

Homeschool Resources

A collection of resources gathered to support you in this next season.

Reflections from Homeschool Families

The best piece of advice: “One year of homeschooling will not ruin your kid(s)”

“If the homeschool year is difficult and perhaps even unsuccessful, it is still only one year.”

“As a Homeschooler, we are still able to attend assemblies, concerts, sign up for school sports in our school district. We have access to a lot of the same resources in the public school, we just need to ask.”

“When you teach with “mastery” in mind, it allows you to slow down the teaching process or speed it up when your child needs it, with no guilt. You are teaching to their individual needs and with the goal of them mastering the topic instead of just memorizing it temporarily to pass the chapter test. This approach removes the “busy” work.”

“One of the best parts about homeschooling is being afforded the time to foster your kids enjoyment of learning. Kids are natural learners...they are naturally curious about the world around them and when allowed the freedom to explore, ask questions, research and dig deep into that which really interests them, they discover enjoyment in the learning process. This is where kids develop the skills for life-long learning.”

Style	General Idea	Strengths	Weaknesses	Resources
Traditional	Textbook-based learning, often with online support. Designed to feel very similar to classroom-style learning	Can feel "normal." Lesson plans pre-written Clear-cut	Rigid Can feel boring	https://www.abeka.com/ https://www.bjupress.com/page/Home https://www.goodandbeautiful.com/
"Boxed"	A one-stop-shop for the school year. Parent buys entire kit (often with a pre-written lesson plan to follow) for each year.	Complete....often feels very secure	Little flexibility, some textbooks can be perceived as boring.	https://www.sonlight.com https://www.mfwbooks.com/ http://www.timberdoodle.com/Complete_Homeschool_Curriculum_Packages_s/363.htm
Charlotte Mason	Relies on the theory that children learn well from "living books"--books written by passionate, knowledgeable authors about interesting topics. Focuses on short learning sessions per topic, with many subjects each day.	Book-lovers LOVE this! Short lessons Interesting stories Can be cheap--if library is used!	Can be expensive. Mom must be proactive to provide a schedule.	"A Charlotte Mason Education" by Catherine Levison "A Charlotte Mason Companion" by Karen Andreola https://simplycharlottemason.com https://www.amblesideonline.org/WhatIsCM.shtml
Classical	Focuses on teaching the "Trivium:" grammar, logic, and rhetoric, with a reliance on "Great Books." History is usually taught chronologically, in a four-year cycle.	Academically Rigorous, focuses on educational tasks appropriate for developmental level. History is usually taught in a 4-year cycle	Can be rigid and a little idealistic. Some curricula heavily focus on memorization, which can be daunting.	"The Well-Trained Mind" by Susan Wise Bauer and Jesse Wise https://welltrainedmind.com/articles-videos/ https://classicalacademicpress.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/02/ICE.pdf https://www.memoriapress.com/
Unit Study	Knowledge and skill based subjects are taught under the umbrella of a main topic.	Fun! Multiple subjects and ages can be taught at the same time.	Can be prep heavy...	Five in a Row by Jane Lambert http://fiveinarow.com/ Valerie Bendt: Unit Studies made Easy
Unschool	Highly Eclectic and strongly child-led. Parent provides an environment which fosters learning without "forced" lesson plans.	Freedom and Flexibility!	Very easy to have academic gaps or not teach anything at all.	https://www.thehomeschoolmom.com/homeschooling-styles/unschooling/
Online-based Options	All school work is done online. Lectures, textbooks, assignments done through the internet.	Clean--no stacks of books and papers	Some do not have strong tracking methods. Child is always in front of a computer.	https://allinonehomeschool.com/ https://www.aop.com/curriculum/shop-monarch https://www.aop.com/curriculum/switched-on-schoolhouse

***“Education is not the filling of a pail,
but the lighting of a fire.” William Butler Yeats***

Skill Areas	Knowledge Areas
Best to tailor to each child's age and ability	Can be done together as a group of mixed ages
<ul style="list-style-type: none">❖ Math❖ Reading❖ Writing❖ Handwriting❖ Spelling❖ Grammar	<ul style="list-style-type: none">❖ Science❖ History❖ Nature Study❖ Foreign Language❖ Art❖ Music

Some Excellent Books:

- ❖ [The Ultimate Guide to Homeschooling](#), Debra Bell and Michael Farris
- ❖ [How to Homeschool](#), Gail Graham
- ❖ [The Homeschool Journey](#), Michael Card
- ❖ [Top Picks for Homeschool Curriculum](#), Cathy Duffy
- ❖ [Teaching From Rest](#), Sarah Mackenzie

Realistic Homeschool Expectations

Grade(s)	Time/Day	Suggestions/Tips/Possible Subjects to Cover
Pre-K	15 to 30 min	Recognizing numbers and letters - make it fun! Work on fine motor skills (play-dough is great for this) to prepare them for writing. Looooooooots of books and stories to develop a love of reading. Fun unit studies if you have the time and energy!
K	30 min - 1 hour	If child is ready, begin learning to read. Expect 1 minute of attention span per year of age. Kindergarten can be done with 10-15 minutes a day each of reading, handwriting, and math, plus TONS of library books read together. Anything extra is gravy!
1-2	45 min - 1.5 hrs	Focus on foundational skills: reading, writing, math. Develop learning rhythms, routines, and expectations. Add in history/science. Getting and keeping your child interested in learning is key at this age, so choose high-interest topics to study!
3-4	1.5 to 3 hours	These are FUN years! Learning styles, strengths, and weaknesses become more apparent. Concentrate on making progress at the child's pace! Remedial reading instruction if needed. Formal language arts. History/science/ geography/art. Focus on concrete information - kids this age love learning about THINGS.
5-6	2.5 to 3.5 hours	Critical thinking begins to develop. Attention span and workload can increase. Students can begin to work more independently. Introduce personal planners and allow some choice in order of tasks. Balance autonomy with responsibility. Encourage hobbies and activities - explore abilities!
7-8	3 to 4.5 hours	Increasing independence and personal responsibility. More formal curriculum - possibly more textbook-y. Make sure student is prepared for high school level work; find weak areas and shore up. Group classes for some subjects to allow discussion. Practice keeping records.
High	3.5 to 6 hours	Make space for personal interests (specialization). Be willing to negotiate on subjects. Keep records (learn to fudge). Extracurriculars count on the transcript! Be aware of college requirements. Materials by Lee Binz are helpful for high school recordkeeping.

It Takes a Village...to Support a Homeschooling Family!

(Opportunities for connection & enrichment!)

Support Groups

Homeschool parents gathering together to encourage each other and share resources!

Lessons & Extracurriculars

Music, art, dance, gymnastics, homeschool band and choir programs, and more!

Many local studios and businesses offer classes for homeschoolers while other kids are at school!

Co-ops

- Homeschool families joining together to offer classes/teach subjects together.

"Mom-led"

- Random fun & "extras" classes
- Moms teach what they love or help in classroom
- Fees ~\$150/family/semester

Connections

- Paid teachers
- Enrichment & core classes
- Take one class or many
- \$150-\$500 per class (full year)

CC-Style

- All families use same curriculum at co-op & home
- Moms teach specific material
- \$425-\$500+ per student per year

Informal Groups

Field trip groups, shared interest groups, mini co-ops, etc! Find established ones or create your own!

Public School Resources

- Homeschoolers in Washington State are eligible to participate in public school classes, sports, and extracurriculars.
- Talk to your local district. If they aren't sure how this works, contact WHO!

Umbrella/Hybrid Programs

Private programs that offer core classes a few days a week, with students completing the rest of their work at home.

Usually charge tuition fees, but less expensive than private school.

***ALE's/PPP's (Public School "Homeschool" Programs)**

- Most offer classes a few days a week, with work completed at home the rest of the week.
 - Sometimes offer curriculum choices and assistance with funding.
- *Full-time enrollment is considered public school, not independent homeschooling.
 - Homeschoolers may participate part-time if space is available.

Homeschool Resources by Type

Books	<p>Homeschooling with a Meek and Quiet Spirit, Teri Maxwell</p> <p>The Whole-Brain Child, 12 Revolutionary Strategies to Nurture Your Child's Developing Mind- Daniel J. Siegel, M.D. and Tina Payne Bryson, PH. D</p> <p>The Ultimate Guide to Homeschooling, Debra Bell and Michael Farris</p> <p>How to Homeschool, Gail Graham</p> <p>The Homeschool Journey, Michael Card</p> <p>Top Picks for Homeschool Curriculum, Cathy Duffy</p> <p>Teaching From Rest, Sarah Mackenzie</p>
Websites and General Information	<p>Family Learning Organization https://www.familylearning.org/ www.k12.wa.us</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- While this link isn't a homeschool link, we can familiarize ourselves with what the public school is doing in terms of knowing when to teach what. <p>Washington Homeschool www.washhomeschool.org:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- This group hosts a homeschool convention each year in the early summer. There is great advice and links to many resources embedded in this website. <p>Trestle Homeschool Association http://www.trestlehomeschoolassociation.org</p>
Umbrella Options	<p>Academy Northwest- https://academynw.com/</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Accredited Private School with home-based instruction model at the fraction of the cost of Full-Time Private School. <p>The Academy Washington- https://theacademywa.com/</p>
Co-Ops	<p>https://www.homeschool-life.com/2269/</p> <p>https://connectionsnw.org/about-us/</p> <p>https://hcceverett.blogspot.com/</p> <p>http://mch-collective.wixsite.com/mchc</p> <p>https://www.classicalconversations.com/find-community</p>
Public School Programs	<p>https://www.k12.com</p> <p>https://www.connectionsacademy.com/washington-online-school</p>

	https://www.lkstevens.wednet.edu/homelink https://www.monroe.wednet.edu/svec
Testing and Assessments	https://www.familylearning.org/testing.php http://edugreat.com/ http://washhomeschool.org/test-providers-washington/
Free Curriculum Resources	Khan Academy https://www.khanacademy.org Teachers Pay Teachers https://www.teacherspayteachers.com/
Curriculums	Bob Jones ABEKA-All Subjects Son Light-All Subjects Story of the World- Social Studies/History Apologia- Science Hooked on Phonics-Beginning/Early Readers
Christian Curriculum Suppliers	http://hspbooks.com/ https://cathyduffyreviews.com/ https://www.goodandbeautiful.com/ http://www.christianbook.com/page/homeschool?navcat=Homeschool http://www.timberdoodle.com/ https://www.rainbowresource.com/ https://simplycharlottemason.com/ https://www.veritaspress.com/ http://www.sonlight.com https://www.mfwbooks.com/ http://www.bjupress.com/page/Home
Planning and Record Keeping	https://myhomeschoolgrades.com/ https://www.apologia.com/product/the-ultimate-homeschool-planner-yellow-cover/ https://shop.wellplannedgal.com/index.php/shop/planners.html https://www.thehomeschoolmom.com/free-homeschool-planner/ http://www.homeschooltracker.com/ http://fivejs.com/homeschool-gradebook-free-download/

	http://homeschoolplanet.com
Facebook Pages & Groups	<p>Washington Homeschool Organization https://www.facebook.com/washhomeschool/</p> <p>Oso Fun Field Trips https://www.facebook.com/groups/630232687031227/</p> <p>Homeschooling Snohomish County https://www.facebook.com/groups/106650359750978/</p> <p>Lighthouse Homeschool Group https://www.facebook.com/groups/134584646589163/</p> <p>Friends of Homelink https://www.facebook.com/groups/418699904861091/</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Group for those who use Lake Stevens public school classes for those who are homeschooling. <p>Homeschool Connections https://www.facebook.com/groups/2125041484252018/</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Parenting with families to educate students in a vibrant Christian community.
Supportive Resources & Workbooks	<p>Evan Moore Workbooks</p> <p>Hooked on Phonics - Beginning/Early Readers</p>
Resources for the Busy Learner	<p>Guided Reading Strips</p> <p>Busy Bands- Chair Bands for Fidgety Feet</p> <p>Wiggle Seat</p> <p>Fidget Cube</p>
Field Trip Ideas	<p>Homeschool Programs PUD https://www.snopud.com</p> <p>Seattle Aquarium - Homeschool classes/field trips</p>