



Under the Home

2017 K-2 Curriculum Guide

Learn from the Masters

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Overview

Under the Home (UTH) is a Charlotte Mason-inspired curriculum that seeks to build upon children's natural love of learning. Lessons focus on developing the fundamental skills of listening comprehension, reading, writing, and mathematical thinking. These fundamental skills are enhanced and reinforced by integrating beautiful music, inspiring artwork, and charming poetry and prose. Additional subjects include American history, world history, geography, science, and studio art.



Masterworks in the public domain constitute the heart of the curriculum. Created by master authors and artists, passion for teaching, learning, and creating inspired these works. Many chosen works incorporate or inspire a rich use of language critical for developing a full and expressive vocabulary. Providing quality, non-trivial masterworks in subjects such as music, art, poetry, and prose results in an educational benefit not only for children, but for instructors as well.

When explicit instructions are not provided in the lessons themselves, book chapters and lessons are accompanied by lesson guides that provide information such as teaching instructions, synopses of lesson content, vocabulary words, fundamental concepts, enrichment activities, and review questions.

Schedule

UTH schedules lessons using a 36-week school schedule. The exceptions are phonics, reading, writing, and mathematics, where UTH recommends that children progress upon mastery of lessons rather than by a set schedule. Keep in mind that "grade levels" merely provide reference and structure, and need not be followed precisely. Instructors are free to either use UTH's suggested schedule or to schedule lessons at an optimal pace for individual children.



Kindergarten

The kindergarten curriculum includes nine subjects: art history, mathematics, music, poetry, prose, phonics, reading, studio art, and writing. The goals of the year are to enhance listening skills, to transition to chapter books, to build observational skills, to work on listening comprehension, to gain a concrete understanding of numbering and basic mathematical operations, to work on phonics, visual word recognition, and writing letters, and to delight in rhyme, music, and art.



Art History

Children study 36 masterworks of Raffaello Sanzio da Urbino, Sandro Botticelli, Mary Cassatt, Vincent van Gogh, Henry Ossawa Tanner, and Georges Seurat. Children study one master artist for several weeks with one new work introduced weekly. This course provides lesson guides with descriptions, vocabulary, concepts, review questions, and enrichment activities for all 36 works.



The Starry Night by Vincent van Gogh

Math

The kindergarten through first grade mathematics curriculum provides four phases of step-by-step instructions for introducing primary-level arithmetic to children in preparation to begin Ray's Primary Arithmetic. Phase I teaches children to recognize numbers of objects up to ten. Phase II drops physical objects and teaches children to combine and separate up to ten imaginary objects in their minds. In phase III, children combine and separate abstract numbers directly. Finally, in phase IV, children write addition and subtraction equations including values up to ten. Teaching guides to assist instructors accompany all 56 lessons.

Music

Kindergarten music captures the magic of the seasons. Children will enjoy shivering to spooky music, dancing to Christmas melodies, huddling from stormy musical concoctions, and skipping to renewing spring compositions. Lesson guides with directions, synopses, enrichment activities, and review questions accompany each of the 36 musical selections. All music is included on the website. Just click a button and enjoy!

Poetry

Mother Goose poems provide children an enchanting first venture into the world of rhyme and poetry. Well-known favorites such as Rain, Jack, Wee-Willie, Pat-A-Cake, If Wishes Were Horses, and Humpty Dumpty are joined by other lovely poems including Bees, Phippen Hill, and Pussy-cat and Queen. This course provides audio recordings, lesson guides, coloring pages, and copywork for all included 108 poems.

Prose

Kindergarten prose includes charming tales of friendship, loyalty, perseverance, and adventure. Written text, pictures, and audio readings of the books are integrated on the website. The included books are My Father's Dragon, The Great Big Treasury of Beatrix Potter, Raggedy Ann Stories, Raggedy Andy Stories, The Velveteen Rabbit, and Uncle Wiggily's Adventures. This course provides teaching guides for each chapter with descriptions, vocabulary, concepts, review questions, and enrichment activities.



Raggedy Ann Stories by Johnny Gruelle

Phonics

The leveraged phonics textbook was devised to be used for the first three years of education in conjunction with a series of readers (e.g. McGuffey's, Treadwell's). Phonics, associating sounds with letters and blending those sounds into words, provide children with a foundation to decipher novel words. The author of the utilized textbook evolved this system of teaching phonics in her own schoolroom and used it with great success. This method incorporates four activities: 1) Ear Training, 2) Tongue Training, 3) Eye Training, and 4) Word Building.

Reading

The kindergarten through first grade reading curriculum integrates the time-tested McGuffey's Eclectic Primer with audio recordings of letters, words, and sentences to provide an effective reading curriculum with no additional textbook costs. This course provides teaching guides with instructions on how to teach each of the 52 lessons.

Studio Art

Kindergarten studio art provides hands-on opportunities to create novel artwork such as paintings, drawings, and sculptures. Kindergarten studio art adapts 'Text Books of Art Education (Volume I)', the first book in a 7-volume set of textbooks created in the early 19th century via conferences and consultations with art education experts. Leading art teachers and educators in large public school systems and universities such as Harvard helped to create the textbook. Supplies needed to complete the course are minimal and inexpensive. Pencils, crayons, markers, paper in a variety of colors, washable acrylic paints, paintbrushes, polymer clay or oven-hardening clay, and dish soap or bubble solution are all children require.



Studio Art - Making an Origami Boat

Writing

Kindergarten through first grade writing provides a printable 63-page tracework book and a printable 96-page copywork book to reinforce the provided McGuffey's Eclectic Primer reading lessons. Some children might start with tracework. Others may immediately be ready for copywork. Convenient links to the relevant page are provided within the reading lesson guides.

First Grade

The first-grade curriculum includes lessons in twelve subjects: art history, geography, history, mathematics, music, poetry, prose, phonics, reading, science, studio art, and writing. First grade adds the topics of geography, history, and science to the areas covered in kindergarten. The goals of this year are to transition from listening to independent reading, to continue to build observational skills, listening comprehension, and vocabulary, to expand the range of mathematical operations, to progress to more complex children's poetry, to draw and sculpt a range of 2D and 3D shapes, and to continue to study masterworks of music and art.



Art History

Children study the masterworks of Henri Matisse, Georgia O'Keeffe, Norman Rockwell, Ivan Aivazovsky, Edward Burne-Jones, Robert Scott Duncanson, and Natalia Goncharova. Children study a single master artist for several weeks with one new work introduced weekly. This course provides lesson guides with descriptions, vocabulary, concepts, review questions, and enrichment activities for all 36 works.



The Dessert: Harmony in Red by Henri Matisse

Geography

In first grade geography, children first study the geography of the familiar stomping grounds surrounding their homes before expanding to explore the far-off reaches of the world. Children explore and map the places they are most acquainted with: their bedrooms, their homes, their neighborhood streets, and their cities.

History

First grade American history focuses on stories that intrigue children, including the noble bravery of leaders, the daring discoveries of explorers, the ingenuity of inventors, and the unimaginable achievements of scholars and scientists. Tracework, coloring pages, and lesson guides with synopses, vocabulary words, concepts, review questions, and enrichment activities are provided for all 48 stories.



Battle of Trenton by Hugh Charles McBarron, Jr.

Math

The first and second grade mathematics course integrates the time-tested Ray's New Primary Arithmetic, which covers addition, counting, skip counting, subtraction, multiplication, division, money, and time. Teaching guides are provided to instructors for all 132 lessons.

Music

This course continues the study of classical music in a concrete, pictorial way, combining music with famous works of art. Works from Modest Mussorgsky, Gustav Holst, Frédéric Chopin, John Philip Sousa, Claude Debussy, and Edvard Grieg are featured this year. This course aims for children to enjoy classical music and to become familiar with master composers and their works. Lesson guides with directions, synopses, enrichment activities, and review questions accompany all 36 musical selections. All music is included on the website. Just click a button and enjoy!

Poetry

'Poetry of Fables, Fairies, and Fauna' includes ancient fables retold with lyrical poetry and child-friendly poems of green hills, blue mountains, rocks and streams, birds, woodland, starry-night, sea-foam, flowers, fairies, children, music, dreams, a book, and sweet home! Enjoy the beautiful, charming, and sometimes spine-tingling works of famous poets such as Jean de La Fontaine, William Allingham, Henry W. Longfellow, and Edgar Allan Poe. This course provides audio recordings, lesson guides, coloring pages, and copywork for all included 72 poems.



Illustration of Edgar Allan Poe's 'The Raven' by Gustave Doré

Prose

In 'Stories of Whimsical Adventure', children travel to Africa and cure sick monkeys with Dr. Dolittle in 'The Story of Dr. Dolittle', and take a wild car ride with Toad in 'The Wind in the Willows', and explore subterranean caverns beneath mountains and evade grotesque goblins with Princess Irene in 'The Princess and the Goblin'. This course provides lesson guides with descriptions, vocabulary, concepts, review questions, and enrichment activities for all stories.



The Princess and the Goblin

Phonics

The leveraged phonics textbook was devised to be used for the first three years of education in conjunction with a series of readers (e.g. McGuffey's, Treadwell's). Phonics, associating sounds with letters and blending those sounds into words, provide children with a foundation to decipher novel words. The author of the utilized textbook evolved this system of teaching phonics in her own schoolroom and used it with great success. This method incorporates four activities: 1) Ear Training, 2) Tongue Training, 3) Eye Training, and 4) Word Building.

Reading

The first and second grade reading course integrates the time-tested McGuffey's First Eclectic Reader with audio recordings of letters, words, and sentences to provide an effective reading curriculum with no additional textbook costs. This course provides teaching guides with instructions on how to teach each of the 63 lessons.



May we go to the swing now, mamma?

Science

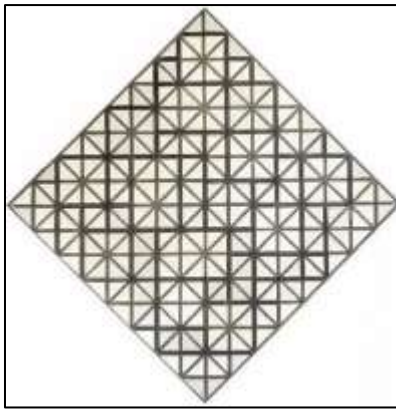
First grade science focuses on building reading, problem solving, and critical thinking skills. The 'Peter and Polly' series features the lives of two young farm children in the early 1900s. The stories incorporate the flora, fauna, and seasonal events in a small farming community. This course provides lesson guides with descriptions, vocabulary, scientific concepts, review questions, and science-themed enrichment activities for all 36 stories.



In Story 12, 'A Bite of Apple', Poor Polly is Stung by a Bee

Studio Art

In first grade, UTH Studio Art focuses on intersections between art and math - drawing lines and shapes. To balance structure while still allowing creativity and imagination to flourish, each lesson enables children to first practice creating specific lines and shapes and then to create artwork by applying their new skills in any manner they wish. Supplies required to complete the 36 exercises are minimal and inexpensive. Sculpting clay or Play-Doh, a ruler, drawing paper, and drawing implements such as pencils, pens, and markers are all children need for these lessons.



Lozenge with Grey Lines by Piet Mondrian

Writing

The first and second grade writing course provides a 191-page printable copywork book to reinforce the lessons in McGuffey's First Eclectic Reader. Convenient links to the relevant writing page are provided within each reading lesson guide.

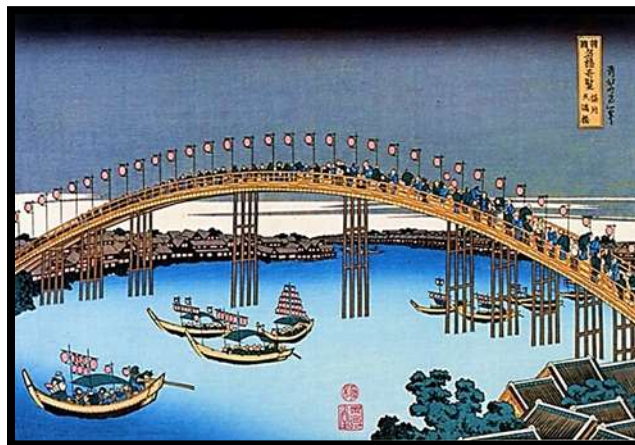
Second Grade

The second-grade curriculum includes lessons in thirteen subjects: art history, geography, American history, world history, mathematics, music, poetry, prose, phonics, reading, science, studio art, and writing. Second grade adds the topic of world history to the areas covered in first grade. The goals of this year are to focus on handwriting and independent reading, to continue to build observational skills, listening comprehension, and vocabulary, to expand the range of mathematical operations and introduce concepts of money and time, to encourage consideration of complexity and nuance within children's poetry, to learn the fundamentals of drawing using object drawing, position, direction, and color, to learn and listen to string, keyboard, and percussion instruments, and to familiarize children with art from around the world.



Art History

In second grade, children study artists from around the world. Countries include Japan, India, Persia, China, Egypt, Venezuela, Mexico, Australia, and South Africa. Children study one master artist or country for four weeks with one new work introduced weekly. This course provides lesson guides with descriptions, vocabulary, concepts, review questions, and enrichment activities for all 36 works.



Tenma Bridge in Setsu Province by Katsushika Hokusai

Geography

Children expand outward from their homes and communities to continue their study of Geography. Children study the four cardinal directions, the animals, the plants, the people, and the major landforms and divisions of the Earth. Children also draw maps of the world and plot courses across the great oceans. Notebook work accompanies all 54 lessons.

American History

In second grade American history, students learn about American Indian life, frontier peril and escape, colonial pirate adventures, daring Revolutionary feats, dangerous whaling voyages, scientific exploration, and encounters with wild beasts. This course provides lesson guides with descriptions, vocabulary, concepts, review questions, and enrichment activities for all 36 lessons.



The Revolutionary War

World History

In second grade world history, students study the earliest development of civilization along the banks of the Nile and the Mediterranean and in the fertile valley of Mesopotamia. This course provides lesson guides with descriptions, vocabulary, concepts, review questions, and enrichment activities for all 17 lessons.



'Hanging Gardens of Babylon,' by Martin Heemskerck

Math

The first and second grade mathematics course integrates the time-tested Ray's New Primary Arithmetic, which covers addition, counting, skip counting, subtraction, multiplication, division, money, and time. Teaching guides are provided to instructors for all 132 lessons.

Music

Second grade music features twenty string, keyboard, and percussion instruments. Selected musical compositions, sound clips, and artwork highlight the featured instruments. Studied instruments include the violin, the cello, the viola, the piano, the harp, the snare drum, and the xylophone. Lesson guides with directions, synopses, enrichment activities, and review questions accompany all 36 musical selections. All the music is included on the website. Just click a button and enjoy!

Poetry

Delight in the child-friendly poetry of Lewis Carroll, James Whitcomb Riley, Mary Austin, Eugene Field, Robert Louis Stevenson, Ella Wheeler Wilcox, Abbie Farwell Brown, and Sara Teasdale. Eat oysters with the Walrus and the Carpenter, learn about goblins from Little Orphant Annie, visit old Peter Prairie-Dog in Prairie-Dog Town, and maroon yourself with pirates on Dead Man's Chest Island. Children study each poet and their poetry over a five-week period. This course provides audio recordings, lesson guides, coloring pages, print copywork, and script tracework for all 40 poems.



'Wynten, Blynken, and Nod,' by Eugene Field

Prose

Second grade prose features absorbing children's books chosen for their positive life lessons, their vocabulary-building diversity of language, and their inclusion of fast-paced, exotic adventures. The selected books have persisted over decades as true classics. Second grade prose whisks children away to the Yellow Brick Road and Emerald City in *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz*, to the Mad Hatter's tea party in *Alice in Wonderland*, and to the inside of a Dog-Fish in *Pinocchio*. The website integrates story text, pictures, and audio readings. This course provides lesson guides with descriptions, vocabulary, concepts, review questions, and enrichment activities for all stories.



Alice Receives Advice from the Caterpillar in Wonderland

Phonics

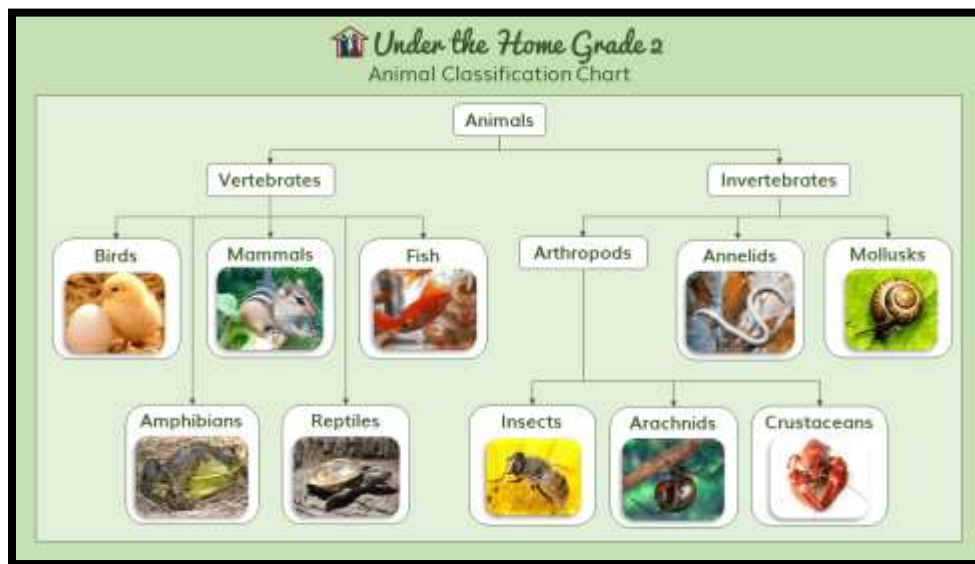
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Reading

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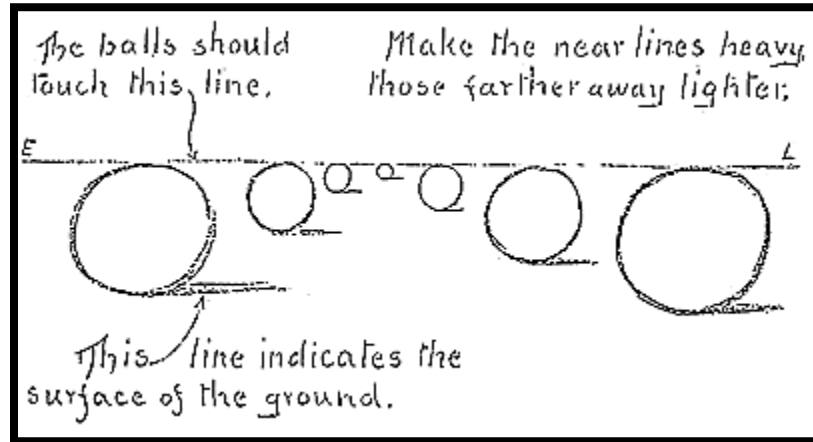
Science

Second grade science features animal nature study, which integrates classic fiction and non-fiction works by Anna Botsford Comstock, Clara Dillingham Pierson, and Thornton W. Burgess. Children listen to charming animal stories, study the appearance, behavior, and habitats of birds, mammals, reptiles, amphibians, insects, annelids, arachnids, crustaceans, and mollusks, venture outdoors on nature walks, and create a field journal.



Studio Art

In second grade, studio art introduces a first-year drawing course by D. R. Augsburg. First year drawing focuses on object drawing, position, direction, and color. Students learn to capture the relative positions of objects, draw objects in perspective, capture actions such as running and walking, draw in a two-handed rhythm, and produce even color washes. Materials required are minimal and include pencils, crayons, drawing paper, and a ruler.



Drawing Objects in Perspective

Writing

The first and second grade writing course provides a 191-page printable copywork book to reinforce the lessons in McGuffey's First Eclectic Reader. Convenient links to the relevant writing page are provided within each reading lesson guide.