



my homeschool

Course Outline

Year Four

By Michelle Morrow

My Homeschool Course Outline – Year Four

By Michelle Morrow

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All enquiries to My Homeschool.

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Course Outline

Hello!

I'm so glad that you are considering My Homeschool for your child's home education. This outline will hopefully answer some of your questions and help you understand the workings of this course. Let's begin!

This is a summary of our course for Year 4. Typically, a child in Year 4 is around 9 or 10.

The My Homeschool Graded Courses are based on the Australian Curriculum (and the NSW Syllabus) content and outcome statements. It will comply with all the states and territories' requirements.

Charlotte Mason's literature rich approach to home education is our inspiration. However, we have also introduced a range of eclectic teaching ideas and resources that reflect a modern approach to the Australian Curriculum. An atmosphere of learning is encouraged in the home including taking advantage of natural learning opportunities. Delight directed learning is supported with children having the freedom to explore desired areas of interest.

A range of authors have collaborated to provide a rich feast for the Year 4 My Homeschool course. We believe this course will satisfy your desire to give your child a wholesome living book education which will still comply with government obligations for home education registration.

Choice has also been built into this curriculum to give you the flexibility you need for teaching multiple ages and adapting to the special needs and interests of your child/children.

As the teaching parent, you are also learning how to teach your child at home. This course uses a few Charlotte Mason teaching strategies that need to be understood to

follow this curriculum. If you are unfamiliar with any of these ideas then explanations are found in the complimentary **Homeschool Teaching 101** course provided when you subscribe.

Do I Need to Start at the Beginning of the Year?

No! This course has a flexible format that can be started at any time. If you wish to begin mid-term or mid-year you can still pick up the course from Week One.

Since math resources are purchased separately you can follow the level you were using prior to starting the course.

Secular or Christian

This curriculum aims to give parents confidence that they are educating their children with a world view that honours the values of Christian education however our resources are not exclusively Christian. We have attempted to choose great resources and often a secular resource was the best option. Specific Bible study resources have not been included in this course but you are encouraged to set up your own schedule for this and add it to your read aloud time if desired. Education of the whole child is important to us and parents are encouraged to nurture their children's spiritual, intellectual, emotional and social needs.

How Much Does This Course Cost?

Initial Course Price with Subscription

If you are new to My Homeschool and not a member then your course membership is activated once you purchase your first course; the initial course price includes your \$15 monthly membership subscription fee. Membership remains active as long as you stay subscribed. Membership gives you access to the My Homeschool Learning Platform, the

grade you purchased, our *How to Homeschool 101* course, our *Homeschool Registration* course and our art and music enrichment courses. The membership can only be used for the family subscribed. The membership may not be used for non-family members.

- [Course Price = \\$385 \(+ \\$15 per month for first time subscriber\).](#)
- [Member's Only Price = \\$385 with no additional subscription. This is available via the Moodle website.](#)

How Much is Online?

We use Moodle, a popular educational online learning platform to run our courses. Your child will occasionally need access to the My Homeschool to complete watch video lessons. A laptop, tablet, or desktop computer will work well. Your smart phone can be used for a quick review, or on the go, but it's not the best long-term option for online reading and watching videos.

Our courses are set out in three sections:

- Before You Start – This has the files that you will need to help you get going with our course. (This is for the parent)
- The Virtual Cupboard – stores all the lesson resources. (This is for the parent)
- Weekly Topics – This section is set out into the 36 weeks of the semester. It includes all the online links, and videos needed for that week in one handy place. No need to surf the internet looking for information, or find a PDF to open, because we've conveniently set it all up for you, so they can go straight to the place we recommend.

Whilst we are utilizing this platform for learning, many of our lessons require reading from a real book or a paper-based resource. Our notebooking activities use pen and paper (some could be done digitally if preferred). Additional time online will be included if your mathematics resource is online. [Here is a video showing how it works.](#)

How Much Time Will This Involve?

My Homeschool follows the Charlotte Mason practice of shorter lessons so there is time for the student to follow other interests. Approximately three to four days per week is allocated to group study and reading aloud. Your day will usually include consistent lesson time in the mornings, leaving afternoons free for natural learning and play. You can also get some of your jobs done or go visiting!

Assessment and Record Keeping

A 36 week schedule is provided which has been split into 4 terms. 8 weeks are set topics and the 9th week is an assessment and review week that often includes a project.

Each week has its own checklist available online or as a downloadable PDF.

Registration is made simple with our Yearly Planning Template and detailed scope and sequence. We also provide certificates and portfolio prompts that will make documentation and continued registration a cinch.

At the end of each term there is a downloadable report of work achieved over the term. Parents add comments and assessments of their child's progress in each area of learning.

There are no formal tests in Year 4.

Subject Outline

English

Living books are the core of our curriculum. Our read aloud novels are all highly acclaimed and include *Wind in the Willows*, *Little Pilgrims Progress*, and a classic poetry collection.

Our Australian literature includes *Papunya School Book of Country and History* and *My Place* by Nadia Wheatley. A collection of Australian literature is used For copywork and cursive handwriting practice.

Primary Language Lessons is our main English resource. Literature lessons cover, picture study, poetry, a variety of writing texts and styles. Spelling, grammar and punctuation are taught using sentences and Dolch word lists. Short dictation lessons are used for spelling practice.

Comprehension lessons are done using narration and discussion from stories, science and history readers. Children are encouraged to explain what they are seeing as writing preparation.

Independent reading is encouraged.

Math

We don't provide a math curriculum but we do give suggestions.

We will also be doing some math copywork each term. It includes: times tables, math words, and Roman numerals.

History

World History

A chronological approach to history is taught from Year 2 to 6. In Year Four we study Late Middle Ages up to the Industrial Revolution. Your child will make a timeline folder—from William the Conqueror to Queen Victoria—to help them remember the people they have studied. Literature from these times is also studied.

Note: It won't matter if you haven't studied history before. We use a four year cycle and it will come up again.

Australian History – First Contacts

Our world history readings include stories of European world explorers discovering new cultures and new places.

We look at the history of Aboriginal people in central Australia. And conclude the year looking at a story using Sydney Cove as its geographical backdrop.

Note: Year 5 is an intensive look at Australian history following the narrative of Our Sunburnt Country.

Civics and Citizenship

Term One starts a fun hands-on project using our Flags and Emblems lap book.

Governance is also discussed as different models are presented through history including: The Magna Carta, citizenship, monarchies and dictatorships.

Geography

Our geography lessons give an overview of the continents. They exceed the expectations of the Australian Curriculum but they will give your child a good overview of world geography. They examine maps and explore the world's cultural and climatic diversity. They learn mapping skills and familiarise themselves with an atlas.

The idea of "place" is also examined through our built environments project. Local nature study and nature stories continue to develop the skills of observance.

Note: Australia geography as a continent is covered extensively in Year 6.

Science

This year we continue to teach science through nature.

- ❖ Study of a Tree – a guided study on a tree
- ❖ Australian Nature Stories (EP) 6 stories set in the Australian bush.
- ❖ New Zealand Nature Stories (EP) 3 stories from an Australian naturalist about his holiday in New Zealand.

Earth science, physics and chemistry is taught using relevant videos to the Australian Curriculum.

Our Built Environments project studies the architecture and historical features of your local area. We also use some living books and videos to examine Cathedrals and the changing shape of land through development over time.

You also have the option of beginning a science textbook. Suggestions given in the course introduction.

Foreign Language

The influence of history on languages is seen with Latin, French, Celtic and Old English. Our geography lessons include the study of other countries. Additional language lessons can be centered around this period if desired.

Australian Curriculum Language study includes learning about the culture and geography as well as speaking words from that country.

Creative Arts

Creative and Practical Arts are taught with other subjects including: nature journaling, literature based unit studies, picture study and music appreciation.

We include an Aboriginal series on art. It includes nature drawing, painting, mixing colours and collage.

Other opportunities are provided with a range of visual arts such as painting, drawing, craft, pottery, stamping, paper cutting/folding, computer arts (paintbrush, greeting cards etc.).

Dramatic presentations are practiced during poetry recital and acting out of stories.

In your **Art and Music Appreciation Course** (provided when you purchased this course), you have a choice of rotations. Choose one rotation for your family. Some rotations have additional books to purchase.

Information & Technology

Technology is taught in all subjects.

Different software is used in all subjects. i.e. Duo Lingo and Math Online

Science and geography use various measuring tools and websites to obtain relevant information

Digital books are used as a resource in most subjects.

Personal Health & Development

This commonsense subject is taught through the activities of daily living and participation in local sports and community events. A Healthy Conversations checklist is provided so you can teach respectful relationships and personal growth as you deem appropriate.

Note: Whilst some Church history has been studied in Year 4 we have not included a structured devotion time into this course. If this is your practice we encourage you to do so and count it as part of your child's personal development.

What's Included

The following resources are provided in an electronic file format and found in the resource section of your course.

- Year Four Course Introduction
- Year Four Guide: 36 weeks of lesson plans (see below)
- Yearly plan with scope and sequence
- Term reports
- Primary Language Lessons Year 4 – [Sample Lessons](#) & [Table of Content](#)
- Downunder Copywork Book 2 – Foundation Font Cursive
- Aesop's Fables Copywork – Foundation Font Cursive
- Scripture Copywork - Foundation Font Cursive
- [Math Copywork](#) – Times table drill and math words to learn.
- [Australia Flag Lapbook](#) – democracy, and the meaning of our flags and emblems.
- Pleasant Talk of Places – 32 weeks around the 7 continents of the world. [Sample](#)

- Study of a Tree – A focused study using tips from Anna Comstock's *A Handbook of Nature Study*.
- [Australian Nature Stories Collection](#)
- New Zealand Nature Story Collection
- History Timeline Figures with History Folder Instructions
- Healthy Conversations Year 3 to Year 4
- Book Log: Birds or Frogs
- Art and music appreciation resources

The screenshot displays a web application interface for a homeschooling course. The browser address bar shows the URL: <https://homeschoolingdownunder.learnbook.com.au/course/view.php?id=14>. The page is titled "Home / Primary Years / Y2" and includes a "Turn editing on" button in the top right corner.

Learnbook Panel

Michelle Morrow

- Home
- My Dashboard
- Courses
- Calendar
- My Certificates
- My Team
- Administration
- Analytics
- Reporting
- Administration

Before You Start

Your progress

- Course Introduction
- 36weekplan-year2
- Student-RegistrationLearningPlan
- Year2-Scope-Sequence
- Year-2-Resource-checklist

Virtual Cupboard

- History Makers-Year2
- Y2-ancienthistorytimeline-draft
- PoetryforKids-Year2-Classic
- Aesops Fables italics largeprint
- scripture-copywork-italics
- primary-language-lessons-Year2-2017
- Earth-science-conversations
- Australian-Book-Traveller-Earth-Science
- MaryMackillop-lapbook-template pages
- MaryMackillop-teacher-instructions
- Healthy-Conversations-Year F2
- booklogs birds
- booklogs frog

Additional Books and Resources

These items are not provided but are needed for the course. It is estimated these will cost up to \$200. Some will also be found at a local library (*).

- Own choice math curriculum
- [Child's History of the World by Hillyer](#) (also used Year 2 – 4)
- [Random House Book of Poetry for Children: A Treasury of 572 Poems for Today's Child](#) (Used 4 – 6) Note you can choose another poetry book if you have it but this one is beautiful and can be used for 3 years.
- [*Flags and Emblems of Australia by Jill Bruce](#)
- [World Atlas \(Used 2 – 6\)](#)
- [*Wind in the Willows by Kenneth Grahame](#) (Free online version available as an audio book and ebook)
- [Little Pilgrims Progress by Helen Taylor](#)
- [*Walking through the Seasons with Diane Lucas and Ken Searle](#)
- [*My Place by Nadia Wheatley](#)
- [*Papunya School Book of Country and History by Nadia Wheatley](#)
- Stationery supplies.
- Optional Science Textbook

Sample Week One

To receive a [Week One timetable with sample lessons sign up here.](#)

Family Time, Oral Narrations and Read Alouds

- Own Choice scripture and family devotional
- Poetry Reading: The Random House Book of Poetry for Children
- Read Aloud Novel: Wind in the Willows Chapter 1
- Australian Nature Story Collection: The Gallant Gums
- Composer Study: Use My Homeschool rotation
- Picture Study rotation: Use My Homeschool rotation
- Aboriginal Art Lesson: Lesson 1

On Your Own Subjects

- Primary Language Lessons 4 – Week 1
- Handwriting: Downunder Copywork Book 2: p.5 - 7
- Math Copywork: p. 3
- Own Choice Math Curriculum
- Own reader

Map Work and Notebooking Activities

- Civics: Australia Flag Lapbook. You have 3 weeks to complete.
- Pleasant Talk of Places: Lesson 1. Scan the introductory pages of your atlas.

Enrichment Activities

- | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------|
| • Classic Read Aloud | • Music Lesson Practice |
| • Free Reading /library visit | • Listen to term composer |
| • Nature Walk | • Handicrafts |
| • Sports Activity | • Foreign Language Study |