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Timberdoodle's
Curriculum Handbook

TIMBERDOODLE SAMPLE PAGES



2015-2016 edition



Welcome to Second Grade



We're So Glad You're Here!

Congratulations on choosing to homeschool your child this year! Whether this is your first year as a teacher or your tenth, we're confident you'll find that there is very little that compares to watching your child's learning take off. In fact, teaching can be quite addictive, so be forewarned!

On Your Mark, Get Set, Go!

Preparing for your first "school day" is very easy. Peruse this guide, look over the typical schedule, browse the introductions in your books, and you will be ready to go.



We're Here to Help You

We would love to assist you if questions come up, so please don't hesitate to contact us with any questions, comments, or concerns. Whether you contact us by phone, email, or live online chat, you will get a real person who is eager to serve you and your family. Have an absolutely amazing year with your child!



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CONTENTS

07 Introduction

08 Schedules & Planning

14 Language Arts

22 Math

26 Thinking Skills

32 Science

36 History

40 Geography

44 S.T.E.A.M.

48 Art

54 Study Helps, etc.

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58 Why Learn Independently?

60 Ten Reasons to Go Build Now!

62 Convergent & Divergent Thinking

64 What About Common Core?

66 Homeschooling Gifted Children



TIMBERDOODLES SAMPLE PAGES



Meet Your Handbook

THREE QUICK TIPS TO GET YOU STARTED

All the Details Included

This Timberdoodle Curriculum Kit is available in three different standard levels: Basic, Complete, or Elite. This allows you to choose the assortment best suited to your child's interest level, your family's schedule, and your budget. In this guide, you'll find an overview and any tips for each of the items included in the Elite Curriculum Kit. If you purchased a Basic, Complete, or if you customized your kit, you chose not to receive every item, so you'll only need to familiarize yourself with the ones which were included in your kit.

Simple Is Better

We really believe that, so your guide is as simple as we could make it. First up are the annual planner and sample weekly checklists, the absolute backbones of Timberdoodle's Curriculum Kits. More on those in a moment. Next up are short bios of each item in your

kit, ideal for refreshing your memory on why each is included or to show Dad exactly what your second-grader will be covering this year. We've also thrown in our tips or tricks to make this year more awesome for all of you. Finally, we'll conclude with favorite articles and tidbits amassed in our 30 years of homeschool experience.

Why Week by Week Works

We know you. OK, maybe not you personally, but we have yet to meet a homeschooler who didn't have other irons in the fire. From homesteading or running a business to swimming lessons or doctor's appointments, your weeks are not dull. A daily schedule could overwhelm you both, but having a weekly checklist is the perfect blend of enough structure to finish in a timely fashion and enough freedom that your adventures won't make for stressful catch-up days. Relax; this is so doable!

Planning Your Year

HOW TO USE TIMBERDOODLE'S PLANNERS

If You Want to Finish It This Year

A standard school year is 36 weeks long, so that's what our samples here will show. But your family does not have to use that schedule! Perhaps you'd like to expedite this year so all school is done before baby arrives? Or perhaps your family prefers to school year-round and keep that brain sharp?

Use the Customizer

On the next pages you'll find sample weekly checklists for Basic, Complete, and Elite kits. Before you photocopy 36 of them, take a moment to check out the custom schedule builder that came free with your kit. At www.TimberdoodleSchedules.com, you'll not only easily adjust the weeks, but also tweak the checklist to include exactly what you want listed.

Designed for Maximum Flexibility

No two families are identical, so don't expect your pace or daily school time to be identical. Off to the dentist's this week? You won't fall behind by taking a day off. Or perhaps you'd

like to save science for Saturdays so Dad can be involved? Again, perfect! You even have a little slush room in most subjects, so don't hesitate to trim the lessons short on a long week.

Normal

We asked parents who used this kit last year how long their student spent on "school." Over 60% of them estimated that their student spent 2-4 hours a day on their kit. Another 20% estimated that their child spent more than 4 hours a day. That is a lot of variation and is likely to be impacted by how in-depth you take your child's studies, what your child's learning approach is, how distractable he is, and much more. Make sure you allow yourself and your child some time to find your own rhythm!

Meeting State Requirements

Check <https://www.hslda.org/laws> to see your specific requirements. For many states it is sufficient to simply hang on to your completed and dated weekly checklists along with a sampling of your child's best work this year.

WEEKLY CHECKLIST (COMPLETE)

Language Arts	Language Smarts C	9 pages											
	Daily 6-Trait Writing	1 week's work											
	Spelling You See C	1 week's work											
	Handwriting B	1 week's worth											
	Pathway Reader 2	1-2 chapters											
	Word Fun	1 a month											
	Tintin in America	as desired											
Math	Mathematical Reasoning	8 pages a week											
	Tenzi and Card Deck	1 game											
	Wrap-ups Multiplication/Division	2 times											
Thinking Skills	Building Thinking Skills 1	9 pages											
	Q-bitz Solo	1-2 challenges											
	Laser Maze Jr	1-2 challenges											
S.T.E.A.M.	Inventor 30	1 model											
History	The Story of the World 2	1-2 chapters											
Geography	Daily Geography	1 week's worth											
Science	Exploring...Botany	1 module or its experiments											
Art	Construction Doodles	4-5 pages a week											
	Step-by-Step Drawing Book	1-2 a week											

TIMBERDOODLE SAMPLE PAGES

Mathematics

Basic math is a critical skill for your child to master, whether he grows up to be a carpenter, doctor, accountant, or farmer. But all too often math programs rely on memorization instead of comprehension, leaving the student at a disadvantage.

That's not going to happen to your child! Real-world math skills and step-by-step concept introduction combine with hands-on tools for an unbeatable math program.

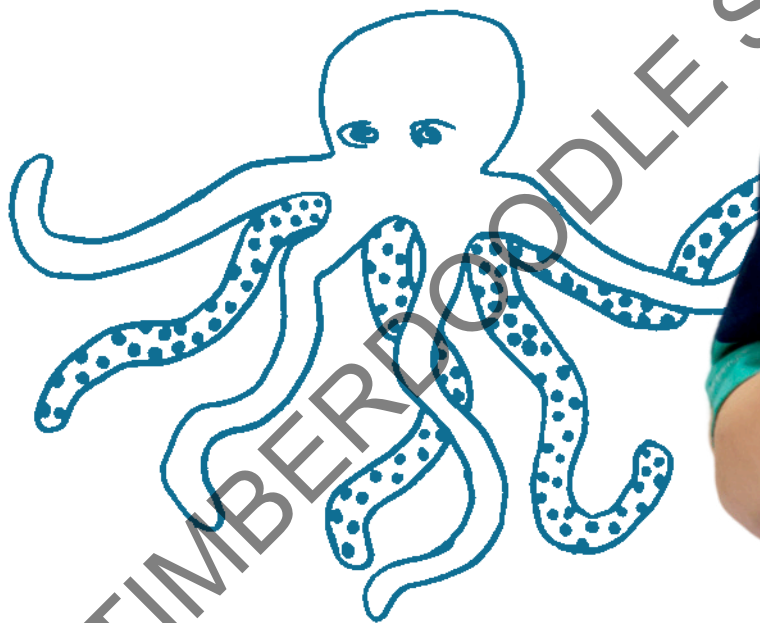


MATHEMATICAL REASONING

Mathematical Reasoning breaks away from mainstream memorization-based instruction by teaching math using engaging, real-world problems. These highly motivational activities will take your child beyond mere drill work by using step-by-step problem solving until he is able to reason his way through any mathematical problem. Concepts spiral gradually so that your child does not forget as he goes.

Scheduling

Plan on 8 pages a week to complete this in a school year.



BASIC

COMPLETE

ELITE

TENZI GAME

Simple, fast, fun, and purposeful, Tenzi is a perfect addition to your child's curriculum. In the original Tenzi game, players roll ten dice, then reroll the ones that don't match until all ten display identical numbers. Too easy? Opt for one of the many variations like Splitzi where you must have five dice of one number and five dice of another. In Target Tenzi, you have a numeric goal, for instance 56, and you race to be the first to attain it. Or... well, the options are endless and so is the fun. Tenzi requires fast hands, the ability to make accurate calculations, and the gift of laughter. The Tenzi card deck offers more ideas on how to use Tenzi to build math skills.

Scheduling

Plan to break this out at least once a week and either play a competitive game together or let your child race himself.

BASIC COMPLETE ELITE



WRAP-UPS

Even though math should never be just drill, it is a rare child who would not benefit from some drill work. Wrap-Ups are convenient, portable, self-contained, and best of all, self-correcting!

Scheduling

Start using these Wrap-Ups after your child has learned the concepts of multiplication and division. We suggest having him complete this set twice a week until he has mastered both.



BASIC COMPLETE ELITE