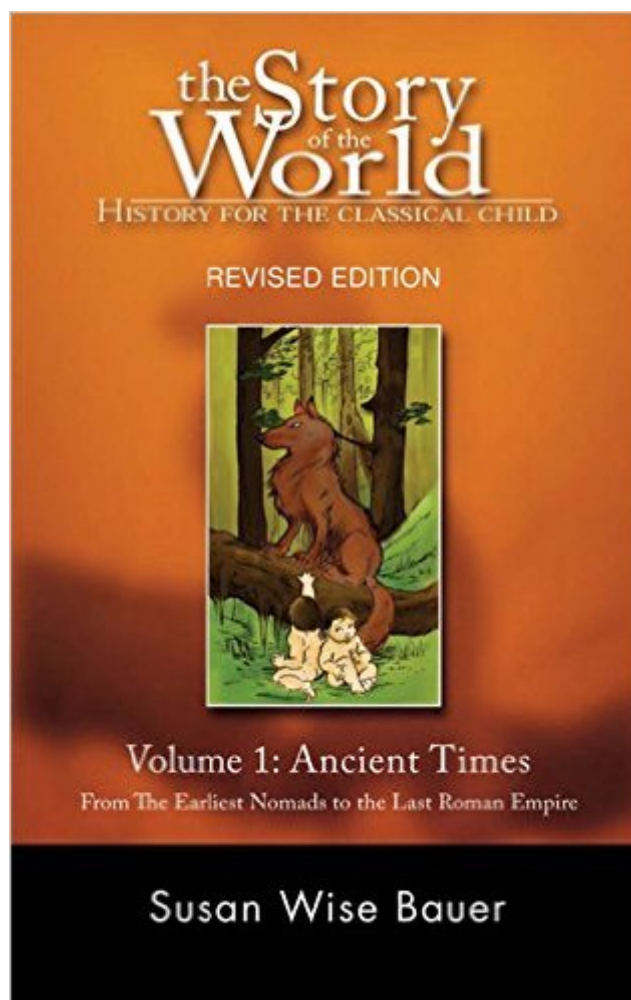




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# **The Story Of The World: History For The Classical Child: Volume 1: Ancient Times: From The Earliest Nomads To The Last Roman Emperor, Revised Edition**





## Synopsis

This first book in the four-volume narrative history series for elementary students will transform your study of history. The Story of the World has won awards from numerous homeschooling magazines and readers' polls—cover 150,000 copies of the series in print! What terrible secret was buried in Shi Huangdi's tomb? Did nomads like lizard stew? What happened to Anansi the Spider in the Village of the Plantains? And how did a six-year-old become the last emperor of Rome? Told in a straightforward, engaging style that has become Susan Wise Bauer's trademark, The Story of the World series covers the sweep of human history from ancient times until the present. Africa, China, Europe, the Americas—find out what happened all around the world in long-ago times. This first revised volume begins with the earliest nomads and ends with the last Roman emperor. Newly revised and updated, The Story of the World, Volume 1 includes maps, a new timeline, more illustrations, and additional parental aids. This read-aloud series is designed for parents to share with elementary-school children. Enjoy it together and introduce your child to the marvelous story of the world's civilizations. Each Story of the World volume provides a full year of history study when combined with the Activity Book, Audiobook, and Tests—each available separately to accompany each volume of The Story of the World Text Book. Volume 1 Grade Recommendation: Grades 1-5. Illustrated throughout with black-and-white drawings and maps

## Book Information

Paperback: 338 pages

Publisher: The Well-Trained Mind Press; 2 edition (April 17, 2006)

Language: English

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Product Dimensions: 5.3 x 1 x 8.3 inches

Shipping Weight: 1 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars 513 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #2,132 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #2 in [Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > History > Ancient](#) #3 in [Books > History > Ancient Civilizations](#) #3 in [Books > Education & Teaching > Schools & Teaching > Instruction Methods > Social Studies](#)

Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 1 - 6

## Customer Reviews

“This may well be the best multi-age read aloud narrative of world history yet to have been written.” - Homeschooling in Japan

Susan Wise Bauer is a writer, teacher, and historian. Her books include *The Story of Science: From the Writings of Aristotle to the Big Bang Theory*, *The Well-Trained Mind: A Guide to Classical Education at Home*, *The Well-Educated Mind: A Guide to the Classical Education You Never Had*, the *History of the World* series (W. W. Norton) and the *Story of the World* series (Well-Trained Mind Press). She has a Ph.D. in American Studies from the College of William & Mary in Virginia, as well as an M.A. in seventeenth-century literature and a Master of Divinity in Ancient Near Eastern Languages and Literature. For fifteen years, she taught literature and composition at the College of William and Mary. She lives in Virginia.

I read a lot of the reviews on this book - especially the negative reviews - and had to write my own because I think there are many ways to approach this book series. This is our first year homeschooling our 4th grade daughter and we met and grilled many of the homeschool mothers in our area on their system of teaching. One of them recommended the Wise/Bauer book "The Well-Trained Mind" which seemed to be a very good fit for both my teaching style and our daughter's learning style. "The Well-Trained Mind" recommends, of course, this series of books for teaching history. But what a lot of people are missing, I think, is that Volume 1 is meant for 1st grade, Volume 2 for 2nd grade, etc. These 4 volumes are also meant to be the first of 3 levels of teaching history as the child goes through his/her 12 years of education. In other words, these four volumes are laying the groundwork for what's to come. It's not a be-all end-all history course. The reason my approach is different is because I'm using this series of books to catch my daughter up to where a well-educated child should be by the 4th grade. Up through to the end of 3rd grade in the public school system, the only exposure she'd had to history is to the timespan just before and just after the American revolutionary war. So we had a lot of ground to cover. But I didn't want it to turn into a grind for her, so I took the authors' intentions to heart and I'm using this series to form a groundwork for a basic understanding of history. So what I'm doing is covering all four volumes in 1 year. That works out to a little over 2 months per volume or 4 chapters (for Volume 1) per week. I skipped the activity book but did buy the workbook with the quizzes. We've read to our daughter since she was a baby and she still loves to be read to, so for the 1-hour class (which I hold twice a week) I read 2 chapters to her, discussing what we're reading as I go along. She loves it and the book is easy to read from. Before class starts, I give her 2 quizzes from the 2 chapters read in the

previous class. She gets about as many questions right as I would and it's just to help reinforce what I've read to her. So all the complaints about inaccuracies in the book and the author's religious slant (which I didn't find and I was looking for), they don't matter. What really matters is that my daughter enjoys learning about history (it's her favorite class) and she's building a foundation that can be built on in later years. In addition to this series and its workbooks, I also picked up "The Kingfisher History Encyclopedia." Once a week I give her homework to read assigned pages from this book to reinforce or, perhaps, to give a different point of view on what she's just learned. All history books will turn up people who will disagree with the content, will find inaccuracies in the material, or won't agree with the author's point of view. But, guess what? It doesn't matter. Your child is still young and you are filling in a background in history that his/her public school peers will never have.

This is a good intro to ancient times for children. My son enjoyed it last year, though he wanted pictures. We supplemented with other titles to fulfill his desire for pictures, but I think he learned more from this book. It does discuss some religion in a few chapters, so be prepared for that. They would be fairly easy to skip if you want. Overall I think this is a great book to introduce children to that period of history, but I would recommend reading it with your child, not just handing it to them. We have moved onto the next title in the series now and I think we will complete them all over the next few years.

We love this series for our history lessons for our home school. My youngest was having an issue concentrating enough to get the comprehension down. Now that we added the audio to let her listen to as she reads along we have noticed her absorbing more of the information. My older two never needed it. It shows that kids are all different :D

I've just started reading this book to my older children (4 and 5) and they love it. We tend to just read 4 pages or so at a time so that we have time to discuss the story. It has sparked their imagination and curiosity with history. They already are dressing up and acting out various parts of the book and have favorite sections they want to reread. I can't comment on historical inaccuracies since I'm not a history buff myself. Perhaps there are errors in the book but quite frankly all history books have errors or are written from one nation's perspective. If my kids learn general history from this book, it keeps them interested, and it sparks a future interest in history it is a win in my world.

Each daily section is usually only a few pages so it doesn't take long to read and the stories are detailed enough without getting bogged down in tiny details of the history. This also leaves it open to go into more detail on your own if your child finds something particularly interesting and wants to learn more. Update- The author suggests reading 1 section a day which is what we have been doing, however we only half way through our school year and have almost finished the book. I planned on a 36 week school year and this book is only taking us to week 20. I still love the book, however if I had realized that before then I would have stretched it out a little more. Now we are going to finish the book and then I am planning on going back and doing some reviewing to make up the rest of the school year. Next year I will not be doing 1 section a day, but stretching it out from the start.

This is such a wonderful history book. We love listening to audiobooks so even after we finish the homeschool curriculum, we listen to the audiobooks in the car just to hear the stories again. Well written to be interesting to adults, but easily understandable to my 5yo and 9yo. Even my toddler likes them.

This isn't a history book. The word 'inaccuracies' doesn't convey how terrible this book is. Whole sections are simply pulled from the author's imagination. I assure you, potential buyer, that the positive reviews this book has received were from people who know nothing of history.

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