

Kindergarten

Core Knowledge History & Geography

Organization & Preparation

FREE RESOURCES

How-to Videos: Watch the videos to learn to use the CKHG curriculum to homeschool:

<https://bit.ly/3EW4n6V>

Unit-Specific Prep Document: Includes notes for each unit of the curriculum including which activity pages to print, library books that may be needed, required advanced preparation broken out by lesson, as well as a list of additional unit-specific supplies.

Click here to download the Kindergarten CKHG Unit-Specific Prep Document:

<https://bit.ly/3mKgSvJ>

Daily Schedule: A free daily schedule for homeschooling Kindergarten using the Core Knowledge and MEP Math curriculums is available here: <https://bit.ly/3JyjRkT>

PRIMARY MATERIALS

Units: There are 4 units in the Kindergarten CKHG curriculum. All students start with Unit 1 and progress through the units in order. You will download each unit separately from the CK website. Each unit will be downloaded as a file folder containing multiple files including the Teacher's Guide and Student Reader.

Teacher's Guide: This is the primary resource for history and geography lessons. When you are ready to start a lesson with your student, you will simply open the PDF file for the Teacher's Guide on your tablet or laptop, navigate to the lesson indicated on the daily schedule, and work through the instructions in the Teacher's Guide for that lesson.

Student Reader: This reader contains both images and text and is used on most school days. This reader can be accessed as a PDF file on your student's device.

Online Resources Website: Most lessons call for accessing this website which contains additional lesson resources:

<https://www.coreknowledge.org/curriculum/history-geography/ckhg-online-resources/>

To find a specific resource, click on the name of the unit and click on the chapter number. Save this website so you can access it easily during lessons.

GETTING ORGANIZED

Activity Pages: Activity pages (and the answer key) for each unit are found in the back of the Teacher's Guide for each unit. More information will be available in the unit specific prep checklists (<https://bit.ly/3mKgSvJ>). Activity pages are often used over multiple school days. Save all activity pages until you have completed the unit.

Assessment Documents: Each unit ends with a day for student assessment. The assessment document and answer key are found in the back of the Teacher's Guide in the Teacher Resources section. You will need to print the assessment pages. While homeschooling parents typically have a wide range of opinions on the value of formally assessing what their student has learned, I would encourage you to give the domain assessments a try. They are well designed, typically fun for the student, and they do help you double check your student's strengths and weaknesses related to the material. This information can then be helpful when choosing which cumulative activities to use (see below) and/or can be used as items to review with the student as they move into the next unit.

Culminating Activities: 2-3 days at the end of each unit is set aside for culminating activities. Please review the culminating activities when first starting a unit so you can gather any needed supplies in advance. The CA section of the Teacher's Guide will guide you through a number of options. Remember you only need to choose one or maybe a handful of these activities. Alternatively, these days can be used to catch up on lessons. Completing the culminating activities is not required for your student to move on to the next unit.

Please note, most unit's culminating activities include a day for making a booklet where the student can document what they have learned. There are colored pages in the back of the Teacher's Guide that may be printed for this task. However, if printing those pages is not an option, have your student make a booklet on their own using folded paper and illustrating each page (a list of possible topics for pages is listed in the activity).

Performance Activity: Each unit's Teacher's Guide contains an opportunity for students to work on a Performance Activity at the end of the unit. This activity is not scheduled but can be used if your student needs additional reinforcement of the material.

Time Traveler Passport Files: Each unit folder contains Time Traveler Passport activity files. The back of each unit's Teacher's Guide lays out how to use these files. These tasks are not scheduled but you can use them to further reinforce unit content if desired.

IMPORTANT TIPS

Library Books: Whenever possible please select several of the recommended books from the unit's resource list (located in the introduction section of the Teacher's Guide) and request them from the library in advance. These books can be used as time allows, when specifically called for in a lesson, or can be left out for your child to read on their own in their free time. If library books are not an option, YouTube often has videos of books being read aloud and these can be used as an alternative.

Art History: Several lessons call for displaying and discussing a piece of art with the student. These art images can be Googled or if you prefer a hard copy, Core Knowledge sells an art pack for each grade level that includes high quality prints on card stock (<https://bit.ly/3sHs1RV>).

Globe and Maps: Many lessons suggest using a globe, world map, and/or US map. If you do not have one, most CKHG Teacher's Guides have at least one world map in the back with the student pages. Units covering US history typically have a US map in the back of the Teacher's Guide. Alternatively, you can Google map images and save the links for future use.

White Board: Many lessons suggest using a white board, chalk board, or board/chart paper. If you do not have one available, you can use a plain piece of paper to write out or draw the information called for in the activity.

Classroom-Based Activities: Some activities in this program are clearly designed for a classroom setting. Please adjust the activity as needed for your situation. For example, for an activity that suggests students work in teams, you can act as your student's teammate. For activities that involve putting on a play or presentation, your student can present one part of the information or you can make the activity a family activity and involve siblings, etc.

Topic Duplication: You may notice what appears to be duplication between topics in the CKHG lessons and the CKLA lessons. This is intentional and provides the opportunity to reinforce key concepts by approaching them from multiple perspectives. For example, a student will have a language arts lesson about Native Americans one day and then later in the school year will also study Native Americans in their history lessons.

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