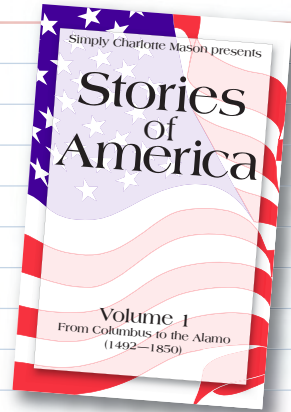


Stories of America, Volume 1

# Narration Notecards

by Crystal Lee Hildreth



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Book-specific narration prompts for first grade  
through high school—at your fingertips!

Narration Notecards: Stories of America, Volume 1

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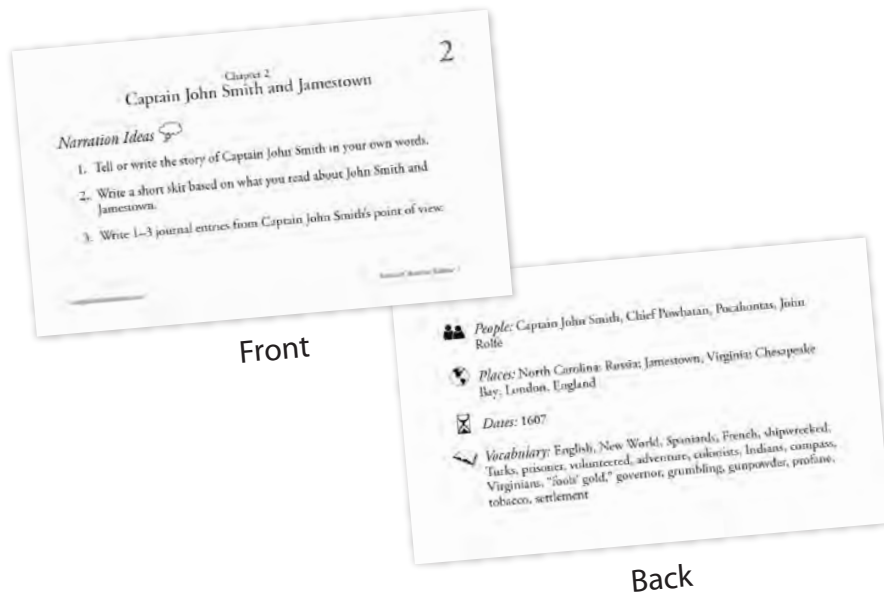
SAMPLE

# Narration Notecards

Book-specific narration prompts for first grade through high school—at your fingertips!  
Available in two formats

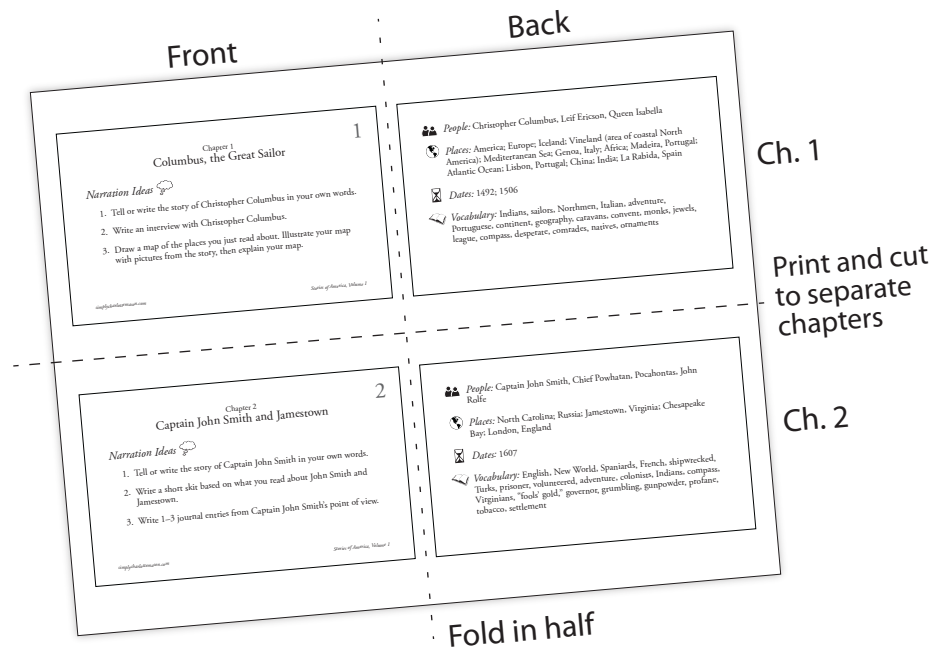
## Pre-Printed 3" x 5" cards

You receive 3" x 5" cards printed on both sides. One side features the narration prompts and the other side gives the key people, places, dates, and vocabulary words.



## Printable Electronic Download

You receive a PDF with two cards, both fronts and backs, on each 8.5" x 11" page. Print the PDF on regular copy paper or card stock and cut the sheets in half length-wise. (One chapter on the top half, the other chapter on the bottom half.) Fold each chapter's card to place the narration prompts on one side and the key people, places, dates, and vocabulary words on the other side.



## How to Use Narration Notecards

1. Read aloud a chapter from the book or assign it as independent reading.
2. Grab the narration notecard for that chapter and select a narration idea from the list on the front or let your student choose one.
3. Give your student the notecard to look at while narrating orally or in writing. The word bank of people, places, dates, and vocabulary on the back will help with spelling and details.

## More Narration Notecards Ideas

- Choose a few key words from the back of the notecard to highlight before you read. Write those words in a visible location and instruct your student to listen/read attentively for them. Define the chosen words if necessary.
- Use a map to look up any of the places listed.
- Use the dates to prompt Book of Centuries entries.
- Add any other words from the reading that your student would like to see spelled.

## Choosing a Narration Prompt

The narration ideas are listed from easiest to hardest on each card. Select one of the prompts for your student: 1. Beginner, 2. Intermediate, 3. Advanced.

1. Beginner prompts are designed for beginner narrators of all ages. Beginners in grades 1–3 should tell their narrations, not write them. Older beginners should start by telling and can gradually move to writing as they become comfortable.
2. Intermediate prompts are designed for students in grades 4–12 who have had some experience narrating. Narrations should be a variety of written as well as oral. Students at this level can be assigned either the

Beginner or Intermediate prompts as desired throughout the year.

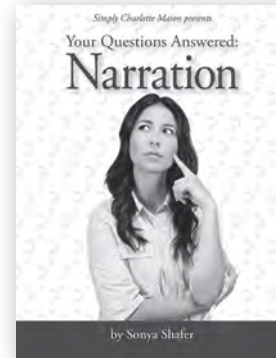
3. Advanced prompts are designed for fluent narrators in approximately grades 7–12 who are ready for more. Use Advanced prompts to raise the bar on their narrations as they move into high school, but feel free to assign any prompt on the card as desired. Many narrations will be written; continue to ask for some oral.

## Narration Notecards Tips

Important! The narration cards are to be used as a springboard for telling or writing narrations. Please do not burden your young student with insisting that he must use every word on the card.

For students experienced in oral narration, we recommend about

- 1 written narration per week for 4th grade; the rest oral.
- 2 written narrations per week for 5th and 6th grade; the rest oral.
- 3 written narrations per week for 7th and 8th grade; the rest oral.
- 4 written narrations per week for 9th and 10th grade; the rest oral.
- 5 written narrations per week for 11th and 12th grade; the rest oral.




For more narration ideas, refer to  
*Your Questions Answered:  
Narration*  
by Sonya Shafer

Chapter 1  
Columbus, the Great Sailor


1


*Narration Ideas* 

1. Tell or write the story of Christopher Columbus in your own words.
2. Write an interview with Christopher Columbus.
3. Draw a map of the places you just read about. Illustrate your map with pictures from the story, then explain your map.

 *People:* Christopher Columbus, Leif Ericson, Queen Isabella

 *Places:* America; Europe; Iceland; Vineland (area of coastal North America); Mediterranean Sea; Genoa, Italy; Africa; Madeira, Portugal; Atlantic Ocean; Lisbon, Portugal; China; India; La Rabida, Spain

 *Dates:* 1492; 1506

 *Vocabulary:* Indians, sailors, Northmen, Italian, adventure, Portuguese, continent, geography, caravans, convent, monks, jewels, league, compass, desperate, comrades, natives, ornaments

Chapter 2  
Captain John Smith and Jamestown

2


*Narration Ideas* 

1. Tell or write the story of Captain John Smith in your own words.
2. Write a short skit based on what you read about John Smith and Jamestown.
3. Write 1–3 journal entries from Captain John Smith's point of view.

 *People:* Captain John Smith, Chief Powhatan, Pocahontas, John Rolfe

 *Places:* North Carolina; Russia; Jamestown, Virginia; Chesapeake Bay; London, England

 *Dates:* 1607


 *Vocabulary:* English, New World, Spaniards, French, shipwrecked, Turks, prisoner, volunteered, adventure, colonists, Indians, compass, Virginians, “fools’ gold,” governor, grumbling, gunpowder, profane, tobacco, settlement

Chapter 3  
Captain Miles Standish and the Pilgrims

3


*Narration Ideas* 

1. Draw a picture of your favorite scene from the story, then tell about your picture.
2. Tell or write about all you know about Miles Standish.
3. Explain what happened to the colony when Miles Standish left.

 *People:* Captain Miles Standish, Canonicus, Governor Bradford, Priscilla Mullins, John Alden

 *Places:* Plymouth, Massachusetts; New England

 *Dates:* 1620

 *Vocabulary:* Pilgrims, doctrine, Church of England, stout, Plymouth Rock, sickness, Indians, arrows, plotting, chiefs, knife, quarrel


Chapter 4  
Roger Williams and the Puritans


4

*Narration Ideas* 

1. Tell or write the story of Roger Williams in your own words.
2. Describe any noble acts, or “golden deeds,” from this chapter.
3. Compare and contrast Roger Williams, John Smith, and Miles Standish. Which one is the best hero? Why?

 *People:* Roger Williams, Chief Massasoit

 *Places:* Boston, Massachusetts; Massachusetts Bay; Providence, Rhode Island

 *Vocabulary:* preacher, Puritans, Quakers, beliefs, flint, canoe, colony, religion