



# Sixth Grade

We believe that you have just purchased the best complete curriculum package available, and we want to make getting started as easy as possible for you. Inside you will find the information you need to get started today.

Our experience is that schoolwork only takes about three hours a day at this age. (In fact, some students actually complete their work in much less time!) This may seem like too little time at first, but keep in mind that not only are you able to tailor your teaching to your child, but you also don't need to take roll, allow for recess, or deal with many other classroom issues.

As a bonus to you, by this time your child is ready to take responsibility for much of his learning. Our family uses a weekly checklist that lets the teacher assign the work and the student complete it at his pace, checking each subject off when he's done. If that method works for you, check out the free PDFs on our website. If not, the important thing is to find a method that helps your student succeed at working independently to meet the goals.

This year's curriculum is simple and easy to use; we are sure it will be a blessing to you. Enjoy this year with your child, and don't hesitate to contact us if you have any questions.

# Hints for Planning

## READING

While we believe this is the single most important skill to teach your young student, you'll notice that we did not include any traditional readers. Don't let this puzzle you. Our experience is that the best way to help your child become an eager reader is to constantly supply him with reading materials that interest him. Future doctors may want to read up on anatomy, young explorers are drawn to the escapades of adventurers young and old, and the baby-lover in your family will be captivated by adoption stories. Assign reading if you must, but encourage it at all costs; a child who enjoys reading will find it easier to excel in every area.

## LANGUAGE ARTS

Your sixth grader is now ready for **Easy Grammar's** thorough yet straight-forward approach. The daily lessons are designed to be taught by you, and then the student fills in his workbook. Our family has found it simpler to hand the teacher book over to the student with instructions to cover up the answers until he finishes his own worksheet, then check his work. **Daily Traits** still consists of short daily writing assignments designed to build his writing skills without overwhelming him. **Sequential Spelling** is not only the most logical spelling program we've seen, but it is also one of the easiest to use. Simply do one list of words a day, correcting any mistakes as you go. If your student has not yet completed Sequential Spelling books 1 through 4, you will want to stop and do those levels first.



## THINKING SKILLS

This year your child will be working through three different thinking skills books, each with a different emphasis to cultivate a well-rounded thinker. Planning on five thinking skill activities a week will set a pace for completing all three books this year.

*Please note: If your child has not yet completed Building Thinking Skills 2, we strongly encourage you to do that this year.*

## Typing

This year your child will be using **Typing Instructor**. Whether this is his first experience with typing or he has already learned the basics, Typing Instructor Platinum will set him up with a program that helps him reach his goals. Simply pick the plan you'd like him to use, and he should be up and running.

## SCIENCE

**Exploring Creation with Human Anatomy and Physiology** begins with a brief history of medicine and a peek into cells and DNA. Your students will voyage through fourteen lessons covering many subjects, such as the body systems, nutrition and health, how God designed their immune system to protect them, along with embryology and what makes them a unique creation of God. One simple approach is to read a chapter one week, then do the activities during the following week. Technically, you have two-and-a-half weeks to complete each chapter, so if you hit a portion that particularly intrigues your young scientist, by all means, stop and explore it in greater detail!

## MATH

This year your child gets to use our very favorite math program. **Teaching Textbooks** is computer based and self-teaching, so you should find yourself not doing much more than giving assignments and watching his progress! We've added **Daily Word Problems** as a wonderfully bite-sized approach to helping your child become a logical mathematician, ready to apply what he's learned in math to the real world scenarios he encounters daily.



## HISTORY

Your child will be continuing with **All American History 2** this year. He will simply read the weekly chapter in the reader, then complete the corresponding worksheets in the activity book. If you'd like, feel free to use some of their 'for further study' ideas—but at this grade we don't feel that it is necessary to do so. Don't forget to work in the **graphic novels** at some point, as reading assignments or just for fun.

## GEOGRAPHY

**Daily Geography** uses a school-friendly layout that may or may not be ideal for you. Feel free to do it only once a week, combining all five days into a single lesson, if that is a better fit for your child. The **Globe Puzzle** is a great way to review basic geography; have him complete it at least once a month, or until it is too easy for him.

## OTHER

**Thinking Putty** is perfect for your student to play with while listening to the Teaching Textbook lectures, or at other times when his mind is more engaged than his hands. Use it if it helps him, or set it aside if it is a distraction.

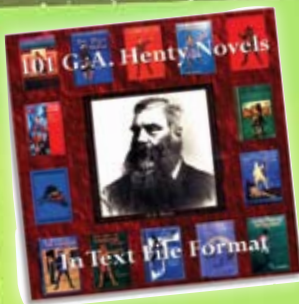
At the end of the year use **Spectrum Test Prep** to prepare him for annual testing (if your state requires it) and to review what he has learned. Keep it low key, and let the change of pace be a fun experience for him. If you run into a concept he doesn't know, stop and explain it to him; that is why you are doing the prep now rather than just waiting to get results back!

# Want More?



**Snap Circuits Pro:** Hands-on electronics with 500 projects!

From digital microscopes to science kits, DVDs, and **anatomy puzzles**, we have found the best science kits and supplements for you.



Action-packed historical **Henty novels** for less than 25 cents per ebook!



Done already? Some children are very fast-paced learners. Move on to **Seventh Grade** as soon as they are ready!



Free customizable schedules are available online at [www.timberdoodle.com/schedule](http://www.timberdoodle.com/schedule)



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