

## Week 1: Florida Wonders

- **Monday: Florida Wildlife**

- **Supplies:**

- Books or online resources about Florida wildlife (alligators, manatees, panthers, etc.)
- Index cards or construction paper
- Markers or colored pencils
- Optional: Pictures of Florida animals

- **Instructions:**

1. **Research:** Read books or articles, watch videos, or visit a library website to learn about different Florida animals.
2. **Fact Cards:** Create index cards with a picture of each animal (if available) and write interesting facts about them (habitat, diet, behavior).
3. **Mini-Zoo Exhibit:** Arrange the fact cards on a table or wall, creating a small "exhibit" showcasing Florida's diverse wildlife.

- **Tuesday: Beachcombing Adventures**

- **Supplies:**

- Beach bag or basket
- Magnifying glass
- Small containers for collecting shells and other treasures
- Art supplies (glue, paint, construction paper, etc.)

- **Instructions:**

1. **Beach Exploration:** Visit a local beach and observe the different types of shells, sand, and seaweed. Use the magnifying glass to examine small creatures.
  2. **Treasure Hunting:** Collect seashells, interesting rocks, pieces of driftwood, and other natural items.
  3. **Beach Art:** Create a beach-themed artwork using the collected treasures. This could be a collage, a sculpture, or a painting.
- **Wednesday: Water Wonders**
    - **Supplies:**
      - Water containers (bowls, tubs)
      - Various objects (blocks, toys, small boats)
      - Optional: Water balloons, sprinklers
    - **Instructions:**
      1. **Water Conservation:** Discuss the importance of water conservation with your child. Explain how to save water (turn off the faucet while brushing teeth, take shorter showers).
      2. **Water Displacement:** Fill a container with water. Place objects in the water and observe how the water level changes. This demonstrates the concept of displacement.
      3. **Water Play (optional):** If weather permits, enjoy a fun water play session with water balloons, sprinklers, or a simple water table.
  - **Thursday: Tropical Fruit Exploration**

- **Supplies:**
  - Variety of tropical fruits (mangoes, papayas, pineapples, etc.)
  - Cutting board and knife (for adult use)
  - Bowls and spoons
  - Optional: Blender
- **Instructions:**
  1. **Fruit Exploration:** Examine the different colors, shapes, and textures of the fruits.
  2. **Fruit Tasting:** Sample the fruits and discuss their tastes, smells, and textures.
  3. **Fruit Preparation:** Prepare a fruit salad or a simple fruit smoothie together.
- **Friday: Florida Reading Challenge**
  - **Supplies:**
    - Books about Florida history, culture, or wildlife
    - Writing materials (paper, pencils, crayons)
  - **Instructions:**
    1. **Reading Time:** Encourage your child to read books about Florida.
    2. **Creative Writing:** Have your child write a short story or poem about a Florida adventure. This could be a fictional story or based on their own experiences.

## **Week 2: Martin Luther King Jr. Day**

- **Monday: Celebrating Dr. King**
  - **Supplies:**

- Books or documentaries about Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.
- **Instructions:**
  1. **Learning:** Read books or watch a documentary about Dr. King's life and his fight for civil rights.
  2. **Discussion:** Discuss the importance of equality and justice with your child. Explain how Dr. King's work has impacted our society.
- **Tuesday: Community Service**
  - **Supplies:**
    - Supplies for the chosen community service project (gloves, trash bags, etc.)
  - **Instructions:**
    1. **Choose a Project:** Select a local environmental project (beach cleanup, tree planting) or volunteer at an animal shelter.
    2. **Community Action:** Participate in the chosen activity.
    3. **Reflection:** Discuss the impact of volunteering on the community and how it feels to help others.
- **Wednesday: Cultural Diversity**
  - **Supplies:**
    - Ingredients for a traditional Florida dish
    - Music from different cultures
  - **Instructions:**
    1. **Cultural Exploration:** Learn about the diverse cultures that have influenced Florida (Hispanic, Caribbean, Native American).

2. **Cultural Celebration:** Cook a traditional Florida dish (key lime pie, stone crab) or explore other cultural foods.
  3. **Music Appreciation:** Listen to music from different cultures that have influenced Florida.
- **Thursday: Creative Writing**
    - **Supplies:**
      - Writing materials (paper, pencils, crayons)
    - **Instructions:**
      1. **Inspired Writing:** Write a story or poem about overcoming obstacles, inspired by Dr. King's life and message.
      2. **Public Service Announcement:** Create a short public service announcement about environmental protection or another important cause.
  - **Friday: Arts and Crafts**
    - **Supplies:**
      - Construction paper, markers, crayons, yarn, feathers
      - Optional: Bird pictures
    - **Instructions:**
      1. **Florida Bird Mobile:** Create a mobile featuring Florida birds (e.g., pelicans, herons, ospreys).
      2. **Conservation Poster:** Design a poster promoting the importance of protecting Florida's natural resources.

## Week 3: Space Exploration

- **Monday: Planets and Stars**

- **Supplies:**

- Foam balls or other materials for building a solar system model
- Flashlight or small light source
- Star chart or planetarium app (optional)

- **Instructions:**

1. **Solar System Model:** Build a model of the solar system using foam balls or other materials. Paint the balls to represent the different planets.
2. **Stargazing:** If possible, observe the night sky and try to identify constellations using a star chart or planetarium app.

- **Tuesday: Space Exploration**

- **Supplies:**

- Books or online resources about space exploration
- Construction paper, markers, crayons

- **Instructions:**

1. **Space Exploration History:** Research the history of space exploration. Learn about famous astronauts and their missions.
2. **Spacecraft Design:** Design a spacecraft or space station using your imagination.

## Week 3: Space Exploration (continued)

- **Wednesday: Rocket Science**

- **Supplies:**

- Plastic water bottles (empty and clean)
- Corks or bottle caps
- Bicycle pump or air compressor (with appropriate safety precautions)
- Water
- Optional: Launch pad (a sturdy base for the rocket)

- **Instructions:**

1. **Safety First:** Discuss safety precautions with your child. Always wear safety glasses when launching the rocket.

2. **Rocket Construction:**

- Fill the water bottle about 1/3 full with water.
- Securely attach the cork or cap to the bottle.

3. **Launch:**

- Place the rocket on a stable launch pad (optional).
- Carefully pump air into the bottle using the bicycle pump or air compressor.
- **Important: Always point the rocket away from people, buildings, and vehicles.**
- Allow the rocket to launch.

4. **Science Exploration:** Discuss Newton's laws of motion (especially Newton's Third Law of Motion

- for every action, there is an equal and opposite reaction) as it relates to rocket propulsion.

- **Thursday: Alien Encounter**

- **Supplies:**

- Paper, pencils, crayons, markers
- Construction paper
- Glue
- Optional: Clay, playdough

- **Instructions:**

1. **Alien Imagination:** Write a short story about meeting an alien.
  - What does the alien look like?
  - Where do they come from?
  - What is their personality like?
2. **Alien Design:** Design an alien creature with unique characteristics.
  - Give it unusual body parts, colors, and abilities.
3. **Comic Strip:** Create a simple comic strip depicting a humorous or exciting encounter with your alien creation.

- **Friday: Space-themed Art**

- **Supplies:**

- Paint (tempera, acrylic)
- Paintbrushes
- Canvas or paper
- Construction paper, glue, scissors
- Optional: Playdough, clay, pipe cleaners

- **Instructions:**



1. **Space Painting:** Paint a galaxy with swirling colors and stars.
  - Use different colors and techniques to create a unique and vibrant painting.
2. **Space Sculpture/Mobile:**
  - Create a 3D space-themed sculpture using clay, playdough, or construction paper.
  - Alternatively, make a mobile with planets, stars, and astronauts hanging from strings.

## **Week 4: Florida Fun and Games**

- **Monday: Board Game Day**

- **Supplies:**

- Board games (various types)

- **Instructions:**

- Play board games with family and friends.
- Learn new board games and strategies.
- Emphasize good sportsmanship and taking turns.

- **Tuesday: Nature Scavenger Hunt**

- **Supplies:**

- Scavenger hunt list (create a list of items to find in nature - e.g., a feather, a pine cone, a certain type of leaf)
- Magnifying glass (optional)

- **Instructions:**

- Create a scavenger hunt list focusing on Florida plants and animals.

- Explore a local park or nature trail, searching for the items on the list.

- **Wednesday: Movie Day**

- **Supplies:**

- Movie about Florida (nature documentaries, historical films)
- Snacks and drinks

- **Instructions:**

- Watch a movie about Florida.
- Discuss the movie afterwards.
  - What did you learn about Florida?
  - What were your favorite parts?

- **Thursday: Outdoor Games**

- **Supplies:**

- Water balloons
- Jump ropes
- Balls
- Cones or markers (for races)

- **Instructions:**

- Have a backyard Olympics with water balloon tosses, three-legged races, and other outdoor games.
- Go on a family bike ride or hike.

- **Friday: Florida Crafts**

- **Supplies:**

- Sand, water, buckets, shovels
- Seashells
- Glue

- Construction paper
- Optional: Playdough
- **Instructions:**
  - **Beach Fun:** If you have access to a beach, build sandcastles and enjoy the water.
  - **Creative Crafts:**
    - Create a seashell mosaic by gluing seashells onto paper or cardboard.
    - Build a fort or other structures using natural materials found in your yard.
    - Make a sand painting using sand and glue.

**Remember to adapt this curriculum to your child's interests and learning style. Encourage exploration, creativity, and a love of learning throughout the month of January.**

## Supply List

Here's the list of supplies for the "Dream Big Homeschool: January Curriculum" in the order they are needed:

### **Week 1: Florida Wonders**

1. **Books or online resources about Florida wildlife**
2. **Index cards or construction paper**
3. **Markers or colored pencils**
4. **Optional: Pictures of Florida animals**
5. **Beach bag or basket**
6. **Magnifying glass**
7. **Small containers for collecting shells and other treasures**

8. **Art supplies (glue, paint, construction paper, etc.)**
9. **Water containers (bowls, tubs)**
10. **Various objects (blocks, toys, small boats)**
11. **Optional: Water balloons, sprinklers**
12. **Variety of tropical fruits (mangoes, papayas, pineapples, etc.)**
13. **Cutting board and knife (for adult use)**
14. **Bowls and spoons**
15. **Optional: Blender**
16. **Books about Florida history, culture, or wildlife**
17. **Writing materials (paper, pencils, crayons)**

### **Week 2: Martin Luther King Jr. Day**

1. **Books or documentaries about Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.**
2. **Supplies for the chosen community service project (gloves, trash bags, etc.)**
3. **Ingredients for a traditional Florida dish**
4. **Music from different cultures**
5. **Writing materials (paper, pencils, crayons)**
6. **Construction paper, markers, crayons, yarn, feathers**
7. **Optional: Bird pictures**

### **Week 3: Space Exploration**

1. **Foam balls or other materials for building a solar system model**
2. **Flashlight or small light source**
3. **Star chart or planetarium app (optional)**
4. **Books or online resources about space exploration**
5. **Construction paper, markers, crayons**
6. **Water bottles**
7. **Corks or caps for the bottles**
8. **Bicycle pump or air compressor (with appropriate safety precautions)**
9. **Water**
10. **Optional: Launch pad (a sturdy base for the rocket)**
11. **Paper, pencils, crayons, markers**
12. **Construction paper**
13. **Glue**
14. **Optional: Clay, playdough**
15. **Paint (tempera, acrylic)**
16. **Paintbrushes**
17. **Canvas or paper**
18. **Construction paper, glue, scissors**
19. **Optional: Playdough, clay, pipe cleaners**

### **Week 4: Florida Fun and Games**

1. **Board games (various types)**
2. **Scavenger hunt list (create a list of items to find in nature - e.g., a feather, a pine cone, a certain type of leaf)**

3. **Magnifying glass (optional)**
4. **Movie about Florida (nature documentaries, historical films)**
5. **Snacks and drinks**
6. **Water balloons**
7. **Jump ropes**
8. **Balls**
9. **Cones or markers (for races)**
10. **Sand, water, buckets, shovels**
11. **Seashells**
12. **Glue**
13. **Construction paper**
14. **Optional: Playdough**