

#### D. A New Plan

1. In previous years, History At Our House presented ancient, European, and American history to students over three years. This year, that changes.
2. The goal of new History At Our House curriculum is *reveal and explain* the world that we live in. The new three-year program looks like this:
  - a) **Year 1 - The United States and the World We Live In:** This program will replace “American history” with an America-centric look at the world we live in, that connects America’s history to Europe, Russia, the Islamic World, and China.
  - b) **Year 2 - Asia, Africa, and the World We Live In:** This new program starts in ancient Egypt & Mesopotamia, and follow through to modern Japan, China, India, the Islamic World, and Sub-Saharan Africa. Common threads unite these cultures.
  - c) **Year 3 - Europe and the Rise of the World We Live In:** This new program year will focus on Europe, but like Year 1, will branch out far and wide. It will explore Europe, the Anglosphere and Iberosphere, and then ancient roots of this group of culture in ancient Greece & Rome.
4. All ten major cultural blocks are covered in this new approach.
5. One of the features of this new program is that no part of the course begins and ends in *the past*. Every year begins and ends in *the present*.

## **II. Creating a Basic Framework for American History**

#### A. How do we begin?

1. The story of the United States is like the map of the world we live in. If we try to understand it by treating all the facts as if they were the same, it’s overwhelming.
2. To overcome the *plethora* that is the past, we must be careful to organize our studies so that they *really* help us understand the world we see around us—not just the past.
3. If we are really going to learn history, we need to make a fresh start, and proceed by a new method. The method we will use is called the method of *anchor facts*<sup>TM</sup>.