

EXPLORING COUNTRIES AND CULTURES

Third Edition

A one-year program
for 3rd through 8th graders
(and 2nd graders with older siblings in the program)

MY FATHER'S WORLD®

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Exploring Countries and Cultures

Contents

<u>Week</u>	<u>Country</u>	<u>Science</u>
1-2	Introduction	Introduction
North America		
3-4	United States	Forests
5-6	Mexico	Deserts
7-8	Canada	General
South America		
9-10	Brazil	Rain Forests
Europe		
11-12	Norway	Northern Forests
13-14	France	General
15-16	Germany	Rivers and Lakes
Africa		
17-18	Kenya	Grasslands
19	Egypt	
Asia		
20	Israel	Ecology and Conservation
21-22	Saudi Arabia	
23-24	India	Mountains
25-26	China	Oceans
27-28	Japan	
29-30	Russia	Arctic, Tundra
Australia		
31-32	Australia	Australia, Coral Reefs
Antarctica		
33-34	Antarctica	Antarctica

Exploring Countries and Cultures

Teacher's Manual
Parent/Teacher Supplement
Student Sheets (purchase one per student)

Bible Hero Tales
Window on the World
God Speaks Numanggang

Geography Children's Atlas of God's World
Classroom Atlas, 13th Edition
Wall Map of the World
Geography from A to Z
Come to the Table: Exploring International Cuisine
The Great Animal Search
Fun with Easy Origami
Inflatable Globe
Currency Kit
Flags of the World (sticker book)
Passport (purchase one per student)
Exploring World Geography (purchase one per 3rd-8th grader
or photocopy)

Science Properties of Ecosystems, 4th Edition
Living World Encyclopedia

Art A World of Art

Math Facts Fast Facts

Read-Aloud Kingdom Tales
Gladys Aylward
Amy Carmichael
Nate Saint
George Müller
David Livingstone

2nd – 3rd Grade (required)
The Complete Book of Animals

7th and 8th Grade Supplement (required)
Bruchko
The Narrow Road
I Dared to Call Him Father
Kisses from Katie
Writing a Country Report
World Book Student (online)

Hello, bonjour, buenos dias!
G'day, guten Tag, kon nichi wa!
Ciao, shalom, dobrey dyen!

Welcome to an exciting year! *Exploring Countries and Cultures* is a unit study for students in grades 2-8. You will take a trip around the world and explore diverse cultures while learning geography and being challenged by true stories of missionaries. We hope and pray that you will see the world in a new way, and that God's kingdom will be affected by what you learn this year.

Exploring Countries and Cultures is a complete curriculum for history, Bible, science, art, and music. You will need to add language arts and math at the appropriate grade level.

Highlights of *Exploring Countries and Cultures*:

Bible

- True stories of godly men and women who served as missionaries overseas, focusing on character traits.
- Weekly information about different ethnic groups around the world and their specific prayer needs.
- Weekly memory verses and daily readings from Matthew.

Geography

- A trip around the world, exploring 17 countries with hands-on activities – cooking, flags, passport, and more.
- Maps and globes.
- A focus on geographic terms with student-made illustrated vocabulary cards.
- Grade-appropriate research skills developed with geography-related activities.
- Optional library books provide enrichment for countries and topics.

Science

- A study of different habitats, such as desert, rain forest, grassland, forest, polar regions, coordinated with the country being studied (e.g., rainforest when studying Brazil). Optional library books provide enrichment.
- Weekly nature walk and nature journal.
- 7th and 8th graders add grade-specific science books (see our website for more information; purchase separately).

Art and Music

- Art projects and music from countries you visit this year.

Read Aloud

- Inspiring stories for family read-aloud in the evening or anytime!
 - God's Kingdom – *Kingdom Tales*
 - South America – *Nate Saint: On a Wing and a Prayer*
 - Europe – *George Müller: The Guardian of Bristol's Orphans*
 - Africa – *David Livingstone: Africa's Trailblazer*
 - Asia – *Amy Carmichael: Rescuer of Precious Gems*
 - Asia – *Gladys Aylward: The Adventure of a Lifetime*

Math and Language Arts (add for each student)

We recommend Singapore Math® *Primary Mathematics* for grades 2-6 and Saxon Math with Jacobs Geometry for grades 7-12. Our language arts recommendations are:

Grade 2

Language Lessons for Today Grade 2
Spelling by Sound and Structure

Grade 3

Language Lessons for Today Grade 3
Merriam-Webster's Elem. Dictionary
Spelling Power
Handwriting

Grade 4

Language Lessons for Today Grade 4
Merriam-Webster's Elem. Dictionary
Spelling Power
Spelling Power Activity Task Cards
Writing Skills for Today Grade 4

Grade 5

Language Lessons for Today Grade 5
Spelling Power
Spelling Power Activity Task Cards
Writing Skills for Today Grade 5

Grade 6

Language Lessons for Today Grade 6
Spelling Power
Spelling Power Activity Task Cards
Writing Skills for Today Grade 6

Grade 7

Two literature guides from Progeny Press
Spelling Power (if needed)
Writing with Skill Level 1 (first half of book)
Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Thesaurus (used with
Writing with Skill)
Applications of Grammar (Students with no previous
basic instruction in nouns, verbs, etc., first complete
Language Lessons for Today Grade 6 in the first 8
weeks.)

Grade 8

Two literature guides from Progeny Press
Spelling Power (if needed)
Writing with Skill Level 1 (second half of book)
Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Thesaurus (used with
Writing with Skill)
Easy Grammar Ultimate Series Grade 8

2nd and 3rd Grade

The Complete Book of Animals is required to develop science and reading skills.

7th and 8th Grade Supplement

7th and 8th graders will also need the 7th and 8th Grade Supplement. The set includes four inspiring missionary biographies and resources for developing research skills. All of the included items are scheduled in the lesson plans.

Bruchko
The Narrow Road
I Dared to Call Him Father
Kisses from Katie
Writing a Country Report
World Book Student (online)

Foreign Language (optional)

My Father's World has developed a *Foreign Language Enrichment Guide* with cultural activities and other helps. These daily lesson plans are useful for assigning high school credit or enriching a younger student's experience, and can be used with most foreign language programs.

Week 9 – South America: Brazil					
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bible	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Window on the World</i> p186-187 Yanomami Memory Verse Matthew 5:14	<input type="checkbox"/> Matthew 5:43-48 Memory Verse Matthew 5:14	<input type="checkbox"/> Matthew 6:1-4 Memory Verse Matthew 5:14	<input type="checkbox"/> Matthew 6:5-14 Memory Verse Matthew 5:14	<input type="checkbox"/> Matthew 6:16-18 Test memory verse; review previous verses
Lang. Arts	<input type="checkbox"/> Copy memory verse	<input type="checkbox"/> Dictation of memory verse	<input type="checkbox"/> Letter	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Geography from A to Z</i> swamp marsh	
Spelling	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
English	<input type="checkbox"/> 25	<input type="checkbox"/> 26	<input type="checkbox"/> 27	<input type="checkbox"/> Writing 17	<input type="checkbox"/> Writing 18
Math Drill	<input type="checkbox"/> Addition	<input type="checkbox"/> Subtraction	<input type="checkbox"/> Multiplication	<input type="checkbox"/> Division	
Math	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Geography	<input type="checkbox"/> Passport (see notes) <i>Children's Atlas of God's World</i> p20-21 South America Map Activity** (see notes) Gr. 4+: Exploring World Geography – begin South America pages this week (see notes)	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Classroom Atlas</i> p140-143 <i>Children's Atlas of God's World</i> p22-23 Brazil Information Sheet** Prepare Geography Game (see notes)	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Children's Atlas of God's World</i> p24-25 Brazil Information Sheet – finish	<input type="checkbox"/> Play Geography Game	<input type="checkbox"/> Zoo – If possible, plan a trip to the zoo.
	<input type="checkbox"/> Book Basket	<input type="checkbox"/> Book Basket	<input type="checkbox"/> Book Basket	<input type="checkbox"/> Book Basket	
Science	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Living World</i> p96-97 Tropical Rain Forest Notebook: draw and color rain forests**	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Properties of Ecosystems</i> p45-47 Tropical Rainforests** (see notes) Greenhouse Experiment (see notes)	<input type="checkbox"/> Nature Walk Nature Notebook Grow a Potato Plant/Rainforest Terrarium (see notes)	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Living World</i> p94-95 Amazon Gr. 4+: Properties of Ecosystems p67-68 The Amazon River	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Living World</i> p98-99 Rain Forest Plants
Music Art	<input type="checkbox"/> Brazilian Music (see notes)	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>A World of Art</i> p94 Rain Stick		<input type="checkbox"/> <i>A World of Art</i> p96 Butterfly Watercolors	
Reading	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Foreign Lang.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Read-aloud	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Nate Saint</i> #9	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Nate Saint</i> #10	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Nate Saint</i> #11	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Nate Saint</i> #12	
2-3 Grade	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Book of Animals</i> – select from p89-100 for Weeks 9-10	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Book of Animals</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Book of Animals</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Book of Animals</i>	

Week 9 Notes

7 th and 8 th Grade Supplement				
<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Exploring World Geography</i> p120 Physical Geography; p121 Physical Features	<input type="checkbox"/> Research Brazil begin country summary sheet	<input type="checkbox"/> Research Brazil finish country summary sheet	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Exploring World Geography</i> p122 Rivers; p123 Mountains	
<input type="checkbox"/> Reading – Bruchko Introduction	<input type="checkbox"/> Reading – Bruchko #1-2	<input type="checkbox"/> Reading – Bruchko #3-4	<input type="checkbox"/> Reading – Bruchko #5-6	<input type="checkbox"/> Reading – Bruchko #7
<input type="checkbox"/> Science	<input type="checkbox"/> Science	<input type="checkbox"/> Science	<input type="checkbox"/> Science	<input type="checkbox"/> Science

Preparation:

- Keep *The Great Animal Search* in Book Basket; mark pages 16-17 with a sticky note. (Weeks 9-10)
- If possible, plan a trip to the zoo.
- Optional—Find Brazilian music (see Brazilian Music below) (M)

Materials:

Brazilian money from Currency Kit (M)
 2 plastic disposable cups, potting soil, radish seeds (or grass or bird seed) (T)
 empty wrapping paper or paper towel tube for art (T)
 potato, several large clay pots, clean rocks, potting soil (W)
 terrarium items (W)

Note: Pages 97-100 in *A World of Art* are not scheduled. You may add or substitute any of these projects in Weeks 9-10.

Monday

Memory Verse

Matthew 5:14 “You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden.”

Passport

As you “cross the border” and enter Brazil, have your child show his passport. Enter the date and country on one of the blank pages. Find a Brazilian flag on the Passport Stickers student sheet and add it to the passport. The additional Brazilian flags may be added to papers in your notebook or used any way you like.

Currency Exchange: Give your child a \$10 U.S. bill. Have him exchange it at the border for Brazilian reais (plural of real) from the Currency Kit. (Additional money can be made from paper if needed.) Use the exchange rate included with the Currency Kit or search the Internet to determine current exchange rates. For the next two weeks, students use the money to purchase snack, lunch, supplies, etc.

Map Activity

On the world wall map, locate Brazil. Is it mostly in the Northern or Southern Hemisphere? [Southern] The Eastern or Western Hemisphere? [Western] Locate and identify the countries and oceans bordering Brazil using the wall map, a globe, and *Classroom Atlas* page 143.

Use the Exploring Countries and Cultures world map already in the World section of your Geography Notebook. Label and color Brazil.

Use the South America map from the Student Sheets. Refer to *Classroom Atlas* page 143. Label Brazil, other South American countries, and the Pacific and Atlantic Ocean. (Younger children only need to label the oceans and a few countries.) Place this sheet in the front of the South America section of your Geography Notebook.

Locate the map of South America in *Flags of the World*. Find the corresponding flag stickers and place them next to the correct country. Use either the large or small flag based on what fits best on the map. The other sticker may

be used any way you like. Begin work on this project today and plan to complete it before you visit another continent.

Grade 4+: Exploring World Geography

Use pages 120-137. Students have only two weeks in South America, so you may want to select fewer pages to complete. Reread the instructions in Week 3 Monday Notes.

Hints for locating information:

- Mountains sheet – use an almanac such as *World Almanac* or *Book of Facts* to look up each mountain.
- Products and Resources sheet – locate articles for each product on the sheet, and then find charts showing the leading producers, using *World Book Encyclopedia* (book or online Student version).
- Languages sheet – look up each country in *World Book Encyclopedia* or any other resource. You can also use World Book Student (online); look for the facts in brief bar (for example, “Mexico in brief”) near the top of the article.
- Islands sheet – use the physical map in *Classroom Atlas* for most of the islands. Margarita is near Curacao and Venezuela; it’s not in *Classroom Atlas*.

Brazilian Music

Brazil is a country in which European, African, and indigenous cultures met to form several styles of traditional music. The most well-known of these are samba and bossa nova.

Samba is Brazil’s most popular classical music due to its use in parades and carnivals throughout the country. Samba is primarily a blending of European and African influences marked by a percussion-heavy ensemble, a steady rhythm, repetitive chord progressions, and call-and-response vocals. Within the songs, there is an emphasis on European-style melodies with vocals in Portuguese and African-style percussion and rhythm resulting in a very dance-friendly experience.

Another well-known genre from Brazil is bossa nova, which literally means “new style.” This new style of music was birthed in the mid-twentieth century by the influence of American jazz on samba music. Guitarist João Gilberto developed a style of smooth, muted samba incorporating jazz chords and harmonies. The tempo of bossa nova is slower than samba, featuring folk-style vocal singing. João Gilberto is one of the most famous bossa nova musicians.

Optional: Listen to music by João Gilberto or other bossa nova artists. You can also see our suggested play list at mfwbooks.com/ecc-music.

Tuesday

Geography Game

Prepare the game for South America as you did for North America. (See Week 5.) Play the game several times a week. Parents/teachers are encouraged to play, too. The following countries are included:

- | | | | |
|-------------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|
| 1. Brazil | 2. Argentina | 3. Peru | 4. Colombia |
| 5. Bolivia | 6. Venezuela | 7. Chile | 8. Paraguay |
| 9. Ecuador | 10. Guyana | 11. Uruguay | 12. Suriname |
| 13. French Guiana | | | |

Note: French Guiana is not an independent country. It’s an overseas department (or administrative district) of France.

The first few times you play; use only the South America board. After that, use both the North and South America boards and cards together. See Week 5 for how to play the Geography Game.

Hint: Before playing each day, look at a map of South America and review country names.

Capital City Challenge: After playing the game a few times, make the game more challenging for older students by also testing knowledge of capital cities. Some cards have two black dots, indicating students can earn two

markers (one for location and one for naming the capital city). If the player correctly names the capital and locates the country, he places two markers on the board instead of just one. The winner is the player with the most markers.

Flag Challenge: Cut out the South America flag cards from the Student Sheets and Parent/Teacher Supplement. Add them to your country cards pile and mix well. Students first say the name of the country, and then find it on their board. If the card has two black dots, students can earn a second marker by naming the capital city. Add flags for each continent as you study them.

Properties of Ecosystems

What did we learn?

- **List some ways in which a tropical rainforest is different from a temperate forest.** Rainforest receives more rain (over 80 inches per year). Rainforest is always warm to hot—no cold winters. Rainforests have more different kinds of animals, but relatively fewer mammals.
- **Where are the rainforests located?** Between the Tropic of Cancer and the Tropic of Capricorn; in the tropical region.
- **What is an arboreal animal?** One that lives primarily in trees.
- **What is an epiphyte?** A plant that grows on another plant without taking nutrients from it.
- **Name at least one epiphyte.** Orchid, fern, cactus, banyan tree.

Taking it further

- **Do you think that dead materials would decay slowly or quickly on the floor of the rainforest? Why?** Because the rainforest is warm and moist all the time, bacteria and other composters thrive, thus, dead material decays very quickly.
- **If you transplanted trees such as orange, cacao, or papaya trees, to a deciduous forest, would you expect them to survive? Why or why not?** Many tropical plants cannot survive the cold winters that are experienced in the deciduous forests. These plants would not be likely to survive.
- **Which animals are you most likely to see if you are taking a walk through the tropical rainforest?** Because many animals live primarily in the canopy, you would only see the ones that live near the floor or that visit the floor regularly. These might include lizards and snakes, capybaras, a few birds, and lots of insects. You would probably not see monkeys except from afar.

Greenhouse Experiment

Plant radish seeds (or bird seed or grass seed) in two plastic disposable cups. Cover one cup with plastic. This will produce a warmer and more humid environment. Which plants grow more quickly? The rain forest is a warm and humid environment and plants grow very quickly there.

Wednesday

Grow a Potato Plant

Potatoes originally came from South America. Spanish explorers brought the potato to Europe in the 1500s. Now, Idaho is the leading potato-growing state in the United States.

To grow a potato, select an old potato that already has sprouts. Cut the potato in several pieces, each with 1-2 buds. Let them sit in a sunny spot for 2 days to dry out. Then prepare several large clay pots with a shallow layer of clean rocks at the bottom. Fill halfway with potting soil, add one potato piece per pot, bud side down, and cover with about 1" of potting soil. Keep the soil well-watered. Measure the height of your plant each week on Monday and Friday and plot the growth on a graph.

Rainforest Terrarium

You may want to plant a tropical rainforest terrarium. Choose plants such as ferns, mosses, African violet, philodendron, zebra plant, rubber plant, fig tree, or orchids. Use an aquarium, a fish bowl, a large wide-mouth glass jar, or a 2-liter plastic bottle. Place 1-2" of gravel at the bottom and add 2-4" of moist potting soil. (The depth of the soil should be about one-fourth of the total height of the container.) After you finish adding plant, cover the top of your container with plastic wrap or a lid. Place in bright light but not direct sunlight. If your container becomes

too humid and water drops form on the side, remove the lid to allow for some evaporation. Spray with water as needed to keep the soil moist.

SAMPLE