

Sample Pages from the

America the Beautiful Student Workbook

Part of the *America the Beautiful* Curriculum

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America the Beautiful Student Workbook by Mary Evelyn McCurdy

The activities in this book review information learned in the daily lessons of *America the Beautiful*. After your child reads a lesson in *America the Beautiful*, he should complete the activity in this book that corresponds to that lesson.

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Notgrass Company
975 Roaring River Rd.
Gainesboro, TN 38562

1-800-211-8793
www.notgrass.com
books@notgrass.com

Units 12 & 25

James K. Polk and the Mexican War

Read each of the following sentences. Fit the **BOLD** words into the puzzle. Write each of the underlined letters in order in the blanks at the bottom of the page to complete the Bible verse.

James Knox Polk was born in North Carolina. His family moved to **Tennessee** when he was ten years old. When he was grown, Polk became a **lawyer**. He was elected to the state legislature when he was 27 years old and to the U.S. House of Representatives two years later. Polk was a man of integrity. He was elected **Governor** of Tennessee before serving as **President** of the United States of America.

While Polk was President, the border between the western United States and **Canada** was established. Also during his presidency, the United States fought a war with **Mexico** and won; construction began on the Washington Monument in Washington, D.C.; and Texas, Iowa, and Wisconsin became a part of the Union.

J	A	M	E	S

K	N	O	X

P	O	L	K

Nashville State Capitol

I also do my _____ to maintain always a

both before _____ and before _____ .

Acts 24:16

Moving West on the Oregon Trail

Draw a line from each sentence beginning on the left to its ending on the right.

- | | | |
|---|---|---------------------|
| 1. People began their Oregon Trail journey by going to a | • | • steamboat. |
| 2. Many travelers began their trip by riding on a | • | • the animals in. |
| 3. The wagon covers were made of cotton and treated with | • | • jumping off town. |
| 4. For the journey, a family of four needed to take 1,000 pounds of | • | • bread and bacon. |
| 5. Later travelers could follow the Oregon Trail by staying in the | • | • fifteen miles. |
| 6. At night travelers made a circle with their wagons to keep | • | • linseed oil. |
| 7. If there wasn't enough wood to start a fire, pioneers used | • | • food. |
| 8. In one day, a wagon could travel about | • | • wagon ruts. |
| 9. Often the only thing the pioneers had to eat was | • | • oxen and mules. |
| 10. The best animals to pull the wagons were | • | • buffalo dung. |



Lesson 58

The Smithsonian Institution

Fill in the blanks using the words in the word bank at the bottom of the page. When you are finished, read through the paragraphs again.

_____ Smithson was a British _____. In his will, he left his estate to his _____ and declared that if his nephew died without any heirs, the estate would go to the _____ to found an _____ that would “increase and diffuse _____ among men.” The nephew died leaving no heirs, so the estate went to the United States.

People debated about whether or not the United States should accept the gift. President _____ asked _____ to pass a _____ allowing him to accept it, which they did. People had varying ideas of what the institution should be like. Finally in 1846, President _____ signed into law “An Act to Establish the Smithsonian Institution.” It said that the Institution would have an _____ gallery, a lecture hall, a library, a _____ laboratory, a natural history laboratory, and a science museum.

Today the Smithsonian Institution is the world’s largest museum system with _____ museums. It is funded by money from the James Smithson Trust, from U.S. _____ money appropriated by Congress, and from _____ made by foundations, corporations, and individuals.

contributions	tax	James	knowledge	nephew
law	United States	sixteen	scientist	Polk
Jackson	chemical	Congress	art	institution

God Created Niagara Falls

Unscramble each of the scrambled words below to complete the sentences about crossing the Niagara River and Niagara Falls.

1. Theodore Wright said that travelers could safely cross the Niagara on a _____ .
F R E R Y

2. The first bridge across the Niagara River was made of _____ planks.
O K A

3. The Niagara Falls Suspension Bridge, which was completed in 1855, had two decks.

_____ crossed on the upper deck while
T A R N I S
_____ and _____ crossed on the lower one.
P D E E T R S A N I S C R A R A G I E S

4. In 1859 and 1860, Charles Blodin crossed Niagara Falls on a _____ .
T I H G T O R P E

5. In 1901, a Michigan schoolteacher went over Niagara Falls in a _____ .
W I H R P L O O L

6. Beginning in 1916, tourists could ride the _____ Aero Car over Niagara.



7. The _____ bridge collapsed in an ice storm in 1938.
H O E N Y O M O N

8. The world's longest hingeless _____ arch bridge goes across the Niagara River.
S E T E L

Lesson 60

John James Audubon, Artist and Naturalist

Unscramble each of the scrambled words below. When you are finished, read through the paragraphs.

John James _____ was born in _____ in 1785. After his
 mother died, Audubon moved to _____ where he grew up with his father and
 stepmother. When he was a boy, Audubon enjoyed gathering birds' _____ and
 _____ and _____ them.

ADUUOBN

HIATI

FARNCE

EGSG

NSETS

DRWANIG

Audubon came to _____ when he was _____ and
 continued his interest in _____ and art. In 1820 Audubon set out with his
 _____, _____ materials, and an _____ and began painting the
 _____ of America. He painted _____ portraits for people along
 the way to earn _____ during his venture. Audubon was unable to find a

AMRECIA

EIHGETEN

NAETUR

NGU

TRA

ASISTSANT

RIBDS

CHLAK

MNOEY

publisher who was interested in his project. He traveled to

GERAT

BRTIAIN

engraver in _____ who agreed to reproduce
 LNOODN

his work. Audubon became wealthy and famous. With the

help of his two _____ he also completed a book of
 SSNO

paintings of North American _____.

MAMAMLS

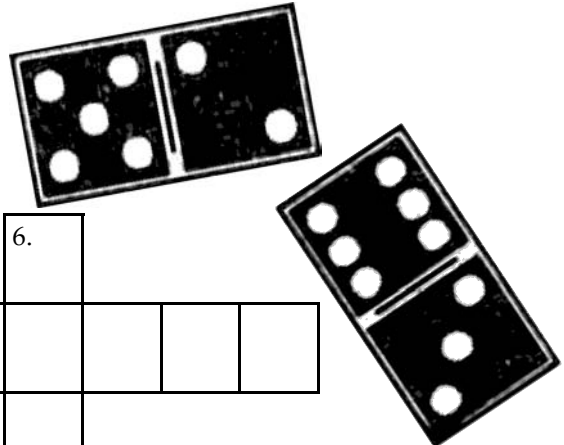
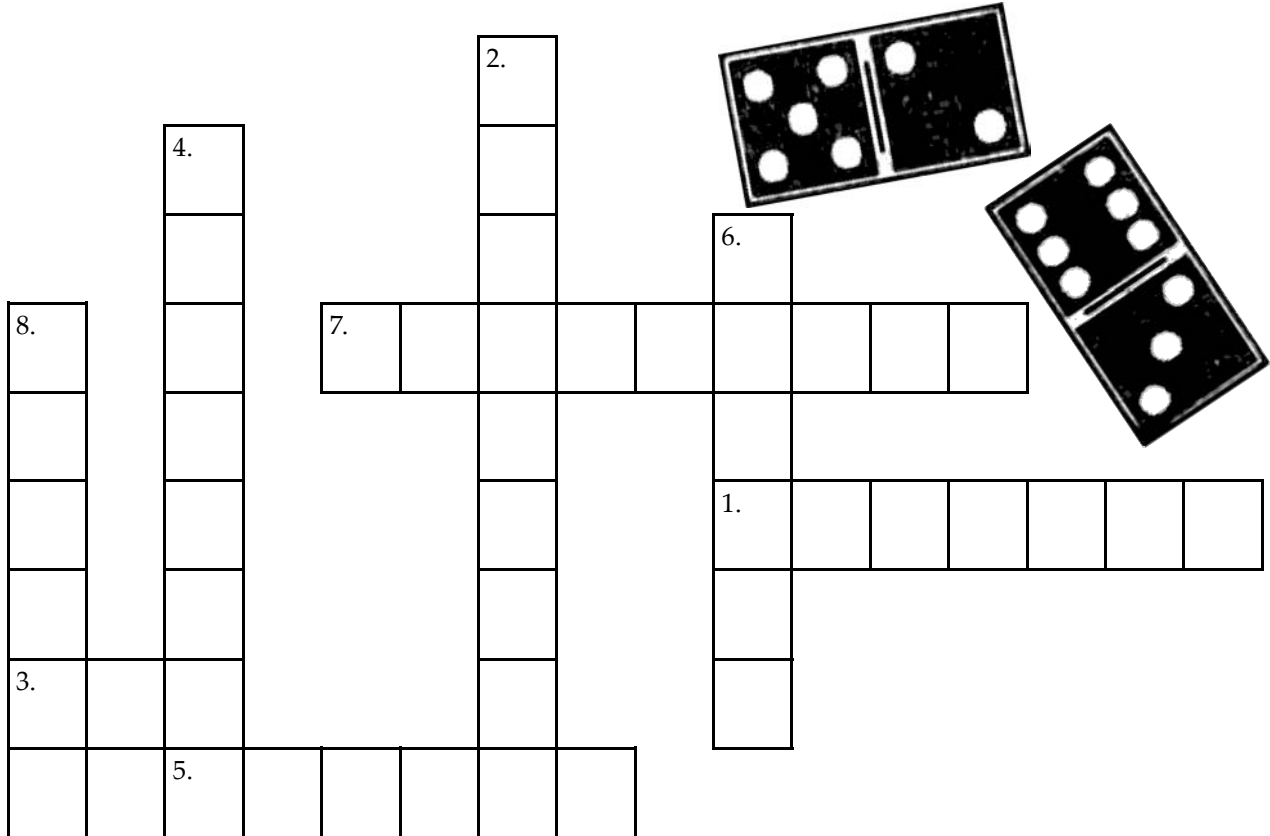


A World War II General Becomes President

Use the words in the word bank to complete the crossword puzzle.

- Across**
- Eisenhower was _____ Commander of the Allied forces during World War II.
 - A popular Eisenhower campaign slogan was "I Like _____."
 - The St. Lawrence _____ opened in 1959 during Eisenhower's second term.
 - Soviets launched a _____ in 1957.

- Down**
- Eisenhower met with Khrushchev, leader of the Soviet Union, in _____.
 - Eisenhower feared that if Vietnam became Communist, other countries would soon fall like _____.
 - _____ became the forty-ninth state in 1959.
 - _____ became the fiftieth state in 1959.



- | | |
|-------------|-----------|
| SEAWAY | HAWAII |
| ALASKA | SATELLITE |
| SWITZERLAND | IKE |
| SUPREME | DOMINOES |

Drive-Ins, Bobby Socks, and Poodle Skirts

Use the word bank to fill in each of the blanks below. Then find each word from the word bank in the puzzle.

1. Teachers in the 1950s often said a _____ at school.
2. Children in the 1950s got excited when they heard an ice cream _____ .
3. It was popular in the 1950s to join the Boy or Girl _____ .
4. The Mr. Potato Head toys of the 1950s used a real _____ .
5. Teenage girls enjoyed wearing the popular _____ skirts.
6. A vaccine for _____ came out in the 1950s.
7. Ed Sullivan hosted a _____ show featuring a variety of entertainment.
8. Eisenhower signed a law making "In God We _____" the official motto of the United States.

TRUCK
POODLE
TRUST
VARIETY
POTATO
POLIO
SCOUTS
PRAYER



P	O	T	A	T	S	A	K	L	O	F	G
O	V	A	R	I	E	T	Y	T	S	T	S
L	O	O	D	L	E	O	S	R	C	R	C
S	C	H	O	U	C	T	T	S	O	S	T
C	P	R	A	Y	E	R	T	T	U	T	S
U	O	D	T	E	R	U	A	S	T	P	T
O	T	F	A	Y	T	S	S	C	S	L	R
R	A	V	O	A	R	T	C	T	R	I	U
A	T	Y	T	R	S	H	G	S	A	O	C
P	O	L	I	O	T	S	C	T	S	R	K
V	A	R	T	E	P	O	O	D	L	E	A

Little Rock Central High School

Read the following paragraphs. Each time you come to a place where there are two words in **BOLD** print, circle the one that is correct.

In the 1950s, many school children across the country attended schools that were only for white children or only for black children. In **1954 / 1964** the **Supreme / County** Court decided that having these segregated schools was unconstitutional. Schools across the country began to **close / integrate**.

Officials in Little Rock, **Arkansas / California** , decided to integrate gradually, beginning with the **high / elementary** school. **Five / Nine** African American students were chosen to be the first to attend classes at Little Rock Central High. The **mayor / Governor** of Arkansas did not like the idea of blacks and whites attending the same schools, however, so he called out the **National Guard / city gangs** to keep the students from attending the school. President **Eisenhower / Nixon** knew he had to make sure the Constitution was upheld, so he sent members of the 101st **Airborne / Marine** Division to Little Rock to see that the Little Rock Nine were allowed to go to Central High. Many people in Little Rock agreed with the Governor and didn't want the school to be integrated. They began to **riot / move away** , but the military personnel worked to maintain order.

Finally classes resumed and the school year progressed. Some of the white students continued to be violent and hateful toward the Little Rock Nine. Some students were suspended or expelled for their behavior. Ernest Green, the only **senior / boy** among the Little Rock Nine, became the first African American to graduate from Central that spring.

Little Rock Central High School is now on the **Arkansas / National** Register of Historic Places. It became a National Historic Site in **1958 / 1998**. In 1999 each of the Little Rock Nine received the Congressional **Gold / Silver** Medal.



Norman Rockwell, Painter of American Life

Use the word bank at the bottom of the page to fill in the blanks in the following sentences.

Norman Rockwell

... was born in _____ in 1894.

... decided he wanted to be a _____
and began his own training program when he was ten.

... gave up that goal and decided to pursue
his talent of _____.

... joined the _____ during World War I.

... created many covers for the annual calendar
of the _____.

... created many illustrations for the
_____ *Evening Post*.

... used his _____ and his own children
for many of his models.

... created a series of illustrations called
“The Four _____” that helped raise money
through the sale of war bonds during World War II.

neighbors

Boy Scouts

weight lifter

New York City

Saturday

Freedoms

Navy

drawing

God Created Alaska

Follow the directions in each sentence below.

1. Draw a snowflake over the country that is separated from Alaska by the Bering Strait.
2. Draw waves under the body of water which lies north of Alaska.
3. Draw a star over the capital of Alaska.
4. Draw a mountain peak over the tallest mountain in North America.
5. Draw a box around the northernmost point in Alaska's Arctic region.
6. Draw a diamond over the location of a nineteen-day battle between the U.S. and Japan in 1943.
7. Draw a dotted line under what Canada and the U.S. built together during World War II.
8. Circle the place where the Alaska Army National Guard built an outpost in 1960.

RUSSIA

LITTLE DIOMEDE

ALASKA HIGHWAY

JUNEAU

ATTU ISLAND

ARCTIC OCEAN

POINT BARROW

MT. MCKINLEY

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America the Beautiful Lesson Review

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America the Beautiful

Lesson Review

by Mary Evelyn McCurdy

This book has daily questions, weekly quizzes, and literature review. After a student reads a lesson in *America the Beautiful*, he should answer the five questions for that lesson in this book. After completing each unit, he should take the quiz for that unit. After finishing each literature title, he should answer the questions for that book.

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Units 12 & 25

★ Unit 12 ★

Lesson 56 - James K. Polk and the Mexican War

1. What did people in the mid-1800s mean when they used the term “manifest destiny”?

2. How did the United States and Great Britain resolve the debate over Oregon country?

3. What action did Polk take that brought on an attack against American troops by Mexican forces? How did the United States respond to the attack?

4. What is significant about the age Polk was when he died?

5. The Polks banned drinking and dancing in the White House because they believed those actions were wrong. If you were President, what would you ban from the White House?

Lesson 57 - Moving West on the Oregon Trail

1. Why did the men in Marcus Whitman’s caravan not accept him at first?

2. Where does a statue of Marcus Whitman stand today? _____

3. How did some people benefit from pioneers who started out with too many possessions in their wagons?

4. About how far did a covered wagon travel in one day on the Oregon Trail? _____

5. Ezra Meeker wanted to commemorate (or remember in a special way) the Oregon Trail. What is a way that your family commemorates something that is important to you?

Lesson 58 - The Smithsonian Institution

1. What was the purpose of the institution James Smithson wanted to be established in the United States?

2. The endowment from James Smithson was converted to what?

3. What did the Act to Establish the Smithsonian Institution passed by Congress declare should be a part of the Institution?

4. What is happening in the center picture on page 322?

5. Do you think President Jackson was right to accept the gift from James Smithson? Why or why not?

Lesson 59 - God Created Niagara Falls

1. What is the name and width of the largest falls at Niagara Falls?

2. What are the sources of the water in the Niagara River, which flows over Niagara Falls?

3. What is the name of the boat tourists can ride in to get close to the falls?

4. How did Charles Blondin get from one side of the falls to the other in 1859 and 1860?

5. Psalm 93 tells us that the Lord is mightier than what?

Lesson 60 - John James Audubon, Artist and Naturalist

1. What did Audubon like to do as a child that prepared him for his work later in life?

2. How far south, north, and west did Audubon travel to paint the birds for his collection?

3. Who turned down the opportunity to publish Audubon's *Birds of America*? Where did Audubon finally find an engraver who would reproduce his work?

4. Who painted the illustrations for *Viviparous Quadrupeds of North America*?

5. What was Jesus' message when he talked about birds in Matthew 6:26?

Take the Unit 12 Quiz on Page 92.

★ Unit 13 ★

Lesson 61 - A Growing Nation Faces Growing Conflict

1. What was the main issue in the Compromise of 1850? _____
2. What four men served as President during the 1850s?

3. Why was Kansas called Bleeding Kansas?

4. What did the Supreme Court declare in its decision about the *Dred Scott* case?

5. What did these titles describe in relation to the Underground Railroad?
station: _____
conductor: _____
stockholder: _____

★ Unit 25 ★

Lesson 121 - A World War II General Becomes President

1. What was a popular campaign slogan during Eisenhower's campaign?

2. What did President Eisenhower and Queen Elizabeth II attend together in 1959?

3. What did the Soviet Union do in 1957 that shocked Americans?

4. What is the Domino Theory?

5. What was the title of Eisenhower's ultimate role during World War II?

Lesson 122 - Drive-Ins, Bobby Socks, and Poodle Skirts

1. How were the Mr. Potato Head toys of the 1950s different from those of today?

2. What did viewers see at a double-feature at a drive-in theatre?

3. Describe a poodle skirt.

4. A vaccine for what disease began to be used in the 1950s?

5. Cabinet meetings during Eisenhower's presidency began with what?

Lesson 123 - Little Rock Central High School

1. What did the Supreme Court decide in the *Brown v. Board of Education* case?

2. Why did Arkansas Governor Faubus call out the National Guard?

3. Who finally escorted the Little Rock Nine into Central High?

4. How did high school students in Little Rock keep up with their studies during the 1958-59 school year when their schools were closed?

5. What did each of the Little Rock Nine receive in 1999?

Lesson 124 - Norman Rockwell, Painter of American Life

1. What did Norman Rockwell once say he was trying to show through his paintings?

2. When he was ten years old and before he settled on a drawing career, what did Rockwell decide he wanted to become?

3. For what organization did Rockwell paint illustrations for over sixty years?

4. How did Rockwell's series called "The Four Freedoms" help in the war effort during World War II?

5. What is a talent or ability you feel God has given you that you would like to pursue?

Lesson 125 - God Created Alaska

1. What separates Alaska from Russia?

2. What is the tallest mountain in the United States? In what park is it located?

3. What is unique about Juneau, the capital of Alaska, compared to all other state capitals?

4. What happened on the Alaskan island of Attu in 1943?

5. When did Alaska become a state?

Questions on *Homer Price*

1. What business did Homer Price's family run?

2. How did Homer and his friends Freddy and Louis help the "super hero" Super-Duper?

3. Homer's Uncle Ulysses had a weakness for what?

4. What did Mr. Michael Murphy charge the town of Centerburg thirty dollars to do?

5. What did Uncle Ulysses suggest that Miss Enders put on her property instead of what she was originally planning?

Take the Unit 25 Quiz on Page 105.

Unit 12 Quiz

Circle the correct answer for each question.

- The belief that America should expand all the way to the Pacific Ocean was called:
a. Opportunity Knocking b. Manifest Destiny c. The Open Road
- With what country did the United States debate about Oregon country?
a. France b. Great Britain c. Spain
- Who was president during the Mexican War?
a. Andrew Jackson b. John Tyler c. James K. Polk
- The legacy of which of these men is honored with a statue in the United States Capitol?
a. Marcus Whitman b. John James Audubon c. Richard Rush
- James Smithson wanted his institution to increase and diffuse what among men?
a. laughter b. knowledge c. fortune
- Which of these was to be a part of the original Smithsonian Institution?
a. art gallery b. planetarium c. farm
- Which is the widest of the falls at Niagara Falls?
a. American b. Bridal Veil c. Horseshoe
- How did Charles Blondin cross Niagara Falls?
a. in a barrel b. on a tightrope c. in a balloon
- Who painted the birds for *Birds of America*?
a. John James Audubon b. Victor Audubon c. Nathaniel Polk
- Where was *Birds of America* first reproduced and sold?
a. Philadelphia b. Washington, D.C. c. London

Unit 25 Quiz

Use the words in the word bank to answer each of the questions below.
Not all of the words will be used.

1. What was Eisenhower's nickname?

2. Who launched the satellite *Sputnik*?

3. The Domino Theory referred to the fear of countries falling to what?

4. During Eisenhower's presidency, each cabinet meeting began with what?

5. A vaccine for what disease began to be used in the 1950s?

6. Who made a ruling in the *Brown v. Board of Education* case?

7. Who received the Congressional Gold Medal in 1999?

8. For what organization did Norman Rockwell paint for over sixty years?

9. Rockwell's series called "The Four Freedoms" helped sell what during World War II?

10. What separates Alaska from Russia?

11. What is the tallest mountain in the United States?

12. When did Alaska become a state?

1959	Ike	Little Rock Nine	polio	Bering Strait	Democracy
Communism	Mt. Olympia	rations	Soviet Union	Canada	prayer
Boy Scouts	1944	Mt. McKinley	speech	Supreme Court	war bonds