Thank you

Thank you for buying Friends and Heroes Homeschool Unit Study material. We do hope that you enjoy watching the episodes with your student(s) and working through the activities.

Copyright information

These resources have taken much time, effort and investment to produce so we would ask that you do not pass this material onto others who have not purchased it and are not licensed to use it. Please help us by encouraging your friends to buy Friends and Heroes DVDs and Homeschool Unit Studies for themselves.

Our Homeschool Unit Studies may be printed as required by the family which purchased them but may not be printed for use by others outside that family. Family use in the home does not require a Public Display License.

Other resources e.g. music CD *What about Love? : Bible songs based on Friends and Heroes Series 1*, will have other rights and restrictions. Please read the copyright notice on the resource/s you have purchased for full details. If you need further clarification for your situation please write to **mail@friendsandheroes.com**

Copyright notice

Friends and Heroes Homeschool Unit Studies are Copyright 2011 by Friends & Heroes Productions Ltd., Lough House, Approach Road, Ramsey, ISLE OF MAN IM8 1RG. All or part of these materials may be reproduced in reasonable quantities without further charge so long as they are used only by the family which purchased the Friends and Heroes Homeschool Unit Studies in association with genuine, purchased Friends and Heroes DVDs. The material may not be offered for sale or distributed on paper or electronically, or in any other way.

Specimen only
Subject to change

Printing our Homeschool Unit Studies

The Friends and Heroes Homeschool Unit Study Student Manual is provided as full-color PDFs and although it will print on both color and black and white (mono) printers, we would suggest that, if at all possible, you print the pages in color. The Teacher's Guide is provided as black and whites PDFs.

If you wish to print the pages in black and white on a color printer – set the printer to print in 'Greyscale' in the Print Dialog box before you send the file to the printer. All the graphics and images will look just the same but without the color!

Unit Study structure

Each Unit Study is divided into three chapters; each chapter covers History/Geography, Creative writing, Science, Bible study, Craft and discipleship. There is a wealth of material for your student with ideas in the Teacher's Guide on how to adapt assignments for older or younger students. You may want to spend more time on an activity that sparks your student's interest or needs to be studied more in-depth for complete comprehension. Remember this curriculum is your tool not your master! You can create your own pace and schedule. Choose the assignments and subjects you would like to use and fill them in on your planner. Each subject is numbered for your convenience. For example – 6.1.a is Episode 6 (Sweet Freedom), chapter 1, lesson a (lesson a in each chapter is always History/Geography). This would be the numbering for Chapter 1 with X being the number of the Unit (Episode) you are studying:

X.1.a History/Geography; X.1.b Creative writing; X.1.c Bible study; X.1.d Science; X.1.e Craft; X.1.f One on one time.

This CD-ROM contains all the Homeschool material you will need including: Teachers' Overview, Teacher's Guide and Student Manual plus designed images for your student to use as covers for their binders; one for Macky's Journal and one for the Unit Study. These images are ready for coloring but if your student is artistic, they may prefer to create their own covers. With a full series pack we also provide a cover for a binder for the Teacher's Guides.

For each Unit we have provided a Certificate of Achievement which can be presented to your student when they successfully complete a Unit Study. In every Homeschool Unit Study students have the opportunity to write a journal from Macky's perspective. In the Student Manual there is a Macky's Journal page for your student to write upon but we have also included, on the CD-ROM, a 'papyrus' style, Macky's Journal page which can be used as an alternative if you wish those pages to look very different. Please note that this will probably use more printer ink.

Each episode last 25 minutes and the detail of when to watch each episode or part episode is given in the Student Manual. There is an option to watch the full episode at the beginning of each chapter but please use your discretion as to whether you feel that is necessary. Sometimes work follows in a chapter where it would be helpful for the student to have had a fresh look at the episode.

Specimen only
subject to change

© 2011 Friends & Heroes Productions Ltd

DVD screening advice: Playing individual scenes

Each episode is divided into a number of scenes (which can be found in the Scene Selection menu). To select a scene to watch go to the Main Menu and click Scenes.

Please note that when you play one of these scenes, your DVD player or laptop will not stop at the end of that particular scene. Instead, it will continue to play the rest of the DVD.

General information

The Unit Studies are ideal for students 7 to 11 years of age, although we know that the DVDs are attractive to a much wider age range! The material is self-guided for the student and we have provided a Teacher's Guide with answers to questions, ideas for further research, web links etc. We have generally provided web links to the Teacher rather than to the Student in case you have your own rules about internet access (links in the student manual are usually to the Friends and Heroes children's website). We have carefully checked that each link we have provided is suitable for students and is available at the time of initial publication. However the Internet can be a moving target and it is possible that a web link may change. If you discover this we would be very happy to hear about it so that we can update our materials. Please write to **mail@friendsandheroes.com**

Each series (there are 3 altogether), consists of 13 episodes and 13 Unit Studies; each episode features at least two themed Bible stories (usually one Old and one New Testament).

To get the best out of each Unit Study, please take time to read both the Student Manual and the Teacher's Guide for the Unit Study and watch the relevant episode before you teach it, so that you are familiar with any materials or preparation required. It is much easier to establish in your own mind the themes, links and echoes between the Bible stories and the 2D adventure story, if you watch the full episode quietly by yourself and in advance. Prior knowledge of the episode is invaluable. Don't be tempted "to pick it up as you go along" while showing the material to your student.

Fundamentally, this curriculum provides a glimpse into the story of the early church. Its source is the Bible and the historical context in which these events occurred. We encourage you to dive into the word of God with your student as you use this curriculum. You may want to use websites or Bible reference tools such as a Bible handbook to further research the culture of that time. There is also much relevant Biblical, historical and geographical information on our children's website **www.friendsandheroes.tv** (see below).

Specimen only
subject to change

© 2011 Friends & Heroes Productions Ltd

This curriculum is written to honor all those in the early church who fearlessly spread the gospel, that we too might take the baton and pass the timeless testimonies of faith onto the emerging generation. May your student be encouraged to fearlessly serve God in their generation!

Please remember that you are responsible for the safety of your students – please ensure that the equipment you provide (especially candles and craft tools!) or activities (such as those including nuts and other foodstuffs) are safe for your student and that you follow any local policies for homeschoolers.

Macky's time and Roman times

Please be aware that some of the things that happened and some of the Roman inventions mentioned in our Unit Studies take place beyond the time-scale of the Friends and Heroes series (69 -71 AD) so Macky wouldn't have been aware of them. We want our Unit Studies to be rounded and full of valuable educational information about Roman times for your student and so have included this information. We have endeavored to make it clear which material is after Macky's time.

Biographies

Macky
Macky is an average fourteen-year-old. He's funny, sometimes hot-headed and courageous and sometimes confused and torn. Like his father, Samuel, he is drawn to the teachings of Jesus of Nazareth but because Alexandria, the town where they live, is under Roman occupation they have to keep their beliefs secret. Macky refuses to give in and dreams of freedom for all those persecuted by the might of Rome. Macky knows the streets and alleyways of Alexandria and the Delta Quarter like the back of his hand and takes part in many exciting secret missions and daring rescues to help the Friends of Jesus and rebels who are particularly persecuted by the Romans. Meeting Portia has quite an effect on both of them and as times goes by they begin to trust each other more and become good friends.

Portia
Portia is a high-born Roman girl who lives with her uncle, Tiberius, a Roman governor. She meets Macky in Friends and Heroes Episode 2 when her horse bolts and Macky rescues her. Portia wears the kind of outfits that a young, high-born Roman would wear. Her clothing is very different to the style of clothing that two of the other Friends and Heroes characters, Rebecca and Leah, who are Jewish, wear. Because of her upbringing, Portia wouldn't realize that some people might think her clothing is immodest – it would just seem normal to her. Although Portia seems proud and stand-offish to begin with, over time Portia learns more about the faith of Macky's family and begins to think more about her life and what is really important. (This is summed up in Portia's song – www.youtube.com/friendsandheroestv). At the end of her adventures with Macky she has an important decision to make about her future!

Specimen only subject to change

© 2011 Friends & Heroes Productions Ltd

Other Friends and Heroes Resources

DVD Extras

Don't forget that each Friends and Heroes DVD contains extras which you may wish to use with your student too! You can access them by clicking Extras on the DVD menu. Here are some ideas:

- Every DVD contains 2D and 3D stills from the episodes. You could show them, pausing at selected ones and asking your student to tell you what is happening in the picture, or what happens next.
- Your student could also use the 2D and 3D stills as a framework in their narration of the story, or if they enjoy art they may like to copy one of the stills which features a particularly powerful moment.
- On some DVDs the Friends and Heroes music video , *Looking for a Hero*, is included – play it and see how many Bible characters or stories your student can identify (warning – this is quite tricky!)
- On many DVDs there are quizzes featuring elements from the 2D and 3D stories. Try one out at the end of a chapter or the whole Unit Study to see how much your student has taken in!

Children's website

There is an exciting children's website at **www.friendsandheroes.tv** which has additional resources that can be used with your student. For example, there are online quiz questions for each episode (these are different questions from the quizzes on the DVDs). These questions change each time the episode is selected!

There are also Bible stories to listen to and/or read, so your student can recap the Bible stories they have studied in each Unit Study.

There are also character studies of many of the important Bible characters, descriptions of significant Bible places and research about Bible times and historical objects that formed part of the research undertaken in producing our materials.

There are also puzzles and games, some that can be played online, and some that can be printed out to supplement your student's enjoyment of their work with Friends and Heroes. We aim to keep adding to this material, so keep visiting the website!

Specimen only
Subject to change

© 2011 Friends & Heroes Productions Ltd

Music CD

We have produced a music CD called *What about Love? : Bible songs based on Friends and Heroes Series 1* which includes 13 Bible songs, 6 bonus tracks and full backing tracks for each song. To learn more about the CD, hear song samples and download free lyric sheets go to **www.friendsandheroes.com/songtime**. There are also free additional song activities, some of which may be suitable to add to your homeschool experience. We mention at the relevant point in each Unit Study Teacher's Guide where it would fit in well if you decide to obtain the music CD. Please note that this not an essential part of the Unit Study.

Feedback

We always welcome your comments about our programmes and materials. Please write to us at **mail@friendsandheroes.com**

We hope you have found this overview helpful as you prepare to use the Friends and Heroes material but if you have any questions about Friends and Heroes Homeschool Unit Studies please contact us at **mail@friendsandheroes.com** and we will do our best to help you.

Specimen only
Subject to change

© 2011 Friends & Heroes Productions Ltd