

Where Do I Begin?

A workshop for new and prospective homeschoolers

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Why are you homeschooling? -

The Big Picture –

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Avoid “School at Home” -

Less is more!!!!

There is NO perfect recipe

What does state law say?

- Reporting Forms
- Report Cards –
 - English/Communications, Math, Science, Social Studies, PE/Health
- Record Keeping
- Testing
- Taxes

Co-ops & Support Groups, partnering with your local school

Who can I contact in my state? Who is HSLDA?

What about Socialization?

What is a virtual academy or online learning?

Where to start – resources:

- *Homeschooling Methods* – Suarez
- *You Can Teach Your Child Successfully* – Beechick
- *Successful Homeschool Family Handbook* – Moore
- *Guidance Manual for the Christian Home School* – Callihan
- *Easy Homeschooling Techniques* – Curry
- *Things We Wish We'd Known* – Waring
- *Discover Your Child's Learning Style* – Hodson
- *100 Top Picks for Homeschool Curriculum* – Duffy
- *Homeschool Guide-a-log* – Shelton
- *Homeschool Jumpstart Navigator for Younger Children* – Shelton
- *For the Children's Sake* - McCauley

Understanding yours and your children's learning styles – See pp. 3-4

REMEMBER!!!

Good input makes good output

Don't create an educated fool. Don't sacrifice character and relationships for what we think education needs to be.

You are NOT disqualified from teaching by the limitations of your current knowledge.

This is a Marathon – not a sprint

Your BIG PICTURE Goals

MORE STRUCTURED TEACHING STRATEGIES

Strengths: Ready for test, No “gaps”

Weaknesses: ♦Limits flexibility for individualized levels, pace, and learning styles
♦Less multi-age work ♦Very curriculum directed

Textbook/Workbook “Traditional”

Familiar Curricula:

- A Beka
- Bob Jones University Press
- Christian Liberty Press
- Rod & Staff
- Seton

Paces Style Curricula:

- Alpha Omega Lifepacs
- Christian Light Education
- School of Tomorrow (ACE)
(Accelerated Christian Education)

Subject Specific Curricula:

- Saxon Math
- Apologia Science (1-12) Written or Homeschoolers!!

Technology-related/Correspondence

Video Courses, Schools: A Beka, School of Tomorrow - computer/video interactive, BJU satellite network

Computer classes, on-line instruction, academies: Alpha Omega Switched On Schoolhouse CD-ROM; Eagle Christian H.S. correspondence on Web; Escondido Tutorial Service classical education on-line

Traditional correspondence: Alpha Omega, School of Tomorrow

Satellite schools: Christian Liberty Academy, Sycamore Tree, School of Tomorrow

Strengths: ♦Avoid gaps ♦Sequential ♦Planned

Weaknesses: ♦Divides family ♦Can hinder pace ♦Doesn't fit all learning styles

Classical Education “Trivium”

Intellectual focus (Training the mind)
Incorporates Logic and Latin

Trivium (Three stages of Learning)

- **Grammar** (primary years) – Absorbing concrete basic facts, knowledge and memorization
- **Dialectic** (middle years) – Logic and analysis, understanding interdisciplinary relationships
- **Rhetoric** (high school) – Written and spoken expression, turning knowledge into wisdom

Classical Education Resources:

Douglas Wilson

[http://www.FOUNDATIONSacademy.org/about.htm](http://wwwFOUNDATIONSacademy.org/about.htm)

Well Trained Mind by W.W. Norton

www.welltrainedmind.com

Christine Miller [http://www.classical-](http://www.classical-homeschooling.org/v2/index.php?page=152)

[homeschooling.org/v2/index.php?page=152](http://www.classical-homeschooling.org/v2/index.php?page=152)

Well-Educated Mind – Susan Wise Bauer

Unit Study Curriculum: Story of the World, Mystery of History

Strengths: ♦Learn to think ♦Solid educational foundation

Weaknesses: ♦Can be intimidating for teacher

LESS STRUCTURED TEACHING STRATEGIES

Strengths: ♦Allows for individual styles ♦Multiple ages learn together
Weaknesses: ♦Fear of “gaps” ♦Harder for Type “A” moms ♦More prep
♦Trying to do too much and getting bogged down

Unit Studies “Integrated Subject Learning”

Unit Study Curricula:

- KONOS
- Lessons from History w/ The Art Part
- Diana Waring’s History
- Greenleaf Press Famous Men and Guides
- Story of the World
- Mystery of History
- Prairie Primer – Little House
- Further Up/Further In - Narnia
- Where Brook and River Meet – Green Gables

Strengths: ♦Multiple ages ♦Learning styles & subjects together ♦Student directed

Weaknesses: ♦Some need more prep ♦Fear of “gaps”

Literature Approach “Whole Heart Learning”

Resources:

- *Books Children Love* - Macaulay
- *All Through the Ages* - Miller
- *Learning Language Arts through Literature*
- *Five in a Row*
- *Sonlight Curriculum*
- *Beautiful Feet Studies*

Strengths: ♦Multiple ages ♦Learning styles & subjects together ♦Student directed

Weaknesses: ♦Some need more prep ♦Fear of “gaps”

Unschooling “Relaxed Learning”

- www.unschooling.com/library/faq/index.shtml
- *Homeschooling with Gentleness: A Catholic Discovers Unschooling* – Andres

Strengths: ♦Completely flexible ♦Student directed

Weaknesses: ♦Difficult to define ♦Gaps ♦Harder to measure or prove learning ♦Often based on humanistic premises

Charlotte Mason “Love of Learning”

Resources:

- *Charlotte Mason Education* - Andreola
- *Charlotte Mason Companion* - Mason
- *Five in a Row* - Lambert
- *Story Starters* - Andreola

Strengths: ♦Multiple ages ♦Learning styles & subjects together ♦Student directed ♦Learning based on “Living books” ♦Produces life-long learners

Weaknesses:

Eclectic “Customized Education”

Best of the Best for YOUR Family

Find Your Balance!