
West Brooke Curriculum

Grade 6



A manual written for the children of Jehovah's Witnesses

By Jennifer Westbrook

Welcome to West Brooke Curriculum

I felt like there was a need for a curriculum written for children of Jehovah's Witnesses using some of our excellent materials that Jehovah has provided. I homeschooled my children for 17 years and used a variety of curriculums. I told myself that we should use what we already have available to a greater degree, but let's face it, that takes a lot of planning. So in trying to attempt that I thought it would work best if daily/weekly instructions were written out ahead of time; because in my experience when I had a manual/guide I felt better, and felt less stress, when the year is laid out I could get the books I needed and not have to scrounge up a lesson. I hope this will be a help to other parents out there who are having a tough time putting it all together.

The last 3 weeks are scheduled for Test Preparation if needed, You can use these 3 weeks for this or for catching up on subjects you have fallen behind in, or you can just do a unit study of your choice. These are open weeks for the discretion of the teacher.

Spelling

2018 edition: schedules Spelling Workout Level F

SAMPLE

Bible

Meeting Schedule update: with our CHRISTIAN LIFE AND MINISTRY workbooks students will enjoy preparing for our weekly night meeting. Suggestion: allow two days for preparation; the day before and the day of the meeting. Post a schedule that will routinely work for your family/meeting and service schedule and stick to it. Use this manual as a place to check off what is accomplished each week for your school records.

If you would like to read *Jehovah's Witnesses Proclaimers of God's Kingdom* (listed on the schedule as *Proclaimers*) with your kids, you can start it this year @ 2 days a week 2 to 2.5 pages per day; at this rate it would take about 4 years to read it (6th-9th). Of course you may read more pages, more days, through the summer etc. to finish it faster. You can also start this book at any time during the 6-high school level and continue until finished.*

*Update- read *Imitate Their Faith* this year, you may skip *Proclaimers* or read it too. Or you can wait and read the new release on Government in upcoming school years (8th, 9th, 10th, or 11th).

Note: After Bible discussions we do PE for 30 minutes.

Science

Science will use *The Usborne Science Encyclopedia* and JW References. Please see the note on the Textbook list.

other ideas for learning science:

Science Kits are always a great hands-on way to learn.

For this grade we also grew a garden which is great hand-on learning. This year we planted and harvested: Silver Queen Corn, Tomatoes, Okra, Green Beans, Black Eye Peas, Eggplant, Yellow Squash, my son had his own personal crop of Sugar Pumpkins, he also had a person flower pot with various flowers in it. In previous years we also have grown: Zucchini, herbs, Jalapenos, Bell Peppers, and a mild yellow pepper. Consider doing this if you can, even if it is just flowers, herbs, strawberries, or tomatoes in a pot.

Nature study is observation of life around you. This can be in your own backyard, in the field out back, at the park, or when you are on a trip. Anytime you know the proper name of a plant, insect, animal, mushroom, moss, etc. use it, eventually your kids will know them too. They can also draw and label natural things in a Nature notebook like John James Audubon did.

Language Arts

A list is provided to pick from, choose at least 6 books for the year, although it would be better if the student read more; you are in school for approximately 9 months and one a month would put you at 9 books; counting the summer would be 12 books. The manual will also include suggestions for additional reading. It would be nice to schedule them all but I know that some do not like to read, and I hope we fix that, others have learning disabilities and so not everyone can handle reading a lot of books. My kids read so many books that I have a hard time keeping them supplied with good books to read. All books suggested have been read either by all of us, or at least the kids, I will recommend books that my kids really enjoyed, and I hope that yours will too. Narration is a Charlotte Mason method of reading comprehension. Basically just get your kids to tell you what is going on in the story, their version of it. This goes for ones they are reading on their own as well as ones you are reading out loud.

Reading aloud to your kids is a great way to bond with them. I suggest that you choose a couple of books to read aloud to them for the year. We have a great time when we do this, it develops reading comprehension better than any workbook ever dreamed of, it increases reading ability, vocabulary, and future writing abilities. This is especially important if you have students with any learning disabilities or are reluctant readers. Even Dads will enjoy this when you read out loud this is great for trips, and who knows maybe Dad will enjoy helping with this part of homeschooling. It can be a family event!

Easy Grammar

Writing will be a variety, the students will learn and use outlines as I feel this is a highly useful tool, whether taking notes, summarizing information, or working up talks. We will do some copy work or

dictation depending on the student's abilities. Copy work is where the student copies good quality literature so that eventually he learns to write correctly. Dictation is where a passage from literature or an article is dictated to the student to write. He/she then compares what they have written to the original and makes any needed corrections. I will leave it up to the discretion of the Home Teacher how much the student is to copy or have dictated as each student's abilities vary. We will also write in varying subjects. There will be reports, stories, letters, etc. Also you will see some links next to the book list of some free study guides. Feel free to substitute some writing assignments with ones from these guides to go along with the book the student is currently reading. I have scheduled writing on most days, these are not expected to be long drawn out assignments. As the Teacher, it is up to your discretion if you would rather do just a couple for the week and spend more time on those, having more polished writings. You can certainly change writing assignments as you see fit.

Optional: literature study of *Twenty-One Balloons* and Usborne *Write your Own Adventure Stories*.

History

We will study of the *Ancient History*. We will be using the Series *The Story of the World* by Susan Wise Bauer in grades 6-8. There are 4 volumes. For this school year you will need *Volume 1: Ancient Times* and *The Usborne Internet-Linked Encyclopedia of World History* for a reference book you can use it for grades 6-High School. We will skip all of the first section on "Prehistoric World", it is great for visuals to go along with history and then the internet links are a good reference too. For this year you will use the section "Ancient World" pages 104-194.

Geography

Included is map work in association with your history. You will need blank world maps or even of continents for more detail, you can find printable blank maps online for free; try this site <http://www.eduplace.com/ss/maps/>

Print out several maps for the year from this website and each week have your students add locations they are learning about from their *Ancient Times* history book. You do not necessarily need a new map for each week, map locations can be added on to previously printed maps as you go along.

Schedule

Here are some suggestions for scheduling:

The grid schedule works from the top down, if using this for more than one child make a copy of just the grid schedule for your portfolio; put the date of the day at the top and work in order down the page, only on some occasions you will see the need to do the Science lesson before the writing lesson because they are connected.

The schedule for West Brooke Curriculum is basically 4 days per week with one school day set aside for the ministry. This schedule has worked well for us for a long time and keeps the student as well as the teacher from burning out. Our service day is set on a Wednesday, which gives a nice mid-week break, however it can be any day of the week that works for you. The students will still be learning on these days, they will be more socially rounded, they will be learning public speaking, and will be better accomplished at using their Bibles. It is especially good if they work with a variety of friends to round out their education. In the afternoons after service they can work on art, music, reading, working ahead or catching up in math or another subject they need to work on. They could also take an elective class on this day. Or you could just use it as a make-up day, if you got behind. But generally, I do not schedule any school on this day, they still practice their music on this day, do reading, and other hands-on projects they are personally working on.

Yearly schedule: unless you are in a state with strict attendance rules you should be able to be more flexible with your schedule. Here in Florida we have to turn in an evaluation once per year. This gives us an entire 12 months to complete assignments or even to move ahead into the next grade. We school year around, this may not be doable for some families, but it works for us. This gives us more opportunities to take breaks in the spring and fall, have a lighter schedule when we auxiliary pioneer, take

the week off for the Circuit Overseer's visit, and the Regional convention, etc. Field trips, camping trips, LDC, or vacations can then come at anytime without fear of falling behind. The public school schedule tends to put one under extra stress to accomplish a certain amount within a certain time frame. If you are in it for the long haul, being more flexible will help you to stick to it.

Another option for those who can't quite get through a day's work in a day: Follow the schedule in order checking off each assignment as you complete it. On the following day start where you left off and continue on into the next day as far as you can get. Continue in this method until you get through the school year, remember you have 12 months to get through it all.

For students who work faster, you can move on to the next grade early after taking a break. Just remember that the recommended reading list with each manual is a good portion of their education and rounds out their common knowledge as well as history through historical fiction. If your students are not reading a good number of titles from this reading list they are missing out.

Using the Manual

This manual is a guide only- you are in control, hopefully it gives you lots of ideas and resources, feel free to adjust this for your family.

Booklist for 6th Grade

Textbooks

Math: MCP Mathematics Level F (5 days per week)

Language Arts

Easy Grammar Student workbook 6

Wordly Wise 3000 book 6

Spelling Workout Level F

Paragraph Writing Made Easy by Scholastic can purchase/download here at Teacher Express/Scholastic, (I was unable to find anything comparable, this book teaches the skills for finding main topic and writing outlines and converting outlines back into paragraphs) I highly recommend this workbook. <http://teacherexpress.scholastic.com/paragraph-writing-made-easy>

Golden Goblet by Eloise Jarvis McGraw

The Twenty-One Balloons by William Pene du Bois

The Twenty-One Balloons student guide and teacher guide by Memoria Press- optional

The Secret Garden by Frances Hodgson Burnett

D'Nealian Handwriting Grade 6 (if needed)

Usborne *Write your Own Adventure Stories* (optional)

Test Prep book for grade 6 for those of you who need to do this, get one that includes several subjects, Spectrum & other companies make these, or you may want one specific to your state standards (**optional**)

History /Geography

Story of the World Volume 1: Ancient Times by Susan Wise Bauer
Test book for volume 1 (optional)

Brochure *The Bible What is its Message? WTBTS*

Blank maps (try this site) <http://www.eduplace.com/ss/maps/>

The Usborne Internet-Linked Encyclopedia of World History (skip the entire pre-historic section)

Augustus Caesar's World by Genevieve Foster **optional history book**

Science – *The Usborne Science Encyclopedia Internet-Linked*

*This book does have 5 (2 pages spreads) (out of 448) with evolution on them. I wanted to find a spine science book that can be used for several grades for a jumping off point and to save parents money so they do not have to purchase a different book each year. Please use a post it note to mark “skip” on these pages: The Universe pg 154-155/ The Early Earth pg 178-179/ Life on Earth pg 186-187/ Fighting for Survival pg 286-287/ Evolution pg 338-339. Another option is to glue the pages mentioned together. These pages will not be scheduled of course but you should mark them because the kids are going to want to look through the book.

JW References

Reading- Choose at least 6 novels for the year however 9+ would be better

Parents: This is still a good year to choose a few good books to read aloud to your student(s)

*Note to parents on historical fiction: I hesitate to name historical fictions books for this reason; in *Ancient Times* any historical fiction will have referrals to gods that people worshiped, their beliefs, customs, etc. Also, there maybe some violence because of wars or usurpation of thrones, cruelty from masters, etc. Please keep this is mind, read several reviews of a book before you decide on it (Amazon has reviews on all of their books). We also read a lot of historical fiction out loud and this gave us the opportunity to discuss different beliefs of other cultures. With that said, we have enjoyed reading a lot of historical fiction because it places you there and you really begin to enjoy history. You remember it much better too. It is not my intention to offend anyone. Read at Parental Discretion. Jw

Theras and His Town by Caroline Dale Snedeker HF1*

The Golden Goblet by Eloise Jarvis McGraw HF1*

Mystery of the Roman Ransom by Henry Winterfeld HF1*

The Bronze Bow by Elizabeth George Speare HF1*

Detectives in Togas Henry Winterfeld

A Single Shard Linda Sue Park

I Wonder Why: Pyramids by Steele

Historical Videos we watched from library or on Netflix (I do not remember if there was anything objectionable in these- watch at parental discretion)

Video: *The Great Egyptians: The Real Cleopatra* (TLC)

Video: *Modern Marvels: Pyramids*

Video: *Egypt's Golden Empire* (PBS)

From the Mixed up Files of Mrs. Basil E Frankweiler by EL Konigsburg

And more.....

The original purchaser of this manual is permitted to use, save and print for their immediate family. You may NOT share this manual with anyone outside of your immediate family either in print or electronically.

Disclaimer: This manual is sold with the understanding that the author is not engaged in rendering educational services. This is sold as a guide only with the understanding that it is the parent's responsibility to educate their own children. The author disclaims any liability incurred as a consequence directly or indirectly of the use and application of any of the suggestions or contents of this manual. It is the parent's responsibility to comply with all homeschooling laws in their state.

Internet sites: this manual refers to some internet sites. These sites are NOT affiliated with West Brooke Curriculum. West Brooke Curriculum is not responsible for these links or any changes to them. Parents should check links before allowing children to do so. If a link is broken, use a search engine to find something similar.

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Not affiliated with The Watchtower Bible and Tract Society.

Week 1	Date:	Date:	Date:	Date:
Bible	<input type="checkbox"/> Treasures from God's Word <input type="checkbox"/> Apply Yourself to the Field Ministry <input type="checkbox"/> Living as Christians <input type="checkbox"/> 4 to 6 pgs. <i>Jehovah's Witnesses Proclaimers of God's Kingdom</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Current Magazine articles or online content from jw.org <input type="checkbox"/> Letter from Gov. Body <i>Imitate Their Faith</i>			
Math	Chapter 1 lesson 1	Lesson 2	Lesson 3	Lesson 4 Lesson 5
Spelling Workout	Lesson 1: Pre-test Words in Action Spelling Practice pt. 1	Spelling Practice pt. 2	Spelling & Writing	Test
Vocabulary	archeology	shaduf		
Wordly Wise 3000 Book 6	Lesson 1a	1b	1c	
Easy Grammar Student book	Capitalization pg 265-267	Pg 268-270	Pg 271-273	Pg 274-276
Writing	Paragraph Writing Made Easy!	Notebooking page on fertile crescent and shaduf*	Story Starter	Poem
D'Nealian Handwriting	Pg. 6	Pg. 7	Pg. 8	Pg. 9
<i>Story of Word 1: Ancient Times</i>	Read story 3 Man Survives the Flood from brochure <i>The Bible What is its Message?</i>	Introduction Chapter 1* of <i>Ancient Times</i>	Within the fertile crescent the Tower of Babel built; Egyptian Descendants*	<i>Usborne Encyclopedia of World History(EWH)</i> pages 108-111
Mark your map (pg #s from <i>Ancient Times</i> book)		Draw (or print) & label: Fertile Crescent see page 10* of <i>Story of the World Ancient Times</i>		
Science Encyclopedia	Genesis Account Read Genesis ch 1-2		Space – Galaxies pg 156-157	Stars Pg 158-159
Reading Selection	(write your current selection here for your portfolio records)	(You can record RA here as well as what student is reading)		
Poetry for the year	Poetry by Robert Frost	Poetry by Carl Sandburg		

Notes for Week 1

Day 1

The Text, and *Jehovah's Witnesses Proclaimers of God's Kingdom* (scheduled grades 6-9)* book are to be read aloud together each week.

*Revision: *Imitate Their Faith* one day per week in addition to *Proclaimers* or instead of.

Use OUR CHRISTIAN LIFE AND MINISTRY–MEETING WORKBOOK to prepare for our weekly night meeting. Suggestion: use two days for this, the day before and the day of your meeting.

Vocabulary- I will put here a few vocabulary words, add words from your weekly lessons in history, science, and meeting preparation. Optional is *Wordly Wise 3000 book 6*, with this workbook you will work with vocabulary words, if you don't want to use a workbook, work with the word lists from the online wordly wise site. There are 20 lessons and so you can work with them about a week and a half.

Grammar-

Using *Easy Grammar student workbook Grade 6* go to the section in the back and review capitalization this week you will need to cover about 10 pages a week to complete the whole book in a school year. (If you only want to do ½ of the workbook; cover only 5-6 pages a week)

Writing- *Paragraph Writing Made Easy!* Download: Review Section 1; Lesson 1 this week; do the practice paragraphs on pages 10-12

History- This year you will be studying Ancient Times from the Flood until Rome.

It did always seem difficult to match up secular dates with Biblical therefore you should refer to the timeline at the bottom of the brochure *The Bible What is its Message?* for an accurate Biblical Timeline. This is especially true for secular timelines referring to Ancient Egypt.

Look up information on this difference in volume one of the *Insight on the Scriptures volume 1* book under the topic Chronology: Egyptian Chronology and Problems of Egyptian Chronology on page 450.*

Before we begin let's look at the time frame we are in, here is a list of The Succession of Seven World Powers. Please write this list into your notebook, you may wish to illustrate this list with some sketches. See also the chart on pages 12-13 of 6/15/2012 *Watchtower*. As you can see this study will take you from the world power of Egypt to Rome.

Egypt
Assyria
Babylon
Medo-Persia
Greece
Rome
Anglo-America

Timelines can be fun to do, if this interests you turn to page 317-320 of *Story of the World Vol. 1 Ancient Times*. You may want to choose important dates from you studies to keep as a list in your notebook.

(*Note: you can see that the chronology of secular history must be off due to the way archeologists date

things; the first part of this timeline has to be off because the Flood happened in 2370 BCE and Egypt came about after the Tower of Babel.)

Find an accurate Biblical Timeline at the bottom of the pages of the brochure: *The Bible What is its Message?*

If you are using the reference *The Usborne Internet-linked Encyclopedia of World History* use the section “Ancient World” for your studies this year, pages 104-194. (Skip all of the section “Prehistoric World”)

Today read (for science Genesis 1-2) and story 3 Mankind Survives the Flood from brochure *The Bible What is its Message?*

Reading- When there is not a specific book scheduled you may read of your choice from the book list or other book of your choice. Endeavor to read at least 30 minutes per day. In this section of the schedule write down the title and author of the book you are reading for your portfolio records. (same directions for each week) *Teachers- 6th grade is still a good year for RA (read –alouds) choose a couple for the year that you can read to all of your students.

<http://www.amblesideonline.org/PoetFrost.shtml>

Day 2

History/Map: Fertile Crescent see these links for videos and three maps on the fertile crescent. Using these and page 10 of your history book draw and label the Fertile Crescent area: You Tube video Video of a working shaduf combine this assignment with your writing assignment

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h34KulvXzxw>

Writing- Notebooking page- (do your history assignment first and this can include your map work) A notebooking page is making a neat page to go in your notebook kind of like the way John James Audubon used to make his nature notebooks. You can do this directly in your notebook on notebook paper or on plain paper or you can find all kinds of free notebooking pages online to print out and use. You are going to draw and write about the fertile crescent and a shaduf (explaining how this simple machine works), you can combine this assignment with the map assignment. You can Google images of notebooking pages for examples.

Reading: <http://www.amblesideonline.org/PoetSandburg.shtml>

Day 3

Writing- Story Starter ideas: 1) Write a story about a character who works hard and saves money for something important. 2) Write a story about a character who is extremely selfish. 3) Write a story that begins with this sentence: “The clock struck twelve.....” OR
Usborne *Write your Own Adventure Stories* (optional)

History- Tower of Babel*

Please read “Babel” from *Insight on the scriptures volume 1* page 234

What about the descendants of Egyptians? Read what *Insight on the Scriptures volume 1* has to say: read the subheading “The People” on page 687-688

So they are descendants of Ham, one of Noah’s sons, and they migrated to North Africa after the dispersal at Babel.

Science- Space Galaxies pg 156-157 Read these two pages from *The Usborne Science Encyclopedia*.

This book is internet-linked so feel free to use this feature to learn more.

Answer these questions:

How wide is the Milky way?

Where did the Milky way get its name?

List the 4 types of Galaxies:

- 1)
- 2)
- 3)
- 4)

What is the difference between an Open cluster and a Globular cluster?

Day 4

History Supplement - *The Usborne Encyclopedia of World History* pages 108-111

Writing- Poem, today write a poem, any type you like, something funny, here is a link for different kinds: <http://www.kathimitchell.com/poemtypes.html>

Science – read about Stars pg 158-159 from *Science Encyclopedia*

Answer these questions:

Why does starlight seem to twinkle?

What makes up a star?

What makes the different colors in a Nebulae?

List the steps of the birth of a star:

Why no 5th day?

You will notice that only 4 days a week are scheduled; this is so that you can have a day for the Field Ministry.

We schedule this day on Wednesdays but it can be any day of the week you have scheduled for service. Do not worry, you are still learning, plus you are gaining skills using your Bible, Public Speaking, and Social Skills.

Afternoon Ideas:

Music lessons, art, homework, multiplication practice, catch-up day, chores, reading, sports, PE- Have a Break Day!

Supplementary- if you can find the book *A Child's History of Art: Sculpture* by VM Hillyer this goes along with history well. We read one chapter a week.