

# **Dream Big Homeschool : The Wonders of the World: May Curriculum (Ages 2-12)**

## **I. Supplies:**

- **Art Supplies:** Construction paper (various colors), paint, markers, crayons, glue, scissors, clay, modeling dough, recycled materials (boxes, bottles, etc.), materials for model building.
- **Writing Supplies:** Paper, pencils, pens, notebooks, journals, index cards, poster board.
- **Books:** Age-appropriate books about world geography, different cultures, and the wonders of the world (both natural and man-made).
- **Other:** Computer/tablet with internet access, printer (optional), maps, globes, atlases, magnifying glasses, rulers, materials for science experiments, dress-up clothes, music from around the world.

## **II. Weekly Themes:**

- **Week 1:** Natural Wonders of the World
- **Week 2:** Ancient Wonders of the World
- **Week 3:** Modern Wonders of the World
- **Week 4:** Cultural Wonders of the World

## **III. Daily Activities:**

### **Week 1: Natural Wonders of the World**

- **Monday: Introduction to Natural Wonders**
  - **(2-5):**
    - **Activity 1: "Globe Exploration":** Explore a globe and point out different landforms and bodies of water.
    - **Activity 2: "Nature Collection":** Collect natural items from outside (leaves, rocks, etc.) and observe them with magnifying glasses.
  - **(6-9):**
    - **Activity 1: "What are Natural Wonders?":** Discuss what makes a natural wonder (e.g., unique geological formations, diverse ecosystems).
    - **Activity 2: "Mapping Wonders":** Locate major natural wonders on a world map.
  - **(10-12):**
    - **Activity 1: "Research Project":** Choose a natural wonder to research.
    - **Activity 2: "Geological Processes":** Learn about the geological processes that create natural wonders (e.g., erosion, volcanic activity).
- **Tuesday: The Grand Canyon**
  - **(2-5):**
    - **Activity 1: "Sand Art":** Create art using different colors of sand to represent the layers of the Grand Canyon.

- **Activity 2: "Story Time":** Read books or watch videos about the Grand Canyon (age-appropriate).
- **(6-9):**
  - **Activity 1: "Grand Canyon Layers":** Learn about the different rock layers of the Grand Canyon.
  - **Activity 2: "Model Building":** Build a model of the Grand Canyon using clay or other materials.
- **(10-12):**
  - **Activity 1: "Formation of the Grand Canyon":** Research the geological history of the Grand Canyon.
  - **Activity 2: "Environmental Issues":** Discuss the environmental challenges facing the Grand Canyon.
- **Wednesday: The Great Barrier Reef**
  - **(2-5):**
    - **Activity 1: "Ocean Sensory Bin":** Create a sensory bin with water, shells, and toy fish.
    - **Activity 2: "Reef Art":** Create art inspired by the colors and shapes of the Great Barrier Reef.
  - **(6-9):**
    - **Activity 1: "Coral Reef Ecosystems":** Learn about the plants and animals that live in the

## **Great Barrier Reef.**

- **Activity 2: "Reef Model": Build a model of a coral reef.**

- **(10-12):**

- **Activity 1: "Threats to the Reef": Research the threats to the Great Barrier Reef (e.g., climate change, pollution).**
- **Activity 2: "Conservation Efforts": Discuss efforts to protect the Great Barrier Reef.**

- **Thursday: Mount Everest**

- **(2-5):**

- **Activity 1: "Mountain Building": Build a mountain using blocks or clay.**
- **Activity 2: "Animal Adaptations": Learn about animals that live in high-altitude environments.**

- **(6-9):**

- **Activity 1: "Mount Everest Facts": Learn about the geography, climate, and challenges of climbing Mount Everest.**
- **Activity 2: "Create a Timeline": Create a timeline of important expeditions to Mount Everest.**

- **(10-12):**

- **Activity 1: "The Science of Climbing": Research the physiological challenges of climbing**

## **Mount Everest.**

- **Activity 2: "Ethical Considerations":** Debate the ethical considerations of climbing Mount Everest (e.g., environmental impact, risks).
- **Friday: Other Natural Wonders**
  - **(2-5):**
    - **Activity 1: "Virtual Field Trip":** Take a virtual field trip to another natural wonder (e.g., the Amazon Rainforest, the Northern Lights).
    - **Activity 2: "Nature Sounds":** Listen to sounds from different natural environments.
  - **(6-9):**
    - **Activity 1: "Choose Your Wonder":** Each child chooses a natural wonder to research and present to the group.
    - **Activity 2: "Create a Travel Brochure":** Create a travel brochure advertising a natural wonder.
  - **(10-12):**
    - **Activity 1: "Conservation Debate":** Hold a debate about the importance of preserving natural wonders.
    - **Activity 2: "Action Plan":** Develop an action plan for how to help protect natural wonders.

## **Week 2: Ancient Wonders of the World**

- **Monday: Introduction to the Ancient Wonders**

- **(2-5):**
  - **Activity 1: "Building Blocks":** Build structures inspired by ancient architecture (pyramids, etc.) using blocks.
  - **Activity 2: "Story Time":** Read age-appropriate stories about the Ancient Wonders.
- **(6-9):**
  - **Activity 1: "What are the Ancient Wonders?":** Discuss the list of the Seven Ancient Wonders of the World.
  - **Activity 2: "Mapping the Wonders":** Locate the Ancient Wonders on a map.
- **(10-12):**
  - **Activity 1: "Research Project":** Choose an Ancient Wonder to research.
  - **Activity 2: "Timeline Creation":** Create a timeline of when the Ancient Wonders were built and what happened to them.
- **Tuesday: The Great Pyramid of Giza**
  - **(2-5):**
    - **Activity 1: "Pyramid Building":** Build pyramids using different materials (sugar cubes, etc.).
    - **Activity 2: "Egyptian Art":** Create art in the style of ancient Egyptian art.
  - **(6-9):**

- **Activity 1: "Construction of the Pyramid":**  
Learn about how the Great Pyramid was built.
- **Activity 2: "Math Activity":** Do math problems related to the dimensions of the pyramid.
- **(10-12):**
  - **Activity 1: "Theories about the Pyramids":**  
Research different theories about the purpose and construction of the pyramids.
  - **Activity 2: "Debate":** Debate the mystery surrounding the pyramids.
- **Wednesday: The Hanging Gardens of Babylon**
  - **(2-5):**
    - **Activity 1: "Garden Creation":** Create a mini-garden.
    - **Activity 2: "Planting Seeds":** Plant seeds and watch them grow.
  - **(6-9):**
    - **Activity 1: "The Mystery of the Gardens":**  
Discuss the mystery surrounding the Hanging Gardens (whether they actually existed).
    - **Activity 2: "Design a Garden":** Design your own version of the Hanging Gardens.
  - **(10-12):**
    - **Activity 1: "Ancient Babylon":** Research the city of Babylon and its culture.

- **Activity 2: "Historical Evidence":** Analyze the historical evidence for the existence of the Hanging Gardens.
- **Thursday: The Statue of Zeus at Olympia**
  - **(2-5):**
    - **Activity 1: "Clay Sculpting":** Sculpt a simple figure out of clay.
    - **Activity 2: "Greek Myths":** Read Greek myths about Zeus.
  - **(6-9):**
    - **Activity 1: "Greek Sculpture":** Learn about Greek sculpture.
    - **Activity 2: "Art Project":** Create your own sculpture inspired by Greek art.
  - **(10-12):**
    - **Activity 1: "The Olympic Games":** Research the ancient Olympic Games.
    - **Activity 2: "Presentation":** Prepare a presentation about the Statue of Zeus and the Olympic Games.
- **Friday: Other Ancient Wonders**
  - **(2-5):**
    - **Activity 1: "Picture Books":** Look at picture books of the other Ancient Wonders.
    - **Activity 2: "World Music":** Listen to music from the regions where the Ancient Wonders were



located.

- **(6-9):**
  - **Activity 1: "Research Reports":** Write short reports about the remaining Ancient Wonders.
  - **Activity 2: "Create a Board Game":** Create a board game about the Ancient Wonders.
- **(10-12):**
  - **Activity 1: "Preservation Debate":** Debate the importance of preserving ancient ruins.
  - **Activity 2: "Design a Museum Exhibit":** Design a museum exhibit about the Ancient Wonders.

### **Week 3: Modern Wonders of the World**

- **Monday: Introduction to the Modern Wonders**
  - **(2-5):**
    - **Activity 1: "Building with Legos":** Build structures inspired by modern architecture.
    - **Activity 2: "Picture Books":** Look at picture books of the New Seven Wonders of the World.
  - **(6-9):**
    - **Activity 1: "What are the New Seven Wonders?":** Discuss the New Seven Wonders of the World.
    - **Activity 2: "Locate the Wonders":** Locate the New Seven Wonders on a map.
  - **(10-12):**

- **Activity 1: "Research Project": Choose a New Seven Wonder to research.**
- **Activity 2: "Architectural Styles": Learn about different architectural styles.**
- **Tuesday: Chichen Itza**
  - **(2-5):**
    - **Activity 1: "Clay Modeling": Model a pyramid out of clay.**
    - **Activity 2: "Mayan Art": Create art inspired by Mayan art.**
  - **(6-9):**
    - **Activity 1: "Mayan Civilization": Learn about the history and culture of the Mayan civilization.**
    - **Activity 2: "Math Activity": Do math problems related to Mayan calendars and mathematics.**
  - **(10-12):**
    - **Activity 1: "Astronomy and Architecture": Research the connection between Mayan astronomy and architecture.**
    - **Activity 2: "Presentation": Prepare a presentation about Chichen Itza.**
- **Wednesday: Machu Picchu**
  - **(2-5):**
    - **Activity 1: "Mountain Building": Build a mountain landscape using blocks.**

- **Activity 2: "Llama Crafts": Make crafts of llamas.**
- **(6-9):**
  - **Activity 1: "Incan Civilization": Learn about the history and culture of the Incan civilization.**
  - **Activity 2: "Terrace Farming": Learn about terrace farming and create a model of it.**
- **(10-12):**
  - **Activity 1: "Engineering of Machu Picchu": Research the engineering and construction of Machu Picchu.**
  - **Activity 2: "Debate": Debate the theories about why Machu Picchu was built and abandoned.**
- **Thursday: The Colosseum**
  - **(2-5):**
    - **Activity 1: "Building a Colosseum": Build a model of the Colosseum.**
    - **Activity 2: "Roman Dress-Up": Dress up as Romans.**
  - **(6-9):**
    - **Activity 1: "Ancient Rome": Review the history of ancient Rome.**
    - **Activity 2: "Gladiator Games": Learn about gladiator games and put on a (safe) demonstration.**

- **(10-12):**
  - **Activity 1: "Roman Architecture":** Research Roman architecture and engineering.
  - **Activity 2: "Write a Story":** Write a story about a gladiator.
- **Friday: Other Modern Wonders**
  - **(2-5):**
    - **Activity 1: "Virtual Tours":** Take virtual tours of the other New Seven Wonders.
    - **Activity 2: "Music from Around the World":** Listen to music from the countries where the New Seven Wonders are located.
  - **(6-9):**
    - **Activity 1: "Research Reports":** Write short reports about the remaining New Seven Wonders.
    - **Activity 2: "Create a Travel Brochure":** Create a travel brochure about one of the wonders.
  - **(10-12):**
    - **Activity 1: "Modern Engineering":** Discuss the modern engineering and technology used to build these wonders.
    - **Activity 2: "Presentation":** Prepare a presentation comparing and contrasting ancient and modern wonders.

## **Week 4: Cultural Wonders of the World**

- **Monday: Introduction to Cultural Wonders**
  - **(2-5):**
    - **Activity 1: "Dress-Up":** Dress up in clothing from different cultures.
    - **Activity 2: "Music and Dance":** Listen to music and try simple dances from around the world.
  - **(6-9):**
    - **Activity 1: "What are Cultural Wonders?":** Discuss what makes something a cultural wonder (e.g., traditions, art, music, food).
    - **Activity 2: "World Map":** Locate different cultural wonders on a world map.
  - **(10-12):**
    - **Activity 1: "Research Project":** Choose a cultural wonder to research.
    - **Activity 2: "Cultural Exchange":** Discuss the importance of cultural exchange and understanding.
- **Tuesday: Food Wonders**
  - **(2-5):**
    - **Activity 1: "Taste Test":** Try small samples of foods from different cultures.
    - **Activity 2: "Pretend Cooking":** Pretend to cook dishes from around the world.
  - **(6-9):**

- **Activity 1: "Food Around the World":** Learn about staple foods and cooking traditions from different regions.
- **Activity 2: "Recipe Book":** Create a class recipe book with recipes from different cultures.
- **(10-12):**
  - **Activity 1: "The History of Food":** Research the history of specific foods and how they spread around the world.
  - **Activity 2: "Debate":** Debate the impact of globalization on food cultures.
- **Wednesday: Music and Dance Wonders**
  - **(2-5):**
    - **Activity 1: "Instrument Exploration":** Explore simple musical instruments from different cultures.
    - **Activity 2: "Dance Party":** Have a dance party with music from around the world.
  - **(6-9):**
    - **Activity 1: "Musical Instruments":** Learn about traditional musical instruments from different cultures.
    - **Activity 2: "Dance Styles":** Learn about different dance styles from around the world.
  - **(10-12):**

- **Activity 1: "The Evolution of Music":** Research the evolution of music genres and styles.
- **Activity 2: "Create a Performance":** Create a performance showcasing music and dance from different cultures.
- **Thursday: Art and Architecture Wonders**
  - **(2-5):**
    - **Activity 1: "Art Projects":** Create art inspired by different artistic traditions.
    - **Activity 2: "Building Structures":** Build structures inspired by different architectural styles.
  - **(6-9):**
    - **Activity 1: "Art Styles":** Learn about different art styles from around the world.
    - **Activity 2: "Architectural Wonders":** Research famous architectural wonders from different cultures.
  - **(10-12):**
    - **Activity 1: "The Influence of Art":** Discuss how art reflects and influences culture.
    - **Activity 2: "Design a Building":** Design a building that blends different architectural styles.
- **Friday: Storytelling and Literature Wonders**
  - **(2-5):**

- **Activity 1: "Folktales":** Read folktales from around the world.
- **Activity 2: "Puppet Show":** Put on a puppet show based on a folktale.
- **(6-9):**
  - **Activity 1: "Storytelling Traditions":** Learn about different storytelling traditions.
  - **Activity 2: "Write a Story":** Write your own story inspired by a cultural tradition.
- **(10-12):**
  - **Activity 1: "World Literature":** Explore examples of world literature.
  - **Activity 2: "Create a Cultural Festival":** Plan a cultural festival showcasing the wonders of the world.