

TEACHER'S NOTES

a Guide for Lessons.



To accompany

The Burgess Bird Book for Children

by
Thornton W. Burgess
Published by Dover

By
Lisa M. Eveland

Other publications by Real Living Life

First Reading Lessons
Living Geography
Daily Thoughts on Ourselves
Teacher's Notes for Benjamin Franklin

Teacher's Notes for Fifty Famous Stories Retold
Teacher's Notes for The Fourth of July Story



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Preface



Burgess' Bird Book has been a regular throughout my children's home learning. While I read this book aloud, along the way, I took notes to be better prepared for the next child as I used this book for our home learning. Eventually, I found a rhythm with the amount to cover for each lesson and resources to aid in introducing the birds to my children.

Keeping in mind Charlotte Mason's short lessons, I adjusted the lessons for one bird per lesson. I found over years of using this book, that reading a whole chapter proved to be too long and too much to narrate. It is challenging enough to narrate a single bird- two birds was too much and the lessons contained too much information. In these Teacher's Notes, the chapters are broken down listing the pages to be read along with the start and ending words for each section to be read. I use the Dover edition. But any edition can be used with the start and end words given.

With technology my lessons now present the stories from this 1919 published book with a modern enhancement. Using Cornell University's All About Birds site, we now see the birds in color pictures as well as hear their calls, watch videos of the birds in flight and form, note where the birds are found on maps, along with other information of interest.

Each lesson also contains a Bible passage relating to birds. There are many tender verses that point to the character of God and His care for His creatures. These are meant to enhance the lessons, making the passage so familiar, it will enter the student's hearts.

Thornton Burgess' Bird Book is one of the best ways to begin an adventure building a relationship with the beautiful, soul enriching world of birds.

L.

M. E.

How to Use the Teacher's Notes



Lesson organization

These lessons are modelled after other Real Living Life curriculum. They are in an open and go format. The pages for reading are given with thought to growing the habit of attention as well as encompassing the natural flow and breaks within the story itself.

Narration, as always, in a Charlotte Mason Education is key. Another component that should not be neglected is outside Nature Walks and by-the-way noticing birds. This fosters building a true relationship with birds and in the end leads a student to care about these feathered creatures and the world in which they live.

The Bible passages given are repeated over a 5 lesson period. You can use the Bible passages in two ways. One way to use them is to aim to make the student very familiar with the passage. Another way is to encourage memorization of the passage- though some are fairly lengthy. Charlotte used both of these methods – familiarization and memorization. Either way, keep the goal in mind, - to point to God's care of his Creation and His character.

Resources needed

To use the links, a computer with internet access is needed.



Lesson 1. House Wren.

□ Talk a Little.

The Burgess Bird Book Introduction

What creature is it that can move all about our world without regard for fences or fences or streets? Anywhere they want to go they can – you can find them in the middle of a city or out in a pasture. Their pleasant little sounds might wake you up in the morning and put you to bed on a summer's night. And this creature is care for even by God himself.

Yes, birds. This is what our new book is about.

Verse

Matthew 6:26

Look at the birds of the air, that they do not sow, nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not worth much more than they?

Today

The birds are starting to arrive after their winter in the warmer south. We start off this book about birds with a snippy-snappy little bird who tells her friend Peter Rabbit just what she thinks.

□ Read.

Chapter 1. p.1—5

□ Narrate.

□ Amplify.

Show.

> Jenny Wren. House Wren.

https://www.allaboutbirds.org/guide/House_Wren/#

Lesson 2. House Sparrow.

□ Talk a Little.

Last Lesson

What did you think of the snappy little bird named Jenny?

What is one thing that you remember about how she looks?

Verse

Matthew 6:26

Look at the birds of the air, that they do not sow, nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not worth much more than they?

Today

*Note: Today's story uses a word that, in prior generations, was not considered vulgar, but in today's world it might be offensive to use. Give thought before reading the word, which is easily changed to read as 'kitty'.

A bully comes to the Old Orchard. But when a bigger enemy comes, an enemy of ALL birds, Bully the English Sparrow proves to be a good asset.

Read.

Chapter 2. p.6—9

Narrate.

Amplify.

Show.

> Bully the English Sparrow. House Sparrow.

https://www.allaboutbirds.org/guide/House_Sparrow/

Lesson 3. Song Sparrow.

Talk a Little.

Last Lesson

Although the House Sparrow is sometimes unfriendly and wants to fight, when there is danger there is no bird braver.

Verse

Matthew 6:26

Look at the birds of the air, that they do not sow, nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not worth much more than they?

Today

Things calm down in the Old Orchard. And a new little friend comes. He is a cousin to Bully, but all the birds seem to like him more than Bully. We'll find out why everyone loves him so.

Read.

Chapter 3. p.10—13 I don't know of anyone that we miss more than we do them.

Narrate.

Amplify.

Show.

> Little Friend. Song Sparrow.

https://www.allaboutbirds.org/guide/Song_Sparrow/