



MASTER BOOKS
— CURRICULUM —

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About the Author



Carrie Lindquist is a homeschool graduate, wife to Wayne, and momma to two energetic boys. She is a passionate advocate for homeschooling and loves helping new-to-homeschooling moms realize that homeschooling through the early years isn’t scary — it’s really just an extension of all the fun things they are already doing with their children! When she isn’t cleaning the endless little messes her boys create, you can find her encouraging moms to embrace the calling of everyday faithfulness.

Course Description

Approximately 20–30 minutes per lesson, five times per week

Designed for third graders in a one-year course

In *Let's Talk Science Level 3: Adventures on Planet Earth*, students will join characters Hannah and Ben as they explore God's amazing creation through ecology. Through conversational lessons, hands-on expression, and activities, students will encounter God's design as they learn about biomes, climates, the food chain, trees, forest structure, decomposers, symbiotic relationships, and more.

As students explore four of the world's major biomes, they'll also compile a personalized Science Notebook to document and share what they've learned each week. Along the way, they'll discover hidden treasures that teach them more about their relationship with God as they encounter God's wisdom, power, and majesty on display in creation.

Course Objectives

Students completing this course will:

- Explore elements of ecology including the food chain, climates, forest structure, symbiotic relationships, stewardship, and decomposition
- Discover that science teaches many lessons about God and our relationship with Him
- Learn to watch for elements of God's design as they study science
- Compile a unique Science Notebook as they document what they've learned and share it with others.



A Note from the Author

Welcome to *Let's Talk Science Level 3: Adventures on Planet Earth*! I'm so excited for children as they begin their learning adventure. This book was inspired many years ago during a trip to Yellowstone National Park. As I learned about different aspects of ecology around the park, I couldn't help but rejoice at seeing the hand of my Creator so evident around me.

When I was a child, I loved to study history because the providence of God was so evident. However, I usually didn't notice His hand at work in science. To me, it seemed to be a series of dry facts that I couldn't relate to.

Once I became an adult, though, I began to see science in a different way. Science is fascinating and awe-inspiring because God's wisdom, understanding, majesty, and grace are so clearly on display in His creation. When we see His hand at work in the intricacies of symbiotic relationships; the beautiful colors of the rainforest; and even in His wise, merciful design for a fallen creation; it draws our hearts to worship Him.

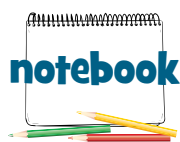
Let's Talk Science Level 3: Adventures on Planet Earth is more than an exploration of biomes, climates, food chains, forest structures, and relationships — through these topics, it's an exploration of God's awe-inspiring creation, a discovery of the depth of His wisdom, a reminder of His faithfulness, and an illustration of many spiritual lessons. Of course, sometimes science also reminds us that the world was broken through sin, and there we find God's mercy and a reminder that we all need Jesus.

This course was also inspired by a desire to teach my children to actively look for God's design as they study science — a skill they can take with them as they continue their education. *Let's Talk Science Level 3: Adventures on Planet Earth* is designed to be relational and to encourage curiosity — if your child is particularly interested in a topic or question, I invite you to spend some time exploring God's world together through books, videos, and resources. See if you can find additional aspects of God's design together. And don't forget, make this course your own — have fun!

It's my prayer that students discover God's amazing design, wisdom, and mercy in creation this year and that they would learn to seek Him in all their pursuits. May God richly bless your school year!

Course Overview and Components

Conversational Lessons: The daily lessons in *Let's Talk Science Level 3: Adventures on Planet Earth* are short and conversational. This allows confident readers to transition to student-led, independent instruction. If the student is younger or developing confidence in independent reading, the lessons may be read together or to the student.



Science Notebook: Students will create a personal Science Notebook to record what they've learned as they complete the course. The Science Notebook will be created in an artist sketchbook, which can be purchased in a craft store or online. It is recommended to purchase one with a sturdy cover, and it should contain a minimum of 36 blank pages.

Each week, the student will use their individual creativity to write and draw on one page of the Notebook. This hands-on expression allows the student to “own” what they've learned and share it in a personalized way. The student may use any medium (colored pencils, markers, paint, etc.) they prefer to complete the Notebook assignment.

Encourage your student to share their Science Notebook with friends and family as they tell them what they've learned. Once the course is completed, the student's Science Notebook may also be saved as a keepsake.

materials needed

- plastic wrap
- paper towels

Materials List: Provides an at-a-glance view of the supplies your student will need to complete course activities, as well as the week those supplies will be required.

Vocabulary: New vocabulary words will be introduced to the student in a **bold green font**. A phonetic pronunciation guide is also shown to help the student read the new word, such as in this example:

environment (said this way: ěn-vī-rŭn-mĕnt)

For some words, the pronunciation may vary slightly depending upon the region in which you live. A vowel pronunciation key is included in the back of the book. Vocabulary words are also included in a glossary at the back of this book.



Apply it: This section features worksheets or activities to help the student apply what they've learned.



Digging Deeper: This section features optional bonus questions, activities, or resources to help the student explore the topic deeper, individually or as a family.



Bonus Activities: Bonus Activities located in the back of the book.

Hidden Treasure

Hidden Treasure: Ecology is all about relationships, and it teaches many things about our relationship with God as well. When we learn about our relationship with God through science, it's like finding a hidden treasure that we can share with others! This section is an opportunity for the student to share the Bible verse they learned during the week in their Science Notebook.

This component may be adjusted to fit the student's level. Older students may copy the verse on the back page of their Science Notebook by themselves, while younger students can help say the verse as the teacher writes it for them.



Model Biomes: After the student has finished exploring each biome, they will put together a model of that biome in a shoe or craft box. The lessons in weeks 9, 18, 27, and 33 provide an instructional guide to create a simple, inexpensive biome. However, you may also customize and personalize the model biome as preferred. Many craft and hobby stores have model animals, trees, grass, and plants available.

Helpful Tips

Tips for completing the Science Notebook:

- Keep a variety of art supplies on hand, such as pencils, paint, colored pencils, markers, or crayons. Some students find watercolor pencils particularly enjoyable to use.
- Encourage creativity. Your student's artwork does not need to look exactly like any of the examples. The goal of the Science Notebook is for the student to express what they've learned in a way that is unique and personalized. This develops the student's ability to "own" what they've learned.
- If your student is concerned about making mistakes, it can be helpful for them to begin drawing with a pencil. This allows them to erase perceived mistakes. Once they're done drawing, they can add colors and/or additional details.
- Encourage enjoyment rather than perfection. Three different students' Science Notebooks are included with each lesson to show different ways the student can draw the prompt. Point out that each Notebook is unique and shows the creativity God has given that student.
- If your student is reluctant to draw, it can be helpful to sit down with them and draw together. Point out a basic shape you can start with, such as a circle, oval, or rectangle, then add additional details such as leaves or limbs.

Additional Tips:

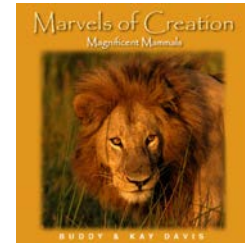
- It can be helpful to find additional videos to illustrate a topic to the student. Some prompts, such as watching a howler monkey howl, are included in the **Digging Deeper** section. It is encouraged to look for and preview videos before watching them with the student.
- *Let's Talk Science Level 3: Adventures on Planet Earth* does touch on difficult topics such as animal death in creation. It is encouraged to discuss these topics deeper with your student, depending on their individual level.

Recommended Resources from Master Books®:

God's Big Book of Animals: This book is a highly recommended resource to have alongside *Adventures on Planet Earth*. Though it is not required to complete the course, prompts for the student to read more about various animals, birds, and insects are included in many **Digging Deeper** sections.



Marvels of Creation: Magnificent Mammals: Your student may enjoy learning more about different animals that can be found in each biome through this resource. Though prompts are not included in the course for this book, the student may use this resource to study the following animals during lessons:



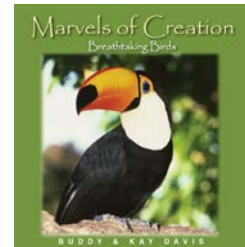
1–9: Beaver, Moose, Wolverine

10–18: Grizzly Bear, Porcupine, Raccoon, Striped Skunk, Wombat, Pronghorn Antelope

19–27: Fruit Bat, Gorilla, Two-toed Sloth

28–36: American Bison, Black Rhinoceros, Cheetah, Elephant, Giant Anteater, Giraffe, Hippopotamus, Leopard, Lion, Red Kangaroo, Tiger, Zebra

Marvels of Creation: Breathtaking Birds: Your student may enjoy learning more about different birds that can be found in each biome. Though prompts are not included in the course for this book, the student may use this resource to study the following birds during lessons:



1–9: Arctic Tern, Common Loon, Ptarmigan

10–18: Bald Eagle, Common Raven, Great Horned Owl, Laughing Kookaburra, Pileated Woodpecker, Turkey Vulture, Wild Turkey, Wood Duck

19–27: Cassowary, Greater Flamingo, Hoatzin, Rainbow Lorikeet, Ruby-Throated Hummingbird, Toco Toucan

28–36: Ostrich, Roadrunner, Secretary Bird

Master Materials List

Basic Supplies:

These supplies will be used often throughout the course.

- Artist sketchbook (36 pages minimum)
- Colored pencils, markers, acrylic paint set, crayons
- Silver or white glitter glue
- Glue stick
- Scissors
- Construction paper
- 4 shoeboxes or craft boxes with lids

Week 2

- Dirt
- Clear bowl or jar
- Plastic wrap
- Paper towels
- A glass of water

Week 3

- 2 pieces of construction paper
- Scissors
- Tape
- Flour
- Baking sheet or plate

Week 9

- Blue, brown, green, yellow construction paper
- 1/8-inch wooden dowels (6–12 inches long)
- Glue stick
- Shoebox with lid
- Scissors
- White paint and brush

- Glitter glue
- Small twigs or toothpicks
- Hot glue gun
- Tape
- Playdough or clay
- Small model animals such as a beaver, wolf, elk or moose, bear, rabbit, etc.

Week 12

- 2 bowls
- Something to make your hand dirty. This could be mud or something like yogurt or honey.
- Sink or bathtub

Week 15

- A ripe banana
- Plate

Week 18

- Paint
- Paintbrushes
- Shoebox or similar size box
- White and green construction paper
- Glue stick
- Scissors
- Gather any items you can find from outside: dirt, a twig, old leaves, or acorns.
- 1/8-inch wooden dowels (6–12 inches long)
- Tape
- Playdough or clay
- Small model forest animals like deer, raccoon, rabbit, fox, bear, cardinal, woodpecker, opossum, skunk, etc.

Week 19

- Flashlight
- Dark room

Bonus Activity:

- 4–5 inch Styrofoam™ ball
- Metal or wooden skewer (12+ inches long)
- Permanent marker
- Flashlight
- Tablecloth to protect table

Week 20

- Craft pipe cleaner
- Flour
- Cocoa powder
- 2 plates

Week 27

- Acrylic paint set
- Tablecloth to protect table
- Paintbrushes
- Shoebox
- Bowl of water
- Paper towels
- Trees saved from the deciduous biome project
- Brown construction paper
- Tape
- Scissors
- Twine or yarn
- Hot glue gun or mini glue dots
- Small model rainforest animals like toucan, snake, tiger, frog, monkey, etc.

























Week 33

- Acrylic paint set
- Tablecloth to protect table
- Paintbrush
- Shoebox
- Bowl of water
- Paper towels
- 2 Ziploc® bags
- Small bag of sand (enough to fill the bottom of the shoebox, with some extra)
- Green food coloring
- Blue food coloring
- Spoon
- Small model savannah animals like elephant, lion, giraffe, zebra, gazelle, etc.

Week 34

- Tablecloth
- White paper
- Washable paint
- Paintbrush

Schedule

Date	Day	Assignment	Due Date	✓
Week 1		Introduction to Ecology • Complete reading and activity on pages 19–20		
		Complete reading and activity on pages 21–22		
		Complete reading and activity on pages 23–24		
		Complete reading and activity on pages 25–26		
		Complete reading and activity in your Notebook on pages 27–28		
Week 2		The Boreal Forest Climate Complete reading and activity on pages 29–30		
		Complete reading and activity on pages 31–32		
		Complete reading and activity on pages 33–34		
		Complete reading and activity on pages 35–36		
		Complete reading and activity in your Notebook on pages 37–38		
Week 3		Conifers • Complete reading and activity on pages 39–40		
		Complete reading and activity on pages 41–42		
		Complete reading and activity on pages 43–44		
		Complete reading and activity on pages 45–47		
		Complete reading and activity in your Notebook on pages 48–50		
Week 4		The Lodgepole Pine • Complete reading and activity on pages 51–52		
		Complete reading and activity on pages 53–54		
		Complete reading and activity on pages 55–56		
		Complete reading and activity on pages 57–58		
		Complete reading and activity in your Notebook on pages 59–60		
Week 5		The Food Chain 1 • Complete reading and activity on pages 61–62		
		Complete reading and activity on pages 63–66		
		Complete reading and activity on pages 67–68		
		Complete reading and activity on pages 69–70		
		Complete reading and activity in your Notebook on pages 71–72		