

**GEOGRAPHY & HISTORY***Madame Montessori,*

*Even as you, out of love for children, are endeavoring to teach children, through your numerous institutions, the best that can be brought out of them, even so, I hope that it will be possible not only for the children of the wealthy and the well-to-do, but for the children of paupers to receive training of this nature. You have very truly remarked that if we are to reach real peace in this world, and if we are to carry on a real*

*war against war, we shall have to begin with children, and if they will grow up in their natural innocence, we won't have to struggle, we won't have to pass fruitless idle resolutions, but we shall go from love to love and peace to peace, until at last all the corners of the world are covered with that peace and love for which, consciously or unconsciously, the whole world is hungering.*

— M. K. Gandhi, 1943

Today our world is shrinking and we have finally learned to cherish diversity—

economic, racial, all kinds—to prepare children for living in the real world. Gandhi's desire is coming to pass.

There is also an increasing awareness of the importance of teaching students the value of helping others. This is an important element in the child's worldview, and in developing a concern for people all over the world, and people of all parts of society.

**TEACHING GEOGRAPHY**

We are very fortunate in the United States to be living in a melting pot of cultures. Even the Native Americans

**GEOGRAPHY & HISTORY CURRICULUM FOR THE 3-6 CHILD**

See page 84 for more information  
GB72 \$5.00

**PEOPLE**

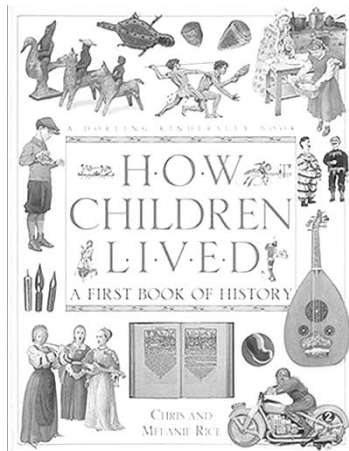
This has been a classic in homes and schools for years. Peter Spier, the author, is from Holland where he attended Montessori schools as a boy. In his book are many things a child enjoys learning about, such as the food, clothing, languages, religions, and homes, of people all over the world. A sense of humor shines through this book, both in the illustrations and in the subject matter—in the drawings of the differences of people's noses! Our family checked this out of the library many times over the years before we finally bought our own copy. Hard and softcover, 9 x 13", color, 32 pages.

DB05 Softcover \$12.95  
DB04 Hardcover \$17.95

**HOW CHILDREN LIVED  
- A FIRST BOOK OF HISTORY**

How wonderful to see history from a child's perspective! An introduction to clothing, foods, houses, transportation, games and more. In *How Children Lived* one enters the lives of 16 children living in times past: from Hori, a trainee scribe in ancient Egypt, to Jack, the son of an American drugstore owner in the 1920's, and Greece, China, Rome, Viking Norway, Mali Africa, Aztec Mexico, Moghul India, Tokugawa Japan, the Australian Desert, the Native American Plains, and more. Beautifully detailed illustrations conjure up the fascinating worlds in which these children lived, and photographs of historical artifacts show the real objects they would have used.

Softcover, 9.5" x 12.5" color, 45 pages.  
DH330 \$8.00

**CHILDREN JUST LIKE ME****A CELEBRATION OF CHILDREN AROUND THE WORLD**

This book was produced in association with UNICEF

to mark its 50th anniversary. It is based on personal interviews with children all over the world, and illustrated with photographs of these children, their signatures, families, pets, toys, belongings, schools, homes, and so forth. In the front of the book there is a place for a photo of the child who owns this book. All of the continents are represented. This is an important book for any classroom and home. Hardcover, 12.5" x 9.5", color, 80 pages.

DG030



\$20.00

**TO EVERYTHING THERE IS A SEASON**

This beautiful art/poetry book illustrates, with art from Ireland, Egypt, Japan, Mexico, Greece, India, Europe, N. America, Ethiopia, Thailand, China, Russia, Australia, the Far North, and the Middle East, a simple poem from the Bible: time to be born, to die, to plant and reap, to weep and laugh, to mourn and to dance, to keep silence and to speak, more. Three pages at the end give details of the art. Hardcover, color, 10" x 10" 36 pages.

DL090

\$18.99



came from somewhere else. This wonderful living lesson in geography teaches us that the main difference between us is *when* we came to our country and *why*.

The study of geography and of history revolves around the needs of all humans for such basic things as food, housing, a means of transportation, clothing, and the mental and spiritual needs for work, play, and worship. In the early years children are given concrete examples, stories and pictures of people all over the world, in order to build a foundation in geography and history.

The first lessons center around how people have developed a culture because of the place where they live. How and why are the people living north of the Arctic Circle different from those living near the equator? This attitude provides a healthy, non-judgmental, non-ethnocentric, non-nationalistic, basis of exploration of peoples of the world.

The seeds of the study of history are given through experiences of ethnic foods and music, objects, pictures, and books. Later children will build on the impressions taken in during this time of the *absorbent mind*, the age when they

literally become all of the impressions taken in from the environment, to make sense of the history of the world.

### Globes, Maps, and Flags

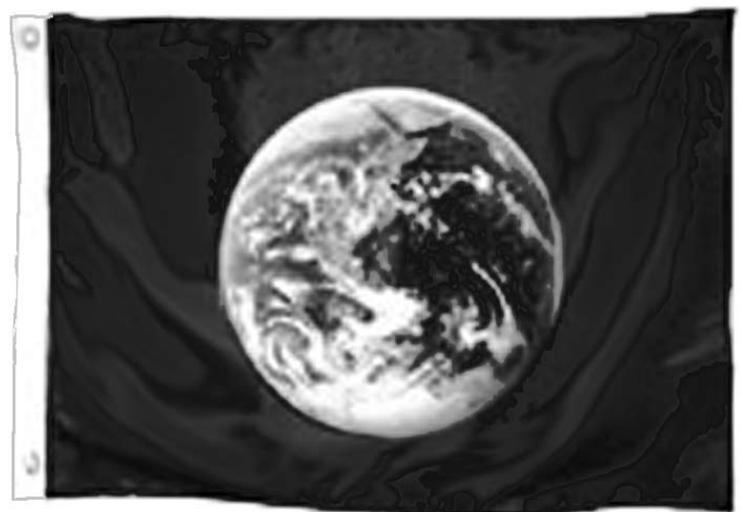
The more easily available a globe and map is to a child, the more often it will be referred to and the more geography will be learned in a very simple and enjoyable way. In providing experiences for the child we move from the general view to the specific—from the whole earth to continents to countries to counties, then towns and neighborhoods.

### THE GIFT

A MAGICAL STORY ABOUT CARING FOR THE EARTH

We were introduced to this charming book by a local teacher and we agree with her enthusiasm about it. Lovely pictures illustrate this favorite children's tale about the importance of using nature's gifts wisely and altruistically, so that these precious resources will still be available to share in the future. Hardcover, color, 8" x 8" 28 pages.

DG010 \$14.95



### WONDERS OF THE WORLD—FANDEX

At age 3-6 children enjoy learning the names of countries and cities around the world. The colored pictures of these architectural wonders from around the world will provide a visual link to these places. A very good variety is included, such as: Taj Mahal in India, the pyramids of Egypt, Angkor in Cambodia, Machu Picchu in Peru, the Great Wall of China, the Potala Palace in Tibet, Red Square in Russia, the skyscrapers of New York, and even the international space station! Older children will be interested in the history, such as the fact that the bridges and canals of historic Amsterdam actually connect ninety man-made islands. 4,500 years of world history are touched upon.

There are 46 flash cards, 10.5" long.

(\* DG100 \$9.95

### EARTH FLAG

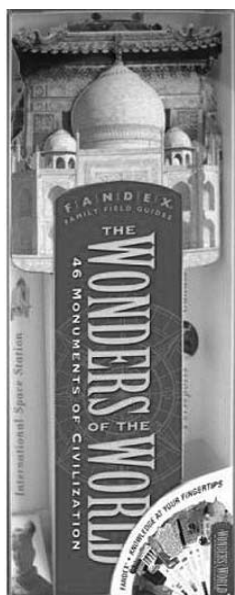
The earth flag we have chosen to carry is small enough for the children's room or the classroom, 16" x 28", lightweight and can be hung up inside or outside. It is often used in the classroom, hanging on the wall above the geography materials and other puzzle maps. The image is an official NASA photograph of our planet as seen from space. This flag makes the important statement that we are all part of a large community. As Dr. Montessori said, *I live in space. My home is a sphere that moves around the sun. It is called Earth.* The flag is printed on dark blue double-stitched polyester fabric with two brass grommets on the side for hanging.

DE470 \$15.00

### TEACHING PEACE—BOOK AND CD

Several schools have given music programs for the parents with these songs because they are so well loved. These original catchy songs break down the somewhat vague idea of "world peace" into practical, loving examples. One example, which children love to memorize, is a musical list of countries. On the CD the songs are recorded with the lyrics, and then just the music—for the children to sing along. The Song Book/Teacher's guide contains all of the lyrics and some creative ideas. Ringbound, 9" x 11.5", black and white, 90 pages.

DM709 \$35.00



I remember one day my oldest daughter, then age three and recently having begun attending a Montessori school, was watching me, along with some of her older friends (ages six and eight), pour some beaten eggs into a skillet. She said "That looks like Africa!" One of the children who were with her asked, "What is Africa?" to which Narda replied "It is a continent." The other friend asked her what a continent was and Narda said, with a little bit of exasperation "Come with me."

She then got out the globe and sat the older girls down for a very enjoyable

lesson on the names of the continents and countries of the world. There is no reason to put off geographical studies until later grades. Children want to have an idea of where they live on a globe of Earth at very young ages.

Since this is the time when children love to do puzzles, and to know the names of everything in the environment, we follow the children's interests by offering puzzles of real value. Puzzle maps have been used in 3-6 classes for many years. Children easily "absorb" and memorize the relative sizes, the shapes, the location of continents and countries of

the world in this motor-sensorial time of life. They delight in learning the names of every country and capital, the states, the rivers and mountains. These impressions are likely to stay with them forever.

We also give national songs, dances, instrumental music, costumes, pictures of state birds, flowers, flags, architecture, inventions, and adults and children carrying out the many aspects of life. We are very careful not to give the impression that any culture is superior in any way to any other. Each culture has its own strengths and weaknesses, its own gifts to the whole.



#### THE UNITED NATIONS FLAGS

A young child forms a first image of a country by means of pictures, puzzle map pieces, postcards, music, and flags. For the older child the flag becomes a symbol of people joined together in community—an important concept. Children learn much about the world from studies of flags and how they came to be the way they are. This up-to-date set contains the flags of 192 countries of North and South America, Africa, Asia, Europe and Australia. Each flag staff is 10" tall with a gold spearhead at the top. The flags are 4" x 6", of silky rayon

or polyester, colored in brilliant, true color with fine attention to detail. They may be ordered as a set of flags alone or with the large base.

**DG32 Set /191 United Nation Flags \$325.00**

#### WOODEN FLAG BASES, AND COMPLETE SET OF LARGE BASE AND FLAGS

These beautiful natural hardwood flag bases are hand cut, joined and beautifully finished by a local designer of fine furniture. The *Large Base*, seen in the picture above, holds 192 flags for a beautiful display. There are 197 holes to make room for future flags. The total length of the three sections is nine feet, nine inches! The three sections can be used separately, putting out just one section at a time, or sharing the flags between classes. The *Small Base*, seen below, is 11" long base and made of the same beautiful wood and craftsmanship. It is useful for the home, or a school just starting out. It displays 10 flags.

The *Large Base Set with Flags*, contains the 3-part base and all of 192 the flags.

**DG33 Large Flag Base \$145.00**  
**DG357 Small Flag Base \$22.00**  
**DG34 Large Base Set with Flags \$465.00**

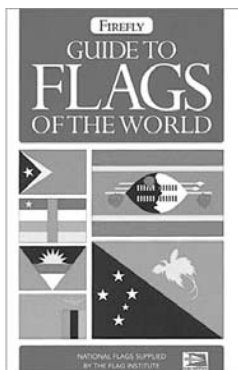


#### FLAGS STICKER BOOK

We recommend this book for the classroom because it contains one each of 200 country flags, including the national flag of

every country in the world—excellent for matching to map puzzle pieces or for use as vocabulary cards (buy two books if you want two of each sticker for making matching, or 3-part reading cards). The stickers are 1.5" x 1.75". This can of course also be used as a child's sticker book.

**DG035 \$8.99**



#### GUIDE TO FLAGS OF THE WORLD

At this age children are interested in the colors and symbols of flags, and in the fact that they match the countries and states they are learning about with puzzle maps. This book gives just the bits of information they want to have. For example the blue and white flag of Finland stands for the white of the snow and the blue of the lakes. More than 300 flags from around the world are listed, in alphabetical order! Also listed are state and provincial flags. This will be a valuable resource for children of all ages, and adults. Softcover, 5" x 8", full color, 222 pages.

**DH500 \$14.95**



Flags of the world have a special attraction to children. Ideally every classroom has a set of the flags of the world.

A child might come in one morning with a story about India. She will gather all of the objects related to India in the classroom—a folder of pictures of Asia, the map of Asia with the puzzle piece of India, maybe a brass pitcher or statue from India, the flag of India, and so on. Often other children will join in the search, and maybe remind her of a song or poem from this country.

### TEACHING HISTORY

In the "Age 3-6 Earth" section you will find materials for teaching the concepts of solar system, constellations, and *physical geography* that will eventually come together with experiences of *cultural geography* to give the child an excellent foundation for later studies of these subjects.

Biographies of famous and not-famous people are important pieces of the puzzle which will create the child's ultimate understanding of the history of the world. The adult begins this with

stories about herself. One story I told over and over was about the experience of getting up one morning, going through the living room to fix breakfast and seeing our horse staring in the living room window at me. That's all, no plot, just a true experience, and the children loved it.

The mental construction of geography and history will come together in a different way for each child. It is our responsibility to arrange for many varied and interesting experiences that inspire the child to want to know more.

### AMERICAN INDIANS—FANDEX

The history of America begins long before the Europeans arrived. At age 3-6 children enjoy learning the names of these fifty major tribes that settled North America.

This will lay the foundation for the study in the 6-12 age of the geographical origins, myths and religious beliefs, history, culture, arts, customs and contemporary issues of these peoples. The text is written by a former director at the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of the American Indian. There are 46 flash cards, 10.5" long.

(\*) **DH300** **\$10.95**

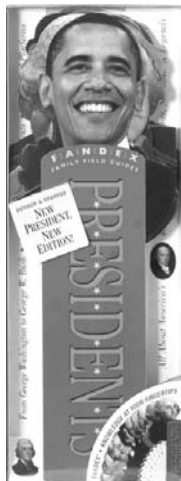


### PRESIDENTS—FANDEX

There has been a world-wide interest in the election of President Barack Obama; this is a good time to offer young children pictures of all 44 of the presidents of the USA. They will enjoy learning the names and the faces at this absorbent mind period of life.

For the older child, who is interested in creating a *timeline* of the history of the USA, valuable information inspires research to answer questions: Who was in office during the Teapot scandal? Which President won a Nobel Peace Prize? And who endured the childhood nickname *Useless*? And much more. There are 50 individually die-cut cards, full-color flash cards, 10.5" long.

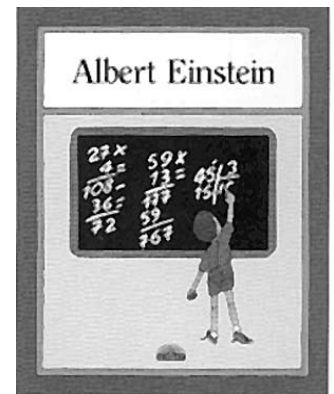
(\*) **DH310** **\$10.95**



### ALBERT EINSTEIN—AS A CHILD

This book is without a doubt among the best first biography books for children we have seen. It gives a picture of Einstein as a child, with idiosyncrasies common to many children, which in each case led to a very creative adult recognized by the world as a very great person. The pictures are delightful, one large illustration and a few sentences on each page. The text and the illustration are charming and humorous and enjoyed by children and adults alike. It is also good as an early reader. There is a subtle message for us adults: The one thing Einstein as a child had in his environment was time—time to himself to contemplate and to think and to create according to his own interests. 7.5" x 10," Softcover, color, 32 pages.

**DH09** **\$6.95**



### LARGE UNITED STATES WOODEN PUZZLE MAP

These beautiful USA puzzle maps invite children—and adults—to touch, to play, to learn about the names and placement of the states in a very enjoyable way. We first saw one many years ago, on the coffee table in the beautiful living room of artist friends, and set out to find it for you.

The *wood-tones puzzle map* is stained shades of brown and gray, and the *colored puzzle map* is stained lovely shades of the primary and secondary colors—red, orange, yellow, green, blue and purple.

Each puzzle map is individually handcrafted, and made from sustainable forest wood, with all nontoxic stains and finishes. Aside from being works of art, the puzzle maps are educational, teaching the shape and placement of the states, and teaching the names of the states, which are painted underneath each piece, and the capitals, which are printed on the back of each piece. the dimensions are 15" x 24".

**DG06 Colored Puzzle Map \$52.00**

**DG070 Wood-Tone Puzzle Map \$52.00**

