in the Teacher’s Manual for Week 16, Thursday. Help children prepare scones. Hint: Enjoy this snack with tea during art.

Break (5-10 Minutes) – Prepare for remaining activities.

Science: *Exploring Creation with Botany*, page 25, Activity 1.4, Observe Leaf Veins

Also create a notebook page. See the Teacher’s Manual for Week 16, Monday.

Music: *No music is scheduled this week.*

Art: *God and the History of Art*, page 401, Benjamin West

Read aloud page 401 to the children and show famous artwork by Benjamin West using library books or the Internet.

Give copies of Week 17 Summary to each family.

LEADER NOTES:

Week 17 Summary

Synergy Group – *Exploration to 1850*



Day in TM	Group Activity	Notes to Parents
(not in TM)	Speech Opportunity	Prepare individually or as a family to recite a section of verses from James 1-2.
Mon	Art – <i>God and the History of Art</i> , p402 Lesson #244 Drawing George Washington	
Fri	History – Activity—Embroidered Sampler	
Fri	Science – <i>Botany</i> , p37 Activity 2.3 Identify Dicots and Monocots	We'll do Activity 2.3 for our nature walk.
At home, read about and sing “O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing” from <i>Then Sings My Soul</i> , pages 46-47. We will also sing it in group.		

Mark these activities in your *Exploration to 1850* TM so you do not do them at home.

Materials for each FAMILY to bring:

- ☐ *Then Sings My Soul*
- ☐ burlap, embroidery thread, and needles (or graph paper and colored pencils)
- ☐ clipboard and white paper for nature journaling
- ☐ *God and the History of Art II*
- ☐ art supplies – drawing pencil
- ☐ School Supply Box

Additional materials for LEADER to bring:

- ☐ *Exploration to 1850* Teacher's Manual
- ☐ Bible
- ☐ quarters and \$1 bills

Materials for Science:

- ☐ Find a place outside near your group location with lots of flowers and plants or arrange to visit a nursery, botanical gardens, or other site.

Photocopies:

- ☐ Week 18 Summary (one copy per family)

Group Activities – Week 17

Exploration to 1850



<p>Prayer/Hymn – Lord, thank You that my hands can do handiwork.</p> <p>Sing – “O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing,” <i>Then Sings My Soul</i>, page 46</p>
<p>Memory Work/Speech Opportunity</p> <p>Have students individually or in families recite verses they have chosen from James 1-2.</p>
<p>History: Embroidered Sampler</p> <p>Say, “Girls in colonial times spent many hours learning to make tiny, precise stitches with a needle and thread. Besides sewing clothes, they also worked on a sampler, a decorative embroidered piece.”</p> <p>Use burlap to create a simple pattern to outline stitch or cross stitch. You’ll need to finish this project at home. (Moms will enjoy this project too!)</p> <p>Option: Instead of embroidery, use colored pencils on graph paper. Draw X’s to create a sampler.</p>
<p>Break (5-10 Minutes) – Prepare for remaining activities.</p>
<p>Science: <i>Exploring Creation with Botany</i>, page 37, Activity 2.3, Identify Dicots and Monocots</p>
<p>Music: <i>No music is scheduled this week.</i></p>
<p>Art: <i>God and the History of Art</i>, page 402, Lesson #244 – Drawing George Washington</p> <p>Have students copy the pictures of George Washington from a quarter and dollar bill.</p>

Give copies of Week 18 Summary to each family.

LEADER NOTES:

Week 18 Summary

Synergy Group – *Exploration to 1850*



Day in TM	Group Activity	Notes to Parents
	Speech Opportunity	Prepare to have your student dramatize a 1-2 minute portion of “Paul Revere’s Ride.”
Tues	History – Activity—Make Hasty Pudding	
Tues	Music – <i>The Story of Chopin</i>	Add the Chopin figure to the Romantic Music strip on your timeline at home.
Wed	Art – <i>God and the History of Art</i> , p354 Lesson #210 Sky Studies	
Fri	Science – <i>Botany</i> , p49-50 Activity 3.3 Walk in Nature	
At home, read about and sing “O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing” from <i>Then Sings My Soul</i> , pages 46-47. We will also sing it in group.		

Mark these activities in your *Exploration to 1850* TM so you do not do them at home.

Materials for each FAMILY to bring:

- ☐ presentation on “Paul Revere’s Ride”
- ☐ *Then Sings My Soul*
- ☐ *Exploring Creation with Botany*
- ☐ *God and the History of Art II*
- ☐ art supplies – colored pencils
- ☐ School Supply Box

Additional materials for LEADER to bring:

- ☐ *Exploration to 1850* Teacher’s Manual
- ☐ *Bible*
- ☐ chalkboard or dry-erase board (or large sheet of paper and black marker – see Memory Work)
- ☐ *The Story of Chopin* CD and CD player
- ☐ ingredients and materials for Hasty Pudding (see TM Week 18 Tuesday notes)
- ☐ stove
- ☐ paper products (bowls, spoons, napkins)

Materials for Science:

- ☐ If flowers aren’t in season outside, bring several different types to class for sketching (purchase a small bouquet of cut flowers).

Photocopies:

- ☐ Week 19 Summary (one copy per family)

Group Activities – Week 18

Exploration to 1850



Prayer/Hymn – Lord, we praise You for strong men like Patrick Henry, Paul Revere, and Samuel Adams, who were willing to do the right thing no matter what the cost. We thank You for the liberty we still enjoy today because of their sacrifices over 200 years ago.

Sing – “O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing,” *Then Sings My Soul*, page 46

Memory Work

This week, the class will review James 2:14-17. Write several verses that the children are having difficulty with on a chalkboard or dry-erase board. Read through one time, then have each student tell you one word to erase. Then reread as a group, inserting missing words. Continue with other verses, or with more words being erased.

Speech Opportunity: Paul Revere’s Ride

Children will dramatize a 1-2 minutes portion of “Paul Revere’s Ride.”

History: Make Hasty Pudding

Read aloud the information in the Teacher’s Manual for Week 18, Tuesday. Help children prepare Hasty Pudding according to directions.

Break (5-10 Minutes) – Prepare for remaining activities.

Science: *Exploring Creation with Botany*, pages 49-50, Activity 3.3, Walk in Nature

If flowers aren’t in season outside, bring several different types to class for sketching (purchase a small bouquet of cut flowers).

Music: *The Story of Chopin* tracks #1 – #12

See Week 18 Tuesday notes in *Exploration to 1850* TM.

Art: *God and the History of Art*, page 354, Lesson #210 – Sky Studies

Give copies of Week 19 Summary to each family.

LEADER NOTES:

Week 19 Summary

Synergy Group – *Exploration to 1850*



Day in TM	Group Activity	Notes to Parents
	Speech Opportunity	Help children prepare a 1-3 minute speech about a botany topic, using a colored or printed picture if desired.
Mon	Science – <i>Botany</i> , p51 Activity 3.4 Plant a Sunflower	
Tues	History – Activity—Make a Quill Pen and Berry Ink	
Tues	Music – <i>The Story of Chopin</i>	
Wed	Art – <i>God and the History of Art</i> , p355 Lesson #211 Painting Skies	
At home, read about and sing “Jesus, Lover of My Soul” from <i>Then Sings My Soul</i> , pages 52-53. We will also sing it in group.		

Mark these activities in your *Exploration to 1850* TM so you do not do them at home.

Materials for each FAMILY to bring:

- ☐ presentation on a botany topic
- ☐ *Then Sings My Soul*
- ☐ *Exploring Creation with Botany*
- ☐ *God and the History of Art II*
- ☐ art supplies – paint card XIX, acrylic paints, brush
- ☐ School Supply Box

Additional materials for LEADER to bring:

- ☐ *Exploration to 1850* Teacher’s Manual
- ☐ Bible
- ☐ *The Story of Chopin* CD and CD player
- ☐ 10” clean feather (1 per student)
- ☐ blueberries, raspberries, or strawberries (1 c. per 2 students)
- ☐ salt (1 t. per 2 students)
- ☐ vinegar (1 t. per 2 students)
- ☐ bowl, cup, and strainer (1 per 2 students)
- ☐ several paper clips
- ☐ camera

Materials for Science:

- ☐ sunflower seeds to plant (1-2 per student)
- ☐ plastic cups for planting (1 per student)
- ☐ soil

Photocopies:

- ☐ Week 20 Summary (one copy per family)

Group Activities – Week 19

Exploration to 1850



Prayer/Hymn – Lord, we praise You that You are our ever-present helper, the lover of our souls. We stand on Your promise that You will never leave us or forsake us (Hebrews 13:5b-6).

Sing – “Jesus, Lover of My Soul,” *Then Sings My Soul*, page 52

Memory Work

Have the children recite James 2:14 – 3:4. Those using Plan B can drop out of saying the extra verses they haven’t memorized. (It’s beneficial for them to hear the verses, as they will be memorizing some of them later.)

Speech Opportunity: Botany

Children will speak 1-3 minutes on a botany topic, using a colored or printed picture if desired.

History: Make a Quill Pen and Berry Ink

See Week 19 Tuesday notes in the *Exploration to 1850* TM. Have the children make a quill pen and berry ink. Let them all guess how long it would take to write the Declaration of Independence using this method.

Break (5-10 Minutes) – Prepare for remaining activities.

Science: *Exploring Creation with Botany*, page 51, Activity 3.4, Plant a Sunflower

Music: *The Story of Chopin* tracks #13 – #24

Show the picture Chopin on *The Story of Chopin* CD. Read aloud the information about Chopin on the back of the CD. Remind the students to listen very carefully because when it is over, you will ask them to tell as many things as they remember about Chopin.

Art: *God and the History of Art*, page 355, Lesson #211 – Painting Skies

Give copies of Week 20 Summary to each family.

LEADER NOTES:

Week 20 Summary

Synergy Group – *Exploration to 1850*



Day in TM	Group Activity	Notes to Parents
	Speech Opportunity	During this week's history readings, help your child choose their favorite Revolutionary War hero or battle to present (1-3 minutes).
Tues	Science – <i>Botany</i> , p68 Activity 4.1 Explore Flower Pollination	
Tues	Music – <i>The Best of Chopin</i> , Piano Concerto no.1 in E minor op. 11: #10 Maestoso; #11 Larghetto	
Wed	Art – <i>God and the History of Art</i> , p358 Lesson #213 Painting Atmosphere	
Thurs	History – Activity—Silhouette	
At home, read about and sing “Jesus, Lover of My Soul” from <i>Then Sings My Soul</i> , pages 52-53. We will also sing it in group.		

Mark these activities in your *Exploration to 1850* TM so you do not do them at home.

Materials for each FAMILY to bring:

- ☐ Revolutionary War presentation
- ☐ *Then Sings My Soul*
- ☐ lamp (for silhouette activity)
- ☐ *Exploring Creation with Botany*
- ☐ *God and the History of Art II*
- ☐ art supplies – paint card XX, acrylic paints, brush
- ☐ School Supply Box

Additional materials for LEADER to bring:

- ☐ *Exploration to 1850* Teacher's Manual
- ☐ Bible
- ☐ *The Best of Chopin* CD and CD player
- ☐ 12" x 18" construction paper, black and colored (one sheet each per student)

Materials for Science:

- ☐ 2 flowers still on their plants – on two separate plants of the same type
- ☐ several Q-tips (per student)

Photocopies:

- ☐ Week 21 Summary (one copy per family)

Group Activities – Week 20

Exploration to 1850



Prayer/Hymn – Lord, we praise You for the heroes of the Revolution, who willingly laid down their lives to give us the freedoms we enjoy today. Help us remember that Jesus said the greatest love is shown when we lay down our lives for our friends. Lord, help us love in this way (John 15:13).

Sing – “Jesus, Lover of My Soul,” *Then Sings My Soul*, page 52

Memory Work

Have the children recite James 3:1-8, plus James 3:13-14 from Plan B.

Speech Opportunity: Revolutionary War

Students will speak 1-3 minutes about their favorite Revolutionary War hero or battle.

History: Create a Silhouette

Read aloud the information in the Teacher’s Manual for Week 20, Thursday. Then, have the children pair up and create their silhouettes.

Break (5-10 Minutes) – Prepare for remaining activities.

Science: *Exploring Creation with Botany*, page 68, Activity 4.1, Explore Flower Pollination

Hint: Observe the plant each week in group to see if you were successful.

Music: *The Best of Chopin* Piano Concerto no. 1 in E minor op. 11: #10 Maestoso and #11 Larghetto

Listen during art.

Art: *God and the History of Art*, page 358, Lesson #213 – Painting Atmosphere

Give copies of Week 21 Summary to each family.

LEADER NOTES:

Week 21 Summary

Synergy Group – *Exploration to 1850*



Day in TM	Group Activity	Notes to Parents
	Speech Opportunity	Explain at home the meaning of each stanza of “Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing.” Help your child prepare to talk 1-2 minutes about the stanza he finds most meaningful and why.
Mon	History – Activity—Make a Quilt	
Mon	Art – <i>God and the History of Art</i> , p359 Lesson #214 English & French	
Tues	Music – <i>The Best of Chopin</i> , #1 Grande Valse Brillante in E Flat Major op.18	
Thurs	Science – <i>Botany</i> , p82, Activity 5.3, Split a Squash	
At home, read about and sing “Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing” from <i>Then Sings My Soul</i> , pages 64-65. We will also sing it in group.		

Mark these activities in your *Exploration to 1850* TM so you do not do them at home.

Materials for each FAMILY to bring:

- ☐ *Then Sings my Soul*
- ☐ *God and the History of Art II*
- ☐ School Supply Box

Additional materials for LEADER to bring:

- ☐ *Exploration to 1850* Teacher’s Manual
- ☐ Bible
- ☐ *The Best of Chopin* CD and CD player
- ☐ picture postcards – Le premier baiser, Ask Me No More, Childhood Idyll
- ☐ book showing various quilt patterns or pictures from the Internet

Quilt Supplies (per student; choose one type):

For Paper Quilt:

- ☐ brown grocery bag or butcher paper
- ☐ colored paper, various colors

For Fabric Quilt:

- ☐ fabric squares
- ☐ sewing scissors
- ☐ needle and thread

Materials for Science:

- ☐ *Exploring Creation with Botany*
- ☐ squash or medium-sized pumpkin
- ☐ sharp knife for adult to use
- ☐ something to contain the mess (newspaper, cookie sheets, etc.)

Photocopies:

- ☐ Week 22 Summary (one copy per family)

Group Activities – Week 21

Exploration to 1850



Prayer/Hymn – Lord, thank You for the incredible life of Robert Robinson, who wrote “Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing.” We thank You that You love us and want to rescue us from the danger of sin. We praise You that You are patient with us so that we may come to repentance (2 Peter 3:9).

Sing – “Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing,” *Then Sings My Soul*, page 64

Memory Work

Have the children recite James 3:1-13, plus James 3:13-16 from Plan B.

Speech Opportunity: Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

Children will present the line or stanza from “Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing” they find most meaningful and why.

History: Make a Quilt

Read aloud the information in the Teacher’s Manual for Week 21, Monday. Then have children make a quilt using colored paper or fabric.

Break (5-10 Minutes) – Prepare for remaining activities.

Science: *Exploring Creation with Botany*, page 82, Activity 5.3, Split a Squash

Music: *The Best of Chopin* #1 Grande Valse Brillante in E Flat Major op. 18

Listen during art.

Art: *God and the History of Art*, page 359, Lesson #214 – English & French

Give copies of Week 22 Summary to each family.

LEADER NOTES:

Week 22 Summary

Synergy Group – *Exploration to 1850*



Day in TM	Group Activity	Notes to Parents
	Speech Opportunity	Have your child choose a state from Week 22 and prepare a 2-minute presentation.
Tues	Music – <i>The Best of Chopin</i> , #8 Etude in E Major op.10, no.3; #9 Etude in C Minor, op.10, no.12 – “Revolutionary”	
Thurs	History – Activity—Bake Quiche Lorraine	
Thurs	Art – <i>God and the History of Art</i> , p317 Fragonard Lesson #184 Pen & Wash	
Fri	Science – <i>Botany</i> , p92, Activity 5.7, Preserve the Color of Fruit	
At home, read about and sing “Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing” from <i>Then Sings My Soul</i> , pages 64-65. We will also sing it in group.		

Mark these activities in your *Exploration to 1850* TM so you do not do them at home.

Materials for each FAMILY to bring:

- ☐ presentation on a state from Week 22
- ☐ *Then Sings My Soul*
- ☐ *God and the History of Art II*
- ☐ art supplies – non-permanent black pen
- ☐ School Supply Box

Additional materials for LEADER to bring:

- ☐ *Exploration to 1850* Teacher’s Manual
- ☐ *Bible*
- ☐ *The Best of Chopin* CD and CD player
- ☐ ingredients and supplies for Quiche Lorraine (see Week 22 Thursday notes in TM)
- ☐ paper products (plates, forks, napkins)

Materials for Science:

- ☐ *Exploring Creation with Botany* (see page 92)
- ☐ apple cut into 5 slices
- ☐ 4-5 cups with lime juice, vinegar, olive oil, water, and/or saltwater

Photocopies:

- ☐ Week 23 Summary (one copy per family)

Group Activities – Week 22

Exploration to 1850



Prayer – Father, we praise You for the privilege of scattering seeds for Your kingdom. We pray that the seeds we plant in others’ lives will fall on good soil and produce a crop which yields a hundred times what was sown (Matthew 13:23).

Science: *Exploring Creation with Botany*, page 92, Preserve the Color of Fruit

Begin the activity now so you can check on the results in an hour.

History: Bake Quiche Lorraine

See Week 22 Thursday notes in *Exploration to 1850* TM. Enjoy this snack during or after art.

Break (5-10 Minutes) – Prepare for remaining activities.

Sing – “Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing,” *Then Sings My Soul*, page 64

Memory Work

Have the children recite James 3. Those using Plan B can drop out of saying the extra verses they haven’t memorized. (It’s beneficial for them to hear the verses, as they will be memorizing some of them later.)

Speech Opportunity: States

Children will speak 2 minutes on Georgia, Connecticut, Massachusetts, or Maryland.

Music: *The Best of Chopin* #8 Etude in E Major op. 10, no. 3; #9 Etude in C Minor, op. 10, no. 12 – “Revolutionary”

Listen during art.

Art: *God and the History of Art*, page 317, Lesson #184 – Pen & Wash

Give copies of Week 23 Summary to each family.

LEADER NOTES:

Week 23 Summary

Synergy Group – *Exploration to 1850*



Day in TM	Group Activity	Notes to Parents
	Speech Opportunity	Discuss and help your child prepare a 1-3 minute presentation about a lesson learned from the French Revolution.
Tues	Music – <i>The Best of Chopin</i> , #6 Nocturne in F sharp minor op. 48, no. 2; #7 Nocturne in D flat major op.27, no.2	
Thurs	Science – <i>Botany</i> , p98, Activity 6.1, Burn a Candle in a Jar	
Thurs	Art – <i>God and the History of Art</i> , p319 Lesson #187 Painting Realistically	
Fri	History – Activity—Bake Russian Manyick	
At home, read about and sing “When Morning Gilds the Skies” from <i>Then Sings My Soul</i> , pages 58-59. We will also sing it in group.		

Mark these activities in your *Exploration to 1850* TM so you do not do them at home.

Materials for each FAMILY to bring:

- ☐ presentation on the French Revolution
- ☐ *Then Sings My Soul*
- ☐ *God and the History of Art II*
- ☐ art supplies – paint card XV, acrylic paints, brush
- ☐ School Supply Box

Additional materials for LEADER to bring:

- ☐ *Exploration to 1850* Teacher’s Manual
- ☐ *Bible*
- ☐ chalkboard or dry-erase board (or large sheet of paper, cover words with a black marker)
- ☐ *The Best of Chopin* CD and CD player
- ☐ picture postcard – The Bird Cage
- ☐ ingredients and materials for Russian Manyick (see TM Week 23 Friday notes)
- ☐ oven
- ☐ paper products (plates, forks, napkins)

Materials for Science:

- ☐ *Exploring Creation with Botany*
- ☐ see page 98 for needed materials; bring only one set of materials

Photocopies:

- ☐ Week 24 Summary (one copy per family)

Group Activities – Week 23

Exploration to 1850



Prayer/Hymn – Lord, we thank You for the lessons we learned by studying the horrors of the French Revolution. Help us remember that true liberty comes from Christ alone.

Sing – “When Morning Guilds the Skies,” *Then Sings My Soul*, page 58

Memory Work

This week, the class will review James 3:13-18. Write several verses that the children are having difficulty with on a chalkboard or dry-erase board. Read through one time, then have each student tell you one word to erase. Then reread as a group, inserting missing words. Continue with other verses, or with more words being erased.

Speech Opportunity: French Revolution

Students will speak 1-3 minutes about a specific lesson they learned while studying the French Revolution.

History: Bake Russian Manyick

See Week 23 Friday notes in *Exploration to 1850* TM. Help children prepare and bake Russian Manyick. Hint: Enjoy this snack during or after art.

Break (5-10 Minutes) – Prepare for remaining activities.

Science: *Exploring Creation with Botany*, page 98, Activity 6.1, Burn a Candle in a Jar

Do the activity as a whole group demonstration.

Music: *The Best of Chopin* #6 Nocturne in F sharp minor op. 48, no. 2; #7 Nocturne in D flat major op. 27, no. 2

Listen during art.

Art: *God and the History of Art*, page 319, Lesson #187 – Painting Realistically

Give copies of Week 24 Summary to each family.

LEADER NOTES:

Week 24 Summary

Synergy Group – *Exploration to 1850*



Day in TM	Group Activity	Notes to Parents
	Speech Opportunity	Help your child prepare a 1-3 minute speech about leaves and/or photosynthesis, using an optional prop or diagram.
Tues	Music – <i>The Best of Chopin</i> , #5 Piano Sonata no.2 in B flat minor op.35: Marche Funèbre. Lento	
Thurs	History – Activity—Remove Seeds from Cotton	Have your child bring the cotton they made Wednesday at home to group.
Thurs	Art – <i>God and the History of Art</i> , p323-324 Ingres Lesson #190 Draw Lines	
Fri	Science – <i>Botany</i> p108 Activity 6.7 Make a Leaf Storybook	
At home, read about and sing “When Morning Gilds the Skies” from <i>Then Sings My Soul</i> , pages 58-59. We will also sing it in group.		

Mark these activities in your *Exploration to 1850* TM so you do not do them at home.

Materials for each FAMILY to bring:

- ☐ presentation on leaves and/or photosynthesis
- ☐ presentation on a state from Week 24
- ☐ *Then Sings My Soul*
- ☐ cotton from Wednesday’s history activity
- ☐ *Exploring Creation with Botany*
- ☐ *God and the History of Art II*
- ☐ School Supply Box

Additional materials for LEADER to bring:

- ☐ *Exploration to 1850* Teacher’s Manual
- ☐ *Bible*
- ☐ *The Best of Chopin* CD and CD player

Materials for Science:

- ☐ none

Photocopies:

- ☐ Week 25 Summary (one copy per family)

Group Activities – Week 24

Exploration to 1850



Prayer/Hymn – Father, we praise You that we are fearfully and wonderfully made (Psalm 139). Thank You for creating us with complex minds capable of inventing wonderful tools that will bless others.

Sing – “When Morning Guilds the Skies,” *Then Sings My Soul*, page 58

Speech Opportunity: Leaves/Photosynthesis

Students will share a speech about leaves and/or photosynthesis, using an optional prop or diagram.

Memory Work

Have the children recite James 4:1-4, plus James 4:11-12 for Plan B.

History: Remove Seeds from Cotton

See Week 24 Thursday notes in *Exploration to 1850* TM. Have children attempt to remove the seeds from the cotton they brought from home.

Break (5-10 Minutes) – Prepare for remaining activities.

Science: *Exploring Creation with Botany*, page 108, Activity 6.7, Make a Leaf Storybook

Break into several small groups, each with an adult who assists as needed.

Music: *The Best of Chopin* #5 Piano Sonata no. 2 in B flat minor op. 35: Marche Funèbre. Lento

Listen during art.

Art: *God and the History of Art*, pages 323-324 , Lesson #190 – Draw Lines

Give copies of Week 25 Summary to each family.

LEADER NOTES:

Week 25 Summary

Synergy Group – *Exploration to 1850*



Day in TM	Group Activity	Notes to Parents
	Speech Opportunity	Help students prepare a 1-3 minute speech about their favorite historical figure from this week's <i>In God We Trust</i> readings. They may use a picture or costume.
Tues	Music – <i>The Best of Chopin</i> , #2 Mazurka in C major op. 56, no.2; #4 Barcarole in F sharp major op. 60	
Wed	History – Activity—Rosetta Stone	
Wed	Art – <i>God and the History of Art</i> , p326 Lesson #192 Blending Colors	
Fri	Science – <i>Botany</i> , p121 Activity 7.4 Classify Roots – Nature Walk	
At home, read about and sing “My Faith Looks Up to Thee” from <i>Then Sings My Soul</i> , pages 100-101. We will also sing it in group.		

Mark these activities in your *Exploration to 1850* TM so you do not do them at home.

Materials for each FAMILY to bring:

- ☐ presentation on historical figure from *In God We Trust*
- ☐ *Then Sings My Soul*
- ☐ Rosetta Stone student sheet (Week 25:W)
- ☐ *Exploring Creation with Botany*
- ☐ clipboard and white paper for nature journaling
- ☐ Children will dig up weeds outside so dress appropriately. If possible, bring garden gloves, a gardening trowel, metal spoon for digging, or small shovel.
- ☐ *God and the History of Art II*
- ☐ art supplies – colored pencils
- ☐ School Supply Box

Additional materials for LEADER to bring:

- ☐ *Exploration to 1850* Teacher's Manual
- ☐ Bible
- ☐ *The Best of Chopin* CD and CD player
- ☐ sugar cookie dough
- ☐ several tubes of thin-line icing
- ☐ cookie sheets
- ☐ paper products (plates and napkins)

Materials for Science:

- ☐ none

Photocopies:

- ☐ Week 26 Summary (one copy per family)

Group Activities – Week 25

Exploration to 1850



Prayer/Hymn – Lord, help us rejoice even when we are allowed to suffer for You. We know that when Your glory is revealed in our lives we will experience abundant joy (1 Peter 4:13).

Sing – “My Faith Looks Up to Thee,” *Then Sings My Soul*, page 101

Memory Work

Have the children recite James 4:1-8, plus 4:11-12,17 for Plan B.

Speech Opportunity: Favorite Historical Figure

Students should speak for 1-3 minutes about their favorite historical figure from this week’s *In God We Trust* readings, using a picture or costume if desired.

History: Rosetta Stone

See Week 25 Wednesday notes in *Exploration to 1850* TM. Have children shape the cookie dough into a Rosetta Stone. Refer to the Rosetta Stone student sheet to decorate the cookie with icing once it cools.

Break (5-10 Minutes) – Prepare for remaining activities.

Science: *Exploring Creation with Botany*, page 121, Activity 7.4, Classify Roots

Music: *The Best of Chopin* #2 Mazurka in C major op. 56, no. 2; #4 Barcarole in F sharp major op. 60

Listen during art.

Art: *God and the History of Art*, page 326, Lesson #192 – Blending Colors

Give copies of Week 26 Summary to each family.

LEADER NOTES:

Week 26 Summary

Synergy Group – *Exploration to 1850*



Day in TM	Group Activity	Notes to Parents
	Speech Opportunity	Children should prepare a 1-3 minute biography on William Carey's life with optional pictures.
Tues	Music – <i>The Best of Chopin</i> , #3 Mazurka in F Minor op. 68, no.4	
Wed	Art – <i>God and the History of Art</i> , p328 The Barbizon School Lesson #194 Going Outside	
Thurs	History – Activity— Compass	
Fri	Science – <i>Botany</i> , p130 Activity 8.4 Color a Flower	
At home, read about and sing “My Faith Looks Up to Thee” from <i>Then Sings My Soul</i> , pages 100-101. We will also sing it in group.		

Mark these activities in your *Exploration to 1850* TM so you do not do them at home.

Materials for each FAMILY to bring:

- ☐ presentation on William Carey
- ☐ *Then Sings My Soul*
- ☐ *God and the History of Art II*
- ☐ art supplies – colored pencils
- ☐ School Supply Box

Additional materials for LEADER to bring:

- ☐ *Exploration to 1850* Teacher's Manual
- ☐ Bible
- ☐ *The Best of Chopin* CD and CD player
- ☐ compass (1 per 2 students)

Materials for Science:

- ☐ *Exploring Creation with Botany*
- ☐ see page 130 for needed materials; bring only one set of materials.

Photocopies:

- ☐ Week 27 Summary (one copy per family)

Group Activities – Week 26

Exploration to 1850



Prayer/Hymn – Lord, we thank You for the life of William Carey. May our hearts’ cry be the same as his: “When we are gone, say nothing about us. Speak only about our Savior.” May all we do in our lives be solely for Your glory!

Sing – “My Faith Looks Up to Thee,” *Then Sings My Soul*, page 101

Memory Work

Have the children recite James 4:1-12, plus verse 17 for Plan B.

Speech Opportunity: William Carey

Children will speak 1-3 minutes about William Carey’s life, using a drawn or printed picture if desired.

History: Activity— Compass

Have children guess why a compass was so useful to Lewis and Clark. Then, pair children up and have them pretend to be Lewis and Clark. Plan a journey to an unknown destination in a nearby yard or park and teach them how to use a compass along the way.

Break (5-10 Minutes) – Prepare for remaining activities.

Science: *Exploring Creation with Botany*, page 130, Activity 8.4, Color a Flower

Do the activity as a whole group demonstration.

Music: *The Best of Chopin*, #3 Mazurka in F Minor op. 68, no. 4

Listen during art.

Art: *God and the History of Art*, page 328, The Barbizon School , Lesson #194 – Going Outside

Give copies of Week 27 Summary to each family.

LEADER NOTES:

Week 27 Summary

Synergy Group – *Exploration to 1850*



Day in TM	Group Activity	Notes to Parents
	Speech Opportunity	Children should prepare a 1-3 minute speech on their favorite president from Week 27, using props or picture books if desired.
Mon	Art – <i>God and the History of Art</i> , p329-330 Daumier Lesson #195 Caricature Studies	
Tues	History – 1812 Overture	
(not in TM)	Science – Gardening Ideas	We'll all compare ideas and plans for gardening, learning from each other.
At home, read about and sing “Amazing Grace” from <i>Then Sings My Soul</i> , pages 78-79. We will also sing it in group.		

Mark these activities in your *Exploration to 1850* TM so you do not do them at home.

Materials for each FAMILY to bring:

- ☐ presentation on favorite president from Week 27
- ☐ *Then Sings My Soul*
- ☐ gardening catalogs, local information on gardening, etc.
- ☐ *God and the History of Art II*
- ☐ art supplies – colored pencils, black pen
- ☐ School Supply Box

Additional materials for LEADER to bring:

- ☐ *Exploration to 1850* Teacher's Manual
- ☐ Bible
- ☐ optional: recording of 1812 Overture in E Flat Major op.49 by Tchaikovsky and CD player (check at your library)

Materials for Science:

- ☐ none

Photocopies:

- ☐ Week 28 Summary (one copy per family)

Group Activities – Week 27

Exploration to 1850



Prayer/Hymn – Lord, we thank You that through Jesus’ death on the cross we have undeserved redemption and the forgiveness of sins. Thank You for Your matchless grace (Ephesians 1:7).

Sing – “Amazing Grace,” *Then Sings My Soul*, page 78

Memory Work

Have the children recite James 4. Those using Plan B can drop out of saying the extra verses they haven’t memorized. (It’s beneficial for them to hear the verses, as they will be memorizing some of them later.)

Speech Opportunity

Children should present a 1-3 minute speech on their favorite president from Week 27, using props or picture books if desired.

History/Music: 1812 Overture

Read aloud the information in the Teacher’s Manual for Week 27, Tuesday. If available, play the *1812 Overture* for the children, noting where the Russian hymn, horns, French national anthem, Russian folk song melodies, and Russian National Anthem occur.

Break (5-10 Minutes) – Prepare for remaining activities.

Science: Each family shares their questions, resources, or experiences about gardening.

Music: *No music is scheduled this week.*

Art: *God and the History of Art*, pages 329-330, Daumier, Lesson # 195 – Caricature Studies

Give copies of Week 28 Summary to each family.

LEADER NOTES:

Week 28 Summary

Synergy Group – *Exploration to 1850*



Day in TM	Group Activity	Notes to Parents
	Speech Opportunity	Help children understand the agonizing plight of the Native Americans as they journeyed on the Trail of Tears. Then, help them prepare a 1-3 minute dramatization, pretending to be on that dreadful voyage.
Wed	History – Activity—Make African Groundnut Sauce	
(not in TM)	Science – Gardening	Each child (or family) can share their garden map, sketches, and plans.
Wed	Art – <i>God and the History of Art</i> , p334-335 Delacroix Lesson #196 A Renaissance Man	
At home, read about and sing “Amazing Grace” from <i>Then Sings My Soul</i> , pages 78-79. We will also sing it in group.		

Mark these activities in your *Exploration to 1850* TM so you do not do them at home.

Materials for each FAMILY to bring:

- ☐ presentation on Trail of Tears
- ☐ *Then Sings My Soul*
- ☐ garden map, sketches, and plans
- ☐ *God and the History of Art II*
- ☐ School Supply Box

Additional materials for LEADER to bring:

- ☐ *Exploration to 1850* Teacher’s Manual
- ☐ *Bible*
- ☐ chalkboard or dry-erase board (or large sheet of paper, cover words with a black marker)
- ☐ ingredients & materials for African Groundnut Sauce (Week 28 Wednesday notes in TM)
- ☐ cooked rice, potatoes, or sweet potatoes
- ☐ paper products (plates, forks, napkins)

Materials for Science:

- ☐ none

Photocopies:

- ☐ Week 29 Summary (one copy per family)

Group Activities – Week 28

Exploration to 1850



Prayer/Hymn – Father, we pray this week for the continent of Africa and the darkness that still reigns there. We ask that your Spirit would work in the hearts of the African people. May they come to know and trust Jesus as their Lord.

Sing – “Amazing Grace,” *Then Sings My Soul*, page 78

Memory Work

This week, the class will review James 4:11-12, 17. Write several verses that the children are having difficulty with on a chalkboard or dry-erase board. Read through one time, then have each student tell you one word to erase. Then reread as a group, inserting missing words. Continue with other verses, or with more words being erased.

Speech Opportunity: Trail of Tears

Children will present a 1-3 minute dramatization in which they pretend to be a Native American journeying on the Trail of Tears.

History: Make African Groundnut Sauce

See Week 28 Wednesday notes in *Exploration to 1850* TM.

Break (5-10 Minutes) – Prepare for remaining activities.

Science: Each child (or family) can share their garden map, sketches, and plans.

Music: *No music is scheduled this week.*

Art: *God and the History of Art*, pages 334-335, Lesson #196 – A Renaissance Man

Give copies of Week 29 Summary to each family.

LEADER NOTES:

Week 29 Summary

Synergy Group – *Exploration to 1850*



Day in TM	Group Activity	Notes to Parents
	Speech Opportunity	Help children choose their favorite composer from this year and prepare a 1-3 minute presentation, using props or pictures if desired.
Tues	History – Activity—Morse Code	
Wed	Science – <i>Botany</i> , p158-159 Activity 10.4 Estimate the Height of a Tree	
Wed	Art – <i>God and the History of Art</i> , p337-338 Lesson #198 Tints, Shades, and Half-Tones	
At home, read about and sing “The Solid Rock” from <i>Then Sings My Soul</i> , pages 110-111. We will also sing it in group.		

Mark these activities in your *Exploration to 1850* TM so you do not do them at home.

Materials for each FAMILY to bring:

- ☐ presentation on favorite composer
- ☐ *Then Sings My Soul*
- ☐ Morse Code student sheet (Week 29:T)
- ☐ walkie-talkies that have Morse Code feature (if available)
- ☐ *God and the History of Art II*
- ☐ art supplies – paint card XVII, acrylic paints, brush
- ☐ School Supply Box

Additional materials for LEADER to bring:

- ☐ *Exploration to 1850* Teacher’s Manual
- ☐ *Bible*
- ☐ any of this year’s music and CD player

Materials for Science:

- ☐ *Exploring Creation with Botany*
- ☐ measuring tape or yardstick
- ☐ 12-inch ruler
- ☐ tall tree
- ☐ calculator

Photocopies:

- ☐ Week 30 Summary (one copy per family)

Group Activities – Week 29

Exploration to 1850



Note: The science activity requires two hours. So place a pinecone in a bucket of cold water up to 45 minutes before group. Leave one pinecone out to compare.

Prayer/Hymn – Father God, we thank You that no one can lay any foundation other than the one You have already laid, which is Jesus Christ (1 Corinthians 3:11). May we build our hope on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness.

Sing – “The Solid Rock,” *Then Sings My Soul*, page 110

Memory Work

Have the children recite James 5:1-4, plus 5:16 for Plan B.

Speech Opportunity: Favorite Composer

Children will present a 1-3 minute presentation on their favorite composer from this year, using props or pictures if desired.

History: Morse Code

Read aloud the information in the Teacher's Manual for Week 29, Tuesday. Then, have children use their Morse code student sheets to signal their names by making beeping sounds or by using walkie-talkies if available.

Break (5-10 Minutes) – Prepare for remaining activities.

Science: *Exploring Creation with Botany*, pages 158-159, Activity 10.4, Estimate the Height of a Tree

Music: Listen to any music from this year during art.

Art: *God and the History of Art*, pages 337-338, Lesson #198 – Tints, Shades, and Half-Tones

Give copies of Week 30 Summary to each family.

LEADER NOTES:

Week 30 Summary

Synergy Group – *Exploration to 1850*



Day in TM	Group Activity	Notes to Parents
	Speech Opportunity	Children should prepare to speak 1-3 minutes on the California Gold Rush.
Tues	Music – play any music from this year	
Wed	Art – <i>God and the History of Art</i> , 340 Lesson #200 Placing a Figure in a Landscape	
Thurs	Science – <i>Botany</i> , p176 Activity 11.5 Opening and Closing Pinecones	
At home, read about and sing “The Solid Rock” from <i>Then Sings My Soul</i> , pages 110-111. We will also sing it in group.		

Mark these activities in your *Exploration to 1850* TM so you do not do them at home.

Materials for each FAMILY to bring:

- ☐ presentation on the California Gold Rush
- ☐ *Then Sings My Soul*
- ☐ *God and the History of Art II*
- ☐ art supplies – colored pencils
- ☐ School Supply Box

Additional materials for LEADER to bring:

- ☐ *Exploration to 1850* Teacher’s Manual
- ☐ Bible
- ☐ any of this year’s music and CD player

Materials for Science:

- ☐ *Exploring Creation with Botany*
- ☐ several pinecones
- ☐ bucket
- ☐ oven

Photocopies:

- ☐ Week 31 Summary (one copy per family)

Group Activities – Week 30

Exploration to 1850



Prayer/Hymn – Lord God, we praise You for all we have learned about the world You created. We’re so glad that You’re the solid rock we can stand on. Help us remember that all other ground is like sinking sand.

Sing – “The Solid Rock,” *Then Sings My Soul*, page 110

Memory Work

Have the children recite James 5:1-8, plus verse 16 for Plan B.

Science: *Exploring Creation with Botany*, page 176, Activity 11.5, Opening and Closing Pinecones

Do the activity as a whole group demonstration. You will need to check the pinecones after an hour.

Break (5-10 Minutes) – Prepare for remaining activities.

Speech Opportunity/History: California Gold Rush

Children will speak 1-3 minutes on the California Gold Rush.

Music: Listen to any music from this year during art.

Art: *God and the History of Art*, page 340, Lesson #200 – Placing a Figure in a Landscape

Give copies of Week 31 Summary to each family.

Beginning next week, group will focus on the state reports. Plan weekly field trips and/or continue Synergy group activities as scheduled in your Synergy guide.

- **Decide if your group will plan field trips for Weeks 31-33 and who will make any needed arrangements.**
- **Decide if your group will continue Synergy group activities for those weeks.**
- **Week 34 is an End-of-Year Celebration focusing on the state reports.**

LEADER NOTES:

Week 31 Summary

Synergy Group – *Exploration to 1850*



Day in TM	Group Activity	Notes to Parents
Fri	Science – Nature Walk	

Mark this activity in your *Exploration to 1850* TM so you do not do it at home.

Materials for each FAMILY to bring:

- ☐ *Then Sings My Soul*
- ☐ nature journaling supplies: white paper and clipboard, colored pencils, magnifying glass if available
- ☐ School Supply Box

Additional materials for LEADER to bring:

- ☐ *Bible*

Photocopies:

- ☐ Week 32 Summary (one copy per family)

Group Activities – Week 31

Exploration to 1850



Prayer/Hymn – Father, help us to glory only in the cross of Christ. May we look only to You for our salvation.

Sing – “In the Cross of Christ I Glory,” *Then Sings My Soul*, page 96

Memory Work

Have the children recite James 5:1-12, plus verse 16 for Plan B.

Science: Nature Walk

Go outside and use colored pencils to draw something from nature. Students should label their pages with the date, time, and location. Include a detailed description of the weather. These may be added to the state reports.

History: Optional Field Trip

Children will go on a state field trip with their Synergy group.

Give copies of Week 32 Summary to each family.

LEADER NOTES:

Week 32 Summary

Synergy Group – *Exploration to 1850*



Day in TM	Group Activity	Notes to Parents
Fri	Science – Nature Walk	

Mark this activity in your *Exploration to 1850* TM so you do not do it at home.

Materials for each FAMILY to bring:

- ☐ *Then Sings My Soul*
- ☐ nature journaling supplies: white paper and clipboard, watercolor paints, colored pencils, magnifying glass if available
- ☐ School Supply Box

Additional materials for LEADER to bring:

- ☐ *Exploring Creation with Botany*
- ☐ *Bible*

Photocopies:

- ☐ Week 33 Summary (one copy per family)

Group Activities – Week 32

Exploration to 1850



Prayer/Hymn – Father, we praise You that when the woes of life overtake us, You will never forsake us. We thank You that because of Jesus our lives can glow with peace and joy.

Sing – “In the Cross of Christ I Glory,” *Then Sings My Soul*, page 96

Memory Work

Have the children recite James 5:1-12, plus verse 16 for Plan B.

Science: Nature Walk

Students will go outside and make a description of wildlife, plants, or weather they encounter. Encourage them to write poetry, using similes, metaphors, and/or personification. Students might sketch and write outside, and then come inside to use watercolor paint. Remind them to label their pages with the date, time, and location. These may be added to the state reports.

History: Optional Field Trip

Children will go on a state field trip with their Synergy group.

Give copies of Week 33 Summary to each family.

LEADER NOTES:

Week 33 Summary

Synergy Group – *Exploration to 1850*



Day in TM	Group Activity	Notes to Parents
Thurs	Science – Nature Walk	

Mark this activity in your *Exploration to 1850* TM so you do not do it at home.

Materials for each FAMILY to bring:

- ☐ *Then Sings My Soul*
- ☐ clipboard and white paper for nature journaling
- ☐ Bibles (one per student for nature walk) or prepared sheet (see Nature Walk activity in *Synergy Guide*); also see Friday's Nature Walk notes in the Teacher's Manual.
- ☐ School Supply Box

Additional materials for LEADER to bring:

- ☐ none

Photocopies:

- ☐ Week 34 Summary (one copy per family)

Group Activities – Week 33

Exploration to 1850



Prayer/Hymn – Father, help us by Your grace to sing to the Lord as long as we live. May we always sing praises to You while we have our beings! (Psalm 104:33)

Sing – “O Worship the King,” *Then Sings My Soul*, page 108

Memory Work

Have the children recite James 5:1-12, plus verse 16 for Plan B.

Science: Nature Walk

Children should take a Bible with them on their nature walk and plan to copy a Psalm on their sheet. They might include a prayer of their own to the Creator. Remind them to label their pages with the date, time, and location. These may be added to the state reports.

Another option is to provide a paper for sketching with the verses from Psalm 1:1-3 already printed in the corner. Students can use it to sketch a tree.

History: Optional Field Trip

Children will go on a state field trip with their Synergy group.

Give copies of Week 34 Summary to each family.

Next week is a presentation of student work from home and refreshments. See Week 34 Summary.

- **Discuss what food each family will bring to the party.**
- **Set a time for guests to arrive, perhaps 15 minutes after group usually begins.**

LEADER NOTES:

Week 34 Summary

Synergy Group – *Exploration to 1850*

End-of-Year Celebration



Visitors will enjoy an informal presentation about the students' state reports, followed by refreshments. Each family will have a table where they can display their work.

Materials for each FAMILY to bring:

- ☐ Invite relatives and friends to join us for an informal state report presentation and refreshments.
- ☐ state report and other related items to display and share with others
- ☐ food to share – either family favorites or a local food
- ☐ camera to take lots of pictures!
- ☐ Colonial games (Week 9) or Games (Week 4) if still available
- ☐ Students should be prepared to recite all memory work from James.

Additional materials for LEADER to bring:

- ☐ *Exploration to 1850* Teacher's Manual
- ☐ Bible
- ☐ *The Best of Chopin* CD and CD player (optional background music while enjoying your feast)
- ☐ paper plates, napkins, etc.

Group Activities

Preparation: Set up seating and a buffet line for refreshments. Each family sets up a table with their state reports and any souvenirs, arts, or crafts from their state they would like to share. Ideally, there should be one table per child, but space may necessitate that it be one table per family. Your group will have to decide the best approach.

Invite Guests into the Room: Give the guests time to come into the room and settle down.

Prayer: Let each child share a one-sentence thank you prayer.

Memory Work: Have all of the children (and parents who have memorized the verses) gather and recite the book of James together.

Speech Opportunity: Have each child speak for 1-2 minutes in front of the group about their favorite part of their state report, using souvenirs or props if desired.

View Tables: Have the students stand by their display tables. Then, encourage visitors and parents to visit each table and ask students about their displayed items.

Refreshments: Enjoy the “state feast” potluck. Show courtesy to your guests by asking them to go first.

Listen to *The Best of Chopin* CD as you enjoy refreshments.

After eating, set up the children's favorite colonial and Indian games from *Exploration to 1850*. Students can each invite a guest or adult to play the game.

Clean-up: Dismiss the guests. Encourage all family members to participate in clean-up.

LEADER NOTES:

**Synergy Group™ Guide
for
EXPLORATION
TO 1850**



**MY FATHER'S
WORLD®**

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