

# The Artios Home Companion Series

## Introduction to Language Arts Curriculum For Parents

### Language Arts Units

This Artios Academies curriculum takes an integrated approach to teaching language arts. All literature selections and writing assignments are designed to integrate directly with the history topics that are being studied in order to maximize both your students' understanding of the time period and their retention of information. While it is written with the student as the audience, it is intended to be used with parental input, feedback, and supervision.

### Notebook

It is highly recommended that your student(s) keep a notebook for their language arts work throughout the year. The notebook can be organized with dividers, and include sections for Author Profiles, Writing Projects, Literary Analyses, and any other areas that you/they may desire. Your students may enjoy decorating covers for their notebooks.

### Literature Selections

The literature selections in this curriculum have been carefully selected and ordered to align with the historical topics that your students are studying simultaneously. It is highly recommended that parents also take time to study the literary works so you can better assess your students' comprehension of the stories. Make time for discussion of some of the themes and ideas that are woven throughout the text. Make sure to ask some questions that have simple, concise answers as well as ones that require some thought. This also makes for a great opportunity to discuss the worldviews represented within each work and to help your students evaluate the truths and fallacies they encounter in different belief systems.

This curriculum does not have vocabulary assignments; however, vocabulary selections are included in the history section of the textbook. A diligent study of vocabulary can improve test scores and writing skills. Encourage your student(s) to become diligent and organized in the study of vocabulary.

The literary works needed for this curriculum are as follows (listed in order of use):

- *The Pilgrim's Progress* by John Bunyan
- *Songs of Innocence and Experience* by William Blake
- "Legend of Sleepy Hollow" by Washington Irving
- *The Autobiography of Benjamin Franklin* by Benjamin Franklin
- *A Tale of Two Cities* by Charles Dickens
- *Frankenstein* by Mary Shelley

### Writing Assignments

The writing assignments provided in this curriculum are designed to meet high school preparatory program standards. They are designed to prepare your students for more rigorous college-level assignments. Our goals are to help students grow in their ease and skill in writing and expose them to a wide variety of writing experiences.

Grading rubrics are also included for assignments to assist parents in evaluating their students' writing. Giving these grading rubrics to students prior to beginning a writing exercise can help them understand what is expected in the assignment; however, it is not necessary that they be used. Other guidelines may be used to help them feel confident in working through an assignment.

Additional literature projects are provided in the online resources. These cross-curricular projects allow students to express themselves creatively in a variety of ways. While it is not necessary to use every assignment listed in the curriculum, it is very helpful to supplement with projects that fit their schedule and interests.

## Website Content

Website resources are provided along with this curriculum for your convenience at your **ArtiosHCS** curriculum website at [www.ArtiosHCS.com](http://www.ArtiosHCS.com). Within the language arts section, you will find:

- **Context Resources** which will help you to extend and enrich your students' understanding of the literature.
- **Resource Pages** which will provide you with extra material you might desire to print and use. Additional literature projects are included within this section, as well as **Formats and Models** which provide examples of types and styles of the writing assignments being explored, including grading rubrics.

*While every attempt has been made to ensure the accuracy and appropriateness of any Internet links provided, please use caution and oversight when allowing your students to access online information. This content will be monitored regularly and updated as necessary.*

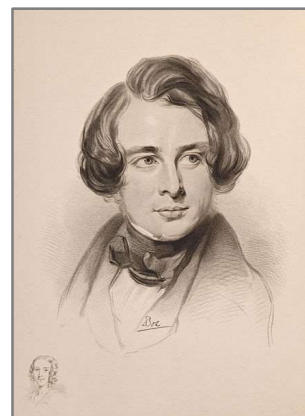
## MEET THE AUTHORS



John Bunyan  
Wikimedia Commons/Public Domain



Washington Irving,  
by John Wesley Jarvis (1809)  
Wikimedia Commons/Public Domain



Sketch of Dickens during  
American Tour,  
by unknown artist (1842)  
Wikimedia Commons/Public Domain



William Blake,  
by Thomas Phillips (1807)  
Wikimedia Commons/Public Domain



Franklin, in his fur hat, charmed  
the French with what they  
perceived as rustic New World  
genius, drawn by C.N. Cochin,  
engraved by A.H. Richie  
Wikimedia Commons/Public Domain



Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley,  
by Richard Rothwell (1840)  
Wikimedia Commons/Public Domain