

Timeline Figures

Reviewed by Lorinda K. F. Newton

Title: *History Through the Ages: A Collection of Historical Timeline Figures*

Publisher: [Home School in the Woods](#)

Author: Amy Pak

Format: 2 CDs, Cost: \$74.95 or download \$73.95 for family license. Teacher and school licenses are also available.

I enjoy making connections: discovering how two people are related, the “aha” of linking two ideas, or seeing how historical events fit together. To understand today’s headlines, one needs to understand how they are linked to past events. By studying history chronologically, one sees the flow of history.

An excellent tool for teaching chronological history is the timeline. Even if you don’t follow a chronological history schedule in your homeschool, you can use a timeline for the part of history you are studying. You can use this tool for science and art history as well.

The *History Through the Ages* CDs have served me well as a tool for creating timelines. Although designed to follow Diana Waring’s *History Alive!* curriculum, it works with any history curriculum. Add-ons for the *Mystery of History* curriculum are also available.

Amy Pak has drawn the beautiful, blackline figures in a realistic style. Some of the illustrations reflect well-known art pieces or portraits of famous people.

The first CD contains PDF pages of all the *History Through the Ages* Timeline print sets (from Creation to the 21st century). Each sheet contains approximately ten to twelve 2.5- to 3.5-inches tall figures, perfect for a book or wall timeline. From the CD’s table of contents, you chose the page you wish to print and whether you want to print the figures with or without descriptive text. On each page, the figures are listed in chronological order based on an event’s start date or a person’s birth date.

The second CD contains over 1,260 timeline images as separate, high-quality GIF files. You can print them as full-size coloring pages or import them into your favorite software program and make them any size you wish. The table of contents on this CD lists the images by chronological and alphabetical order. You can also explore the figures by category such as wars, artists, church history, or by culture.

Both CDs also offer Timeline Helps, which provide many ideas on how to use the timeline figures. Not only are different types of timelines, such as wall, notebook, or file-card timelines described, but

also how to create lapbooks and games with the figures. This section also gives coloring and adhesive tips as well.

In addition to the CD version, this resource is available in print form in separate volumes: [*Creation to Christ*](#) (Beginning to 100 AD–World History); [*Resurrection to Revolution*](#) (0 to 1799 AD–World History); [*Napoleon to Now*](#) (1800 to Modern Day–World History); and [*America's History*](#) (Explorers to 21st Century). These only have the 2.5- to 3.5-inches tall figures printed on colored card stock.

We started using timelines for ancient history when my son was a first-grader. Looking at the completed timeline, my husband and I found it fascinating to see how traditional ancient history and biblical history intersected. At that time, I used old, continuous-feed, dot-matrix printer paper as my timeline base. Other years, we've put them in notebooks and even on a sewing cutting board.

If you'd like to get better connected to the flow of history, give a timeline a try.