

Using This Teacher Guide

Features: The suggested weekly schedule enclosed has easy-to-manage lessons that guide the reading, worksheets, and all assessments. The pages of this guide are perforated and three-hole punched so materials are easy to tear out, hand out, grade, and store. Teachers are encouraged to adjust the schedule and materials needed in order to best work within their unique educational program.

Lesson Scheduling: Students are instructed to read the pages in their book and then complete the corresponding section provided by the teacher. Assessments that may include worksheets, activities, quizzes, and tests are given at regular intervals with space to record each grade. Space is provided on the weekly schedule for assignment dates, and flexibility in scheduling is encouraged. Teachers may adapt the scheduled days per each unique student situation. As the student completes each assignment, this can be marked with an “X” in the box.



Approximately 30 minutes per lesson, five days a week, for 36 weeks



Answer keys for puzzles, quest collectors, and quizzes included



Worksheets are included for each lesson



Quizzes are included for each quest



Designed for grades 1–2 in a one-year course

Course Description: *My Story and the World Around Me* is a lower elementary social studies course. Social studies for this age typically include introductions to history, politics, economics, sociology, and geography, ultimately aiming toward a comprehensive understanding of God’s world and the cultures of each country. It is framed by the world of family, neighborhood, and church.

My Story is an adventure-based curriculum that encourages families to explore the world together through four quests, and to understand it better from God’s perspective. It is designed with elements that make weekly learning fun and interactive. Level one begins with children in their homes, helping them think about their lives from their immediate families and beyond, as well as learning about local governments and, ultimately, distant lands.

Course Objectives: Students completing this course will

- ✓ Seek to know more of God’s wondrous love as they learn about His world
- ✓ Identify people in their family, their neighborhood, and beyond, including weekly helpers
- ✓ Reveal their own world in a journal they maintain while going through each week
- ✓ Understand a map of the world
- ✓ Dig up information about inventions, toys, and more in order to understand history better
- ✓ Explore the history of Genesis, Eden, Noah’s family, the Tower of Babel, and more
- ✓ Discover Spanish and French words to help begin laying a foundation for life-long language learning

Charting Your Course:

The following are the teaching elements you will find in this social studies curriculum. Teachers are free to adapt the studies to the abilities and skills of each student.



Narration is a form of instruction where students talk or tell what they've learned in a lesson or respond to information they have learned and apply it to life situations. Talk time is often started with a question, either about the lesson or about a student's life experience.



For those learning to write, this is an opportunity to learn to write and spell words mentioned in the lesson.



Some activities are included in the lesson and can be done that day, while others may suggest a trip to the library or making something for a snack, etc., at a later time. The teacher can use his or her discretion about whether an activity might or might not be done.



In level one, each lesson includes a word or phrase from a different language (Spanish in the first semester and French in the second semester). Children are at a prime developmental level for language learning at this age. Find pronunciation helps online, including translate.google.com.



Forward or down, let kids have fun finding the words hidden in the letters. You might have them say the letters as they circle them to help with remembering them. And if they can't find one, that's okay. The answers are in the back!



Artistic expression at any age creates an emotional connection to the learning experience. Have fun and color!



From parents to firefighters to road construction workers and more, people in our communities do so much and work so hard to help our world be better. They are God's blessings!



At the end of each week, students are instructed to find the **highlighted yellow** words for their Word Collector (which you can create from anything as simple as a bag or shoebox). They will go back over the week's pages and write those words on 3 x 5 cards. Their teachers will then help them either read the words or spell them if their teacher says them out loud. This is a vital part of their course reviews.

My Story journal



At the end of each lesson is a My Story Journal where students will help write their own life and history for the year. Weekly prompts give them information to log in their journals, including things from their birthdates to favorite foods and more. Feel free to add things not asked by the initial prompts and pictures as well to keep a record of this year of their precious lives. Teachers may help by being the student's scribe!

Review time!



Every Friday becomes a week in review, looking back over what was learned with a focus on the quest word collector words.

Quest in Review Time!

On the last Friday of every 9-week quest, the week in review becomes a quest in review time! These reviews and answers are in the back of the book.

Language Time Review!

At the end of each semester, students are prompted to gather up all their language words (semester one is Spanish and semester two is French). A teacher can help quiz them on the meaning of their new-found words!

Quest Collector Card!

Each Quest Collector Card has clue questions to keep students alert to what they're learning. It may be looking for the name of the tallest waterfall in South America or the name of the longest river in the world. The answers and where they are located are found in the back of the book. Make sure to read these before the quest begins. Tear out each card as you begin a new quest!



ABOUT THE AUTHORS:

Craig Froman is assistant editor at New Leaf Publishing Group and author of *Passport to the World* and *Children's Atlas of God's World*. He has a bachelor of arts in business administration, and a master's degree in education. He is the proud father of Andrew Froman, who he helped homeschool through high school. Craig is pictured here standing by the Monument to the Discoveries in Lisbon, Portugal.



Andrew Froman is currently a student at John Brown University in Arkansas, with an emphasis in psychology and history. He recently traveled with a study abroad program through Switzerland, Germany, Austria, and France. He is the proud son of Craig Froman, and they enjoy walking and talking about life whenever they get together. Andrew is pictured here standing by Neuschwanstein Castle in Germany with some friends from his study abroad trip.

INTRODUCTION

Welcome to a new book about God's world! And this book is created to be an adventure for you.

As you already know, you live in a home . . . and that home is on a road, in a town or out of town, in a county, in a state, in a country, on the earth . . . whew! God is so good to give us so much to see and enjoy, and you will see even more by the time the book is done.

As you go through this book, you will be learning about something called social studies, which includes the study of all kinds of people and places, some far away and some next door. We will talk about families, like your family in your house, and also lots of families close by, which we call a town or city, and finally about lots of people in cities or outside of cities all living in big places called countries.

These people we will meet around the world speak and write in different languages. The language of this book is English, but we'll share some words with you from other languages too, and you'll see how people live.

Let's start here with some things you already know.

What is your name?

Where are you from?

Most people are from a town in a particular country. Some children live with both their parents or with just one parent, or they might live in foster care or are adopted into other families, like God adopted us into His family. Some families are small. Some include a mom and a dad, aunts and uncles, grandparents, and more. God meant for us to live in community, not to be alone. So, it should not matter if we are rich or poor, what our background is — all children can feel a part of God's family.

Ready for your first quest? Here we go!



Quest Collector Card!

Tear out and watch for the clues over the next 9 weeks!

QUEST ONE

1. What book in the Bible has the main account of Noah's Ark?

2. What is a house blueprint?

3. Where is the time zone map?

4. How many continents are there?

5. Who is the Good Shepherd?

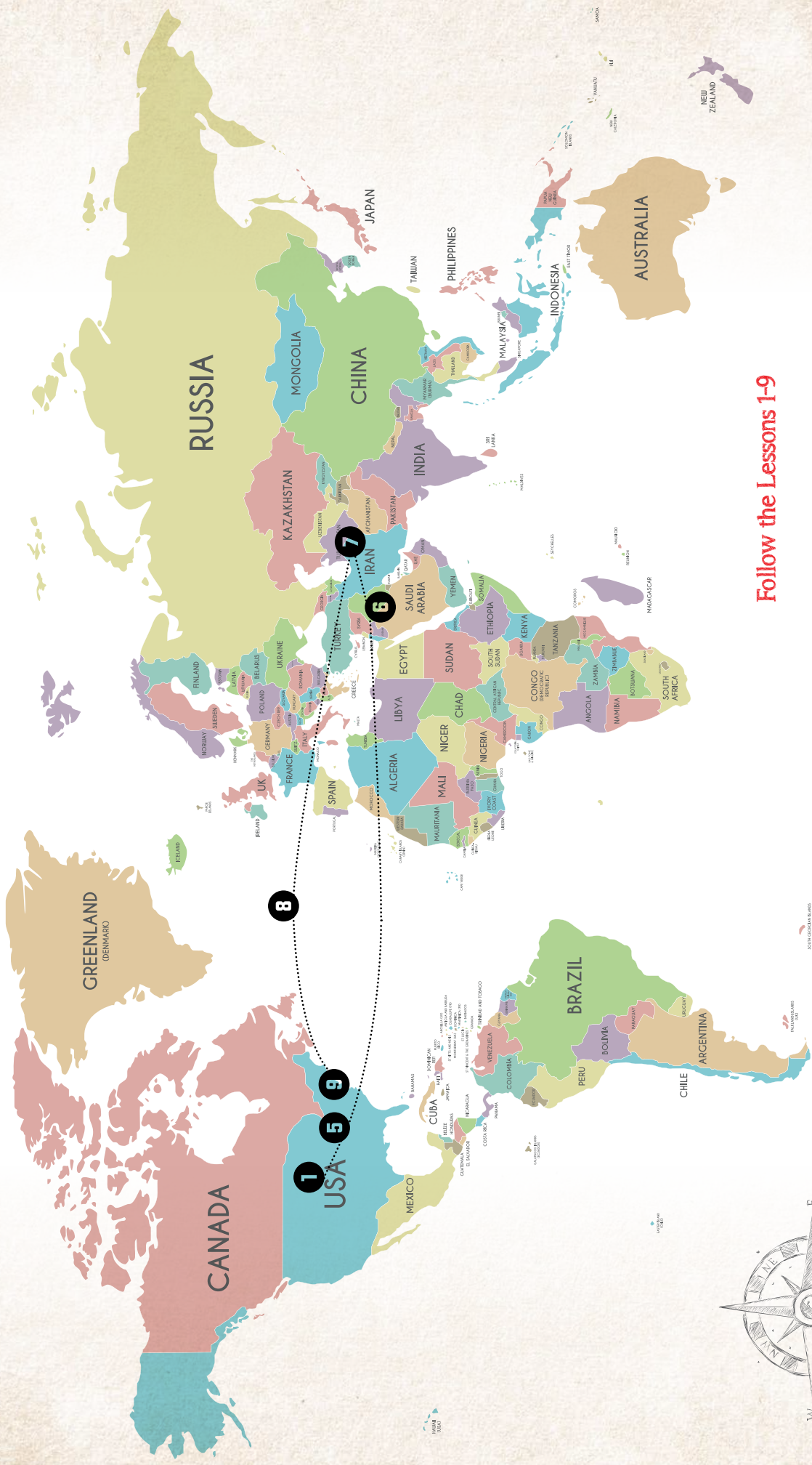
6. When and where were the first balloons flown?

7. *Gracias* means

8. A mayor is

9. *E pluribus unum* means

10. Which two countries are bigger than the United States?



Follow the Lessons 1-9



My World Starts with the Family

LESSON
#1

Get ready, because your year of adventure is about to begin! Each week we'll be traveling God's world in different ways, and so let's start with roller skates. Don't forget your helmet and pads! Each day this week look for the skates you see on the page. Come on, then, or as they say in France, *Bon voyage*, which means good voyage to you!

Let's start our first adventure in your home. For most kids, their families are a source of support, laughter, and love, but what is a family? Who is in your family? What is the purpose of family? These are great questions to ask as God's people, because understanding His creation helps us to appreciate Him more, and better serve others!

One way to define **family** is as a home with a mom and a dad and their kids, and this is a specific kind of family. Today, many kids are adopted or live in single-parent families, where they are loved. There are also extended families, or anyone that doesn't usually live in our house but are related to us either through blood or marriage, which include our grandparents, aunts, uncles, and cousins.



Our first quest takes us way back, past the time your grandparents were kids, and even past the time their grandparents were kids, and back to when God first created the world. And know that we can learn about our world today by looking at the world as it was back then.

What is the purpose of family? To figure this out, all we have to do is turn to the Book of Genesis in the **Bible** and look at the first husband and wife: Adam and Eve! God created them to be together, and to love each other, because He knew it was bad to be lonely. From here, God



encouraged them to grow their family, spreading across the earth and protecting God's **creation**. So, what does that tell us about the purpose of family? First, that we're made to live with others, and get very lonely when we live by ourselves. Second, that God wants families to multiply and fill the **earth** so that we are able to care for all of God's world! We can also say this about family — that it is a group of people who love each other and work together to serve God's purpose in our world. Now, we can go out into the world hoping that every new person we meet might one day be a part of God's big family!

Name _____

MY STORY 1

Lesson 1

Exercise 1 Day 1

Do you ever fight with your family members? The answer is most likely yes, of course! Sin entered the world after people fell away from God, which means that people who love each other are still able to hurt each other. The Bible has a sad example of family conflict or fighting in Genesis 4, which tells the account of two brothers, Cain and Abel. Both brothers gave an offering to God for all that He did for them, but Cain didn't do right so God couldn't accept his offering. God saw Cain's bitterness, and didn't bless him like He did Abel. Instead of talking this over with God and Abel, or trying to have a happy heart, Cain decided to hurt his brother out of jealousy, and God had to send him away.

Is this how we should fix things with those we love? No! Because of sin, we're going to hurt our loved ones; however, with help from God, we can seek peace and love between others over jealousy and anger.




What are some reasons God created the family?

Who in your life could you be nicer to and why?



Name _____

What we read about families in the Bible shows how important this is, so let's look there for another example. In Genesis 6:1–9:17, we heard about the account of Noah and his family, the only righteous family on earth many, many years ago. Due to the wickedness of the world, God sent the mighty Flood to cover the earth; however, He protected Noah and his family by having them build an ark (a big boat) to weather the storm. Noah's family obeyed God in righteousness and they were saved by Him. Noah and his wife lived together with their three sons, Shem, Ham, and Japheth, and their sons' wives. The account serves as a good example to all of us, because it shows a godly family obeying their father and doing what's right for the Lord, our Heavenly Father.

 **Picture time!** Color this picture of Noah and his family.





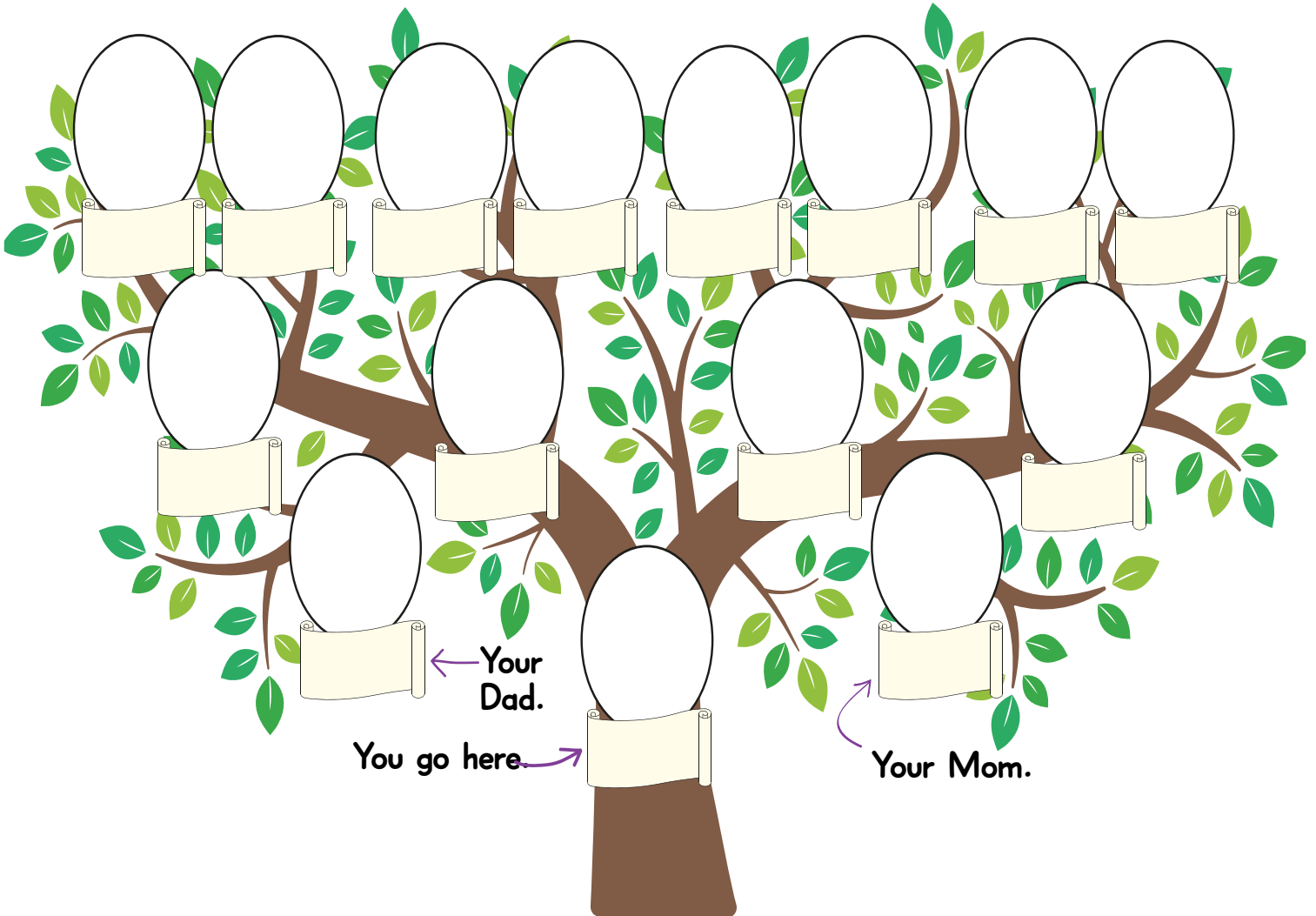
Why were Noah and his family saved from the Flood?

When we obey our parents, who are we really obeying?

Activity time!



Make a family tree of your family and draw a picture of them.



Name _____

MY STORY 1

Lesson 1

Exercise 3

Day 3

We've heard a little about families from the past, but what about families today? While a lot has stayed the same over the ages, lots of things have changed too! Let's start from where we are and look at family in the United States, where you live. So, what are some of the major differences with families here? In America, even though we work a lot, we still get to spend time enjoying each other's company. That might involve playing sports or board games, watching TV together, or just sitting around talking! Football and baseball are considered some of the favorite sports! God has blessed America with so many things that help make our lives better, so we give thanks to Him as often as we can.



The Spanish phrase for your week is *por favor*, and it means "please."



Word Find Time! Find the following sports and games words in the Word Find puzzle!

football
leapfrog

soccer
tag

baseball
cycling

hockey
skating

S	K	A	T	I	N	G	T	C	Z
X	C	V	B	N	L	F	A	Y	K
L	E	A	P	F	R	O	G	C	J
M	H	A	S	D	F	O	G	L	H
S	O	C	C	E	R	T	Y	I	U
P	C	Q	R	U	G	B	Y	N	K
Y	K	W	I	E	R	A	T	G	J
I	E	O	N	P	A	L	S	D	F
V	Y	X	G	Z	F	L	D	S	A
N	R	B	A	S	E	B	A	L	L



What are some ways we can support our parents?

Name _____

Who do you think God put in charge of a family, and what role do kids play in it? Well, as the ones who provide for the family needs and as the adults, parents act as the leaders for their children. They often decide what's right for their children, even if the kids don't always like it. More important than money and age, however, is that parents have a God-given duty to protect and guide their kids to adulthood, making parenting a pretty special job. What about kids? Well, they help out and listen to the instructions of their parents not only out of respect and understanding for all they do, but also out of respect for God, who made their mom and dad their parents.

Helping time! hands

In every good community there are good families that help the churches, businesses, or city run well. This week is all about our families and how wonderful they are.

What does your mom or dad do that you most appreciate?

How do they make sure you are taken care of?

Copywork time!

Copy the words given in the space provided on the lines. Do you know what all the words mean?

Bible

help

love

family

games



Is there a family in the Bible you would have wanted to meet, and why?

What is your favorite sport or game, and why?

Name _____

MY STORY 1

Lesson 1

Exercise 5

Day 5

Review time!

It's time to think back over this week of your quest and see what you've learned so far!

Talk time!


What are some of the things you enjoyed most this week? Tell your teacher about your family, who created the family, and why we have our families.

word collector

Can you find all the yellow highlighted words from the week for your Word Collector? Go back over this week's pages and write those words on your 3 x 5 cards. Can you read the words or can you spell them if your teacher says them out loud?



My Story journal



Answer the questions below about you.

What is your name?

Where are you from?

When were you born?

Who is in your family?

Quest One Collector Quiz

Answer these questions from your Quest One Collector Card as best as you can. Your teacher can give you hints if you need them!

1. What book in the Bible has the main account of Noah's Ark?

2. What is a house blueprint?

3. Where is the time zone map?

4. How many continents are there?

5. Who is the Good Shepherd?

6. When and where were the first balloons flown?

7. *Gracias* means

8. A mayor is

9. *E pluribus unum* means

10. Which two countries are bigger than the United States?

Answers for Quest Collector Cards & Quizzes:

Quest One Collector Card

1. What book in the Bible has the main account of Noah's Ark? (**Genesis** – Lesson 1/Exercise 1)
2. What is a house blueprint? (**A house as a picture from above** – Lesson 2/Exercise 1)
3. Where is the time zone map? (**Lesson 5/Exercise 1**)
4. How many continents are there? (**7** – Lesson 6/Exercise 1)
5. Who is the Good Shepherd? (**Jesus** – Lesson 7/Exercise 2)
6. When and where were the first balloons flown? (**China/almost 2,000 years ago** – Lesson 8/Exercise 2)
7. *Gracias* means (**thank you** – Lesson 2/Exercise 3)
8. A mayor is (**a person elected by the people to run a city** – Lesson 3)
9. *E pluribus unum* means (**Out of many one** – Lesson 4)
10. Which two countries are bigger than the United States? (**Russia and Canada** – Lesson 5)

Quest Two Collector Card

1. Which country invented the first paper money and the first toilet paper? (**China** – Lesson 10)
2. What country has summer in the north while it has winter in the south? (**Brazil** – Lesson 12/Exercise 1)
3. What is the Spanish word for “friend” for a boy and a girl? (**amigo for a boy and amiga for a girl** – Lesson 16/Exercise 3)
4. What is the longest river in the world? (**The Nile** – Lesson 17)
5. What is the Spanish word for “peace”? (**paz** – Lesson 18/Exercise 3)
6. In which lake will you find the only freshwater sharks living? (**Lake Nicaragua in Central America** – Lesson 11/Exercise 4)
7. What is the tallest mountain in South America? (**Aconcagua** – Lesson 13)

8. What is the highest uninterrupted waterfall in the whole world? (**Angel Falls in Argentina** – Lesson 13)
9. Where would you find the world's largest cold desert? (**Antarctica** – Lesson 14)
10. What is the largest artificial lake by volume or actual amount of water? (**Lake Kariba** – Lesson 15/Exercise 1)

Quest Three Collector Card

1. Where will you find the biggest rodeo in the world? (**Canada** – Lesson 21)
2. Where were inventions like chess and shampoo developed? (**India** – Lesson 24/Exercise 4)
3. What does *bonjour* mean in French? (**It means “hello”** – Lesson 19/Exercise 3)
4. What is the name of the world's deepest lake? (**Lake Baikal** – Lesson 22/Exercise 4)
5. What is the deepest place in the ocean called? (**Challenger Deep in the Mariana Trench** – Lesson 27)
6. Where would you find the world's longest coral reef? (**The Great Barrier Reef, Australia** – Lesson 26/Exercise 4)
7. What is actually made up of 900 islands? (**The Solomon Islands** – Lesson 25/Exercise 4)
8. In what country would you find 2 million lakes, more than any other country? (**Canada** – Lesson 20)
9. What is known as the largest country in the world? (**Russia** – Lesson 22)
10. In what country did a man watching wasps come up with the idea for paper? (**China** – Lesson 23)

Quest Four Collector Card

1. In what country did Johannes Gutenberg help develop the printing press? (**Germany** – Lesson 33/Exercise 1)
2. What city is made up of over 100 islands, with over 170 canals? (**Venice** – Lesson 32)
3. Where do leaders of our states gather to help govern or lead our nation? (**Washington, DC** – Lesson 35)
4. What are two of the five different kinds of tastes