Illuminations

Psalm 119:105

Lighting Your Path Toward Excellence

by Bright ideas press

What is *Illuminations*?

Illuminations is a year-long homeschool curriculum guide based on *The Mystery of History* and *All American History*. Options for teaching all ages from pre-K through 12th grade make *Illuminations* a budget-friendly curriculum choice for large families.

Illuminations lays out a plan for the whole family to enjoy the same quality living books, a common history theme, and fun, hands-on projects. All children can learn together, using the same *Illuminations* schedule. Younger siblings in pre-K through 2nd grade can follow *Illuminations* too with the extra teaching ideas especially designed for their age for history, family read-alouds, science, and geography. Lesson plans are also included for a wide range of high school subjects, including a Life 101 track.

What is included in *Illuminations*?

Illuminations includes a plan for everything 3rd–8th graders need except math, as well as a selection of subjects for early learners and high school students. The schedule includes an entire year's worth of assignments for all of the subjects listed on the right. The scheduler system allows you to choose the subjects you prefer in your weekly schedule and customize it to fit your family.

The majority of the living books, textbooks, and workbooks scheduled in *Illuminations* need to be purchased (or borrowed) separately. However, several e-books, some teaching materials, and printable graphic organizers are included in *Illuminations*. The Curriculum and Literature Checklist shows what is provided in each year of *Illuminations*.

What is scheduled in *Illuminations*?

- **History***† – studied from a chronological, Christian perspective
- **Literature***† – both family read-alouds and student read-alones that parallel the historical periods studied
- **Bible***† – tied to the historical period
- **Copywork** – tied to the historical period
- **Writing***† – several curriculum options
- **Grammar*** - two curriculum options
- **Spelling** – full program included in *Illuminations*
- **Vocabulary*** – based on Greek and Latin roots using *English from the Roots Up*
- **Geography***† – uses *Hands-On Geography*, *The Ultimate Geography & Timeline Guide*, Internet research, mapping, and hands-on activities (depending on the year)
- **Science**† – uses the *Christian Kids Explore Science* series
- **Life 101*** (high school only) – life skills reading assignments and studies

All subjects above are scheduled for grades 3–8.

* These subjects are also scheduled for high school.

† These subjects are also scheduled for early learners.

Practical

Designed for REAL homeschoolers because there is more to life than academics. Using carefully selected materials, we have scheduled your year to minimize teacher prep and maximize student learning.

You CAN teach this!

Fun

Our four-day week helps you build fun time into your schedule. We present a wealth of activities to allow your family to customize your homeschool journey whether you choose meaningful discussions, hands-on projects, or memorable field trips. We want your family to build FUN memories of your homeschooling years!

You CAN enjoy this!

Affordable

Choosing materials that can be used for multi-age teaching, we provide a quality educational experience at an economical price.

You CAN get this!

Encouraging

We are on your team to encourage and equip you to diligently train and teach your children in the way of the Lord! We provide online support including forums, Yahoo groups, and blogs to help you succeed.

You are not alone!

Do you want history and literature integrated?

Detailed literature guides are a **cornerstone** of *Illuminations*. Going far beyond a mere book list and reading schedule, *Illuminations'* literature guides make teaching the carefully selected novels and nonfiction books an easy task.

We choose books that **complement** history studies, shedding light on important historical events and ideas. All subjects are studied chronologically and integrate seamlessly into your history spine.

Each year of *Illuminations* covers a different time period. While we always like to start at the beginning, you can pick up and go wherever you would prefer.

Year	Time Period	History Volume
1	Ancient Civilizations	*The Mystery of History* Volume I
2	The Middle Ages	*The Mystery of History* Volume II
3	Renaissance & Reformation	*The Mystery of History* Volume III
4	American Exploration to Early 1800's	*All American History* Volume I*
5	American Civil War to Modern Days	*All American History* Volume II*
6**	World History 1705–Present	*The Mystery of History* Volume IV

*A plan for completing *All American History* Volumes I & II in a single year is included for high school students.

**Year 6 is projected to be available in Summer 2014.

Who will love *Illuminations*?

- Parents who want curriculum written from a Christian perspective
- Parents who want an "open and go," well-planned program
- Parents who want an easy-to-customize program
- Parents who want to teach children of multiple ages together
- Parents who want a chronological approach to history
- Parents who value living books and enjoy reading aloud to their children
- Parents who want suggestions for additional audiobooks, movies, and hands-on activities to complement the history program

Questions?

Illuminations.BrightIdeasPress.com
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"I had found many study guides on my own prior to Illuminations. *The majority of them cost between $15 and $20 apiece. One other thing that is supplied with the literature guides is the graphic organizers (GOs). My daughter has always hated keeping timelines, lists, character sheets, or any other type of analysis of the literature she reads. Who knew that "cute" charts would make that so much easier and fun?!"*

"The Family Study Guides alone are worth at least triple that money! I didn't realize how great those GOs are! It's amazing how it has helped my son to write out his answers and thoughts in a much more structured and understandable way."

"The literature choices are amazing. [BIP] has done such a wonderful job finding books about the historical time periods we are studying. I had done hours and hours of research into this myself, and I didn't find half of the books that they suggest, plus the ones they have chosen do a much better job at "painting a picture" of the times and places."

"We have just entered week 10 of both MOH1 and Illum1—and we are LOVING it! Isn't the Lord SO VERY KIND to give us these resources??? I spoke with someone at Bright Ideas today, and he may have thought I was nuts, BUT I really wanted to communicate JUST how much these tools are affecting my life and walk with the Lord, as well as that of my 11-year-old daughter."