



DCM PATHFINDER

Humanities Philosophy

Pathfinder Humanities forms citizens who know where they are in time and place. History is meaningful, geography is essential, civics is obligatory, and economics equips students to understand the world they will inherit.

WHAT HUMANITIES INCLUDES

Pathfinder **Humanities** is the unified study of human life in community, time, and place. It includes—but is not limited to—**history, government, civics, geography, economics, worldview, and philosophy**.

Humanities is deliberate formation: helping students understand where they live, who came before them, how societies are ordered, how economies work, and what it means to live as a responsible person under God.

FOUR CONVICTIONS

History is providential, not random. DCM Pathfinder considers history to be meaningful rather than random. Students learn sequence, evidence, and perspective while seeing that courage, justice, faith, and folly in the past matter for life today.

Geography is useful and essential. Maps, regions, landforms, and human settlement are not trivia—they are tools for understanding cultures, trade, stewardship, and citizenship in both local and global contexts.

Civics is obligatory. Law, government, symbols, duties, and civic virtue are necessary to form good, upstanding, and informed citizens—not as partisan slogans, but as part of loving neighbor and honoring rightly ordered authority under God.

Economics is vital. Work, money, trade, scarcity, and stewardship belong in a well-formed education. In later grades, Pathfinder also helps students understand the flaws of alternative models and ideologies such as **communism and socialism**—fairly, through history, incentives, and outcomes.

STORY, PLACE, AND EVIDENCE FIRST

Humanities sessions begin with a **person, place, document, map, or story worth knowing**—not a naked glossary. Students observe, inquire, and discuss before concepts are named; they respond through narration, map work, timelines, or short reflection.

Pathfinder favors **living books, biographies, maps, timelines, primary sources, and discussion** over textbook-style summaries—especially in the grammar years.

EVERY LESSON FOLLOWS THIS SEQUENCE

1. **Human anchor** — A person, place, community need, map, document, or story.
2. **Observation or inquiry** — Read, map, compare accounts, discuss, or dramatize.
3. **Concept naming** — Name the civic, geographic, historical, or economic idea clearly.
4. **Short response** — Narration, timeline entry, map label, discussion, or reflection.

HUMANITIES COURSE MAP (GRADES 1–12)

Grammar grades integrate civics, geography, history, and economics. Grades 4–12 emphasize one primary discipline per year.

Grade	Primary focus
Grade 1	Basic U.S. civics, history, and geography
Grade 2	Basic U.S. civics, history, and economics
Grade 3	History, geography, and economics
Grade 4	U.S. Geography
Grade 5	Global Geography
Grade 6	U.S. Civics
Grade 7	World History
Grade 8	American History
Grade 9	American Government
Grade 10	Church History
Grade 11	Rights & Responsibilities
Grade 12	Economics