

KINDRED LEARNING

VENDOR WORKSHOP

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What is it?

The Four Year Plan is a simple rotation design that weaves together the areas of parental responsibility for teaching an LDS family. The Four Year Plan is presented in four books that are reused every four years; each contains thematic units for one year and bonus information for better parenting.

Four Year Plan Chart

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4
History	Ancient World	Modern World	Geography	U.S.
English	Foundations	Family and Personal History	Communications	Analysis and Opinion
Science	Chemistry	Biology	Earth	Physics
Scriptures	Old Testament, Pearl of Great Price	New Testament	Book of Mormon	Doctrine and Covenants
Life Skills	Arts	Sewing	Cooking	Self-reliance
Family Focus	Family Choice - Service, Getting Organized, Etc.	Genealogy	Missionary Work	Emergency Preparedness

The Four Year Plan is an **academic curriculum cycle** that rotates through four years of history to provide the themes and the seasons for teaching “everything”. Four English and science years are woven with the history. A family-oriented design fosters simplicity and unity through study of the same topics at different levels of ability, from pre-school through college.

The Four Year Plan makes a place for more effective teaching of **Church doctrine and values** through integrating scripture study of the standard works and comprehensive coverage of gospel principles with the historical themes. Monthly outlines provide daily scripture reading recommendations from the seminary reading schedule and one *Gospel Principles* lesson topic for each month.

The Four Year Plan incorporates the teaching of important **life skills** to both boys and girls. Monthly outlines also divide the Scout merit badges among the four years and recommend them to dovetail with the themes.

The historical themes of the Four Year Plan are ideally suited to a yearly **family focus** from the three-fold mission of the Church. This simple structure makes it possible to put into action the principles that we hold dear.

How does it work?

The Four Year Plan gives families the **choice** to supplement their children's school experience or to design their own, personal family curriculum to keep their children home. Some families use the Four Year Plan to create a neighborhood pre-school group or a nine-week summer program. Many families use the Four Year Plan at home and send their children part-time to their local schools or community colleges, choosing classes that are related to the family's themes for the year. Every family loves the Four Year Plan as a family home evening resource and a Scouting guide. The Four Year Plan is designed to be thematic and flexible, allowing families to choose for themselves how much they incorporate into their personal family education plan. The four years in the Four Year Plan are also designed to be independent; they can be used in any order. We recommend using them to match the current seminary course of study.

Each year is organized into **monthly, thematic units** that emphasize reading, writing, and hands-on experiences that effectively reach every kind of learner.

Monthly history outlines provide recommendations for texts to read with weekly page assignments. Related projects, videos, field trips, and party ideas are suggested. Specific ideas for activities related to the recommended life skills and family focus are also included. Monthly comment pages offer project instructions, recipes, and personal experiences.

Monthly English outlines provide recommendations for quality, classic literature to read at multiple reading levels - pre-reader, grade school, middle school, and some high school/college level. The literature choices are related to the same theme, and related writing suggestions are outlined. Monthly comment pages offer page numbers from references for background information, as well as project instructions, recipes, and personal experiences.

Monthly science outlines provide recommendations for texts to read with weekly page assignments. Favorite laboratory experiments are recommended, along with specific directions or sources for directions. Personal experiences are included with the lab descriptions.

The Four Year Plan creates a foundation the first time through the cycle then adds depth, breadth, and excellence with each rotation. It provides the flexibility to emphasize different areas each time. Families can realize savings in time by reusing their preparations every four years, as well as savings in money by reusing materials.

Teri Ebert has been homeschooling her 7 children for 18 years. She is the founder of Kindred Learning, an educational resource company and is the designer of the Four Year Plan.