

Memorial Day



Amanda Bennett

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***This book is dedicated to
those who have risked and
sacrificed everything for the
life, liberty, and pursuit of
happiness that all
Americans enjoy.***



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UNIT STUDIES -- THE EASY WAY!

Welcome to Amanda Bennett's easy-to-use unit studies written in a cross-curricular approach about many interesting and important topics. Using simplicity and readily-available resources to enhance the learning process, your children can learn about these topics in ways never before possible. Unit studies allow students to use a natural learning process -- one that is so familiar to us as we become adults, and yet is far removed from textbooks, which are full of concentrated and condensed facts and figures.

Using these studies, your children will learn about a particular topic, covering the science, history, geography, art, and any other areas of study that apply to the topic. For example, while working on the **Patriotic Holidays** studies, your children will investigate the history of America, its amazing Founding Fathers and the brave people that took up the cause to win our freedom. They will learn about our country's brave soldiers that have defended American freedoms over the centuries, and how to honor their bravery and sacrifice.

These unit studies make learning a fascinating and thought-provoking adventure, which is the way that learning SHOULD be -- life-long learners are successful, inquisitive, and engaging, contributing so much to our world. Let's face it -- many people would love to give up their dry and fact-filled textbooks to try unit studies, but don't have the time to do the research and/or preparation or the confidence to try a new method of learning.

I understand these problems and hesitations all too well. As we considered educating our own children using unit studies, we had the same questions. Where do we begin, how do I structure the study, what do I cover, how do I record the work? This series of books is a product of this adventure -- designed to make your path simpler and your load lighter, while guiding your students along a successful road of learning.

Written with you and your family in mind, you will know what to do each day; what to cover; and what is important to study about America's patriotic holidays. The research and preparation have been done for you. The daily plan and assignments are here, ready for immediate use. You will find that this guide uses the Internet as a primary resource. This has been done for many reasons, among which include the wealth of information now available online for in-depth studies, the ease of accessing this information for most parents and teachers, as well as the fact that it is affordable and much simpler to use than numerous trips to the library or bookstore.

Designed for all ages from early elementary through adult, each day has a basic structured learning plan for Elementary Grades (**Lower Level**) and one for Jr./Sr. High Grades (**Upper Level**). Depending on the ages and needs of your children, you can choose to use all or just a few of the daily assignments. For example, a six-year-old student might be assigned only one or two spelling words and perhaps just one of the Read and Discover questions, while a ten-year-old student might do most of the Lower Level assignments for each day. The same holds true for Jr./Sr. High school students. While most high school juniors or seniors should be able to complete all of the daily assignments on the Upper Level, a fourteen year old might not be ready to handle that much work in a day. Use these lessons as a tool, and customize them to fit your family and your children's needs. What doesn't get completed this year can be left for further study next year.

The Daily Learning Plan is comprised of the following basic components:

- **Today's Passage** -- to be read, copied, and perhaps even memorized.
- **Words of Wisdom (WOW)** -- spelling/vocabulary words and their definitions to be written, studied, and learned.
- **Patriots** -- Important American patriots will be investigated during the study.
- **Read and Discover** -- questions that must be researched and answered as each topic is explored.

Memorial Day – Day One

LOWER LEVEL

Today's Quote

Copy today's quote into your **Patriotic Journal**:

“I only regret that I have but one life to lose for my country.”

Nathan Hale, 1776, right before his execution

Words of Wisdom (WOW Words)

Look up the following words in the dictionary and write the words and their definitions in your **Patriotic Journal**. **Website suggestions:** [Webster's 1828 Dictionary](#) and [Word Central](#)

soldier
defend
honor
patriot

Patriots

Using an encyclopedia or Internet site, look up the American patriot, **Nathan Hale**. Why is he considered an American patriot? Write or narrate a paragraph about Nathan Hale for your Patriotic Journal. **Website suggestions:** [Nathan Hale's Biography](#), [Nathan Hale](#), and [One of America's First Spies](#)

Read and Discover

Look up **Memorial Day** in an encyclopedia, book, or Internet site, then answer these questions. **Website suggestion:** [Origins of Memorial Day](#)

1. Read and discuss the beginnings of this holiday. Notice that the holiday was originally called Decoration Day. Why?
2. There are many towns & people that claim to have started the tradition — which one was given “official credit” for being the first?
3. Did you read about the first “official” Memorial Day? Where and when was it held?

Resources

Here are a few books that explain Memorial Day and its origins. Check with your local library to see what is available in your area. They are all very basic, explaining the origins of Memorial Day and today's holiday.

[Memorial Day \(Carolrhoda on My Own Books\)](#), by Geoffrey Scott.

[Memorial Day \(National Holidays\)](#), by Helen Frost.



Memorial Day – Day One

UPPER LEVEL

Today's Quote

Copy today's quote into your Patriotic Journal:

**“Stand your ground. Don't fire unless fired upon;
but if they mean to have a war, let it begin here!”**

John Parker, April 19, 1775, to his Minute Men at Lexington

Words of Wisdom (WOW Words)

Look up the following words in the dictionary and write the words and their definitions in your Patriotic Journal. **Website suggestions:** [Webster's 1828 Dictionary](#) and [Dictionary.com](#)

**sacrifice
liberty
protect
patriot**

Patriots

Using an encyclopedia or Internet site, look up the American patriot, **Nathan Hale**. Why is he considered an American patriot? Summarize your answer in a paragraph in your Journal. **Website suggestions:** [A Time for Heroes](#), [Nathan Hale's Biography](#), [Nathan Hale](#), and [One of America's First Spies](#)

Read and Discover

Using library books, encyclopedias, or Internet sites, find the answer to these questions and record your answers in your Journal, along with the source of your information (book, encyclopedia, web site). **Website suggestions:** [Origins of Memorial Day](#), [Memorial Day](#), [History of Memorial Day](#), and [Memorial Day](#)

1. What towns or people claim to have held the “first” Decoration (Memorial) Day? Find at least two towns and describe their claim.
2. Why was the holiday originally called Decoration Day?
3. Where and when was the first “official” Memorial Day observation held?



MEMORIAL DAY SALUTE

Handwriting practice lines consisting of solid top and bottom lines with a dashed midline. There are ten sets of these lines arranged vertically down the page.