

Homeschool Planning Packet



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GETTING STARTED

Why Am I Homeschooling?

I decided to homeschool because...

*What I'm hoping homeschooling
will do for my kids...*

*What I'm hoping homeschooling
will do for me...*

The world is so full of a number of things, I'm sure we should all be as happy as kings!
-Robert Louis Stevenson

Homeschooling Laws

Laws & requirements to be aware of in my area

Notify school district/formal withdrawal

Instructional days/hours

Required subjects

Annual/periodic reporting

Assessments/testing

Parent qualifications

Supervising teacher/
school

Record keeping

Other

Adjusting to Homeschool

When pulling your kids out of school, you often need a week to a month to recover and regroup before you start homeschooling in earnest. Give yourself and your kids time, but make the time work by planning things that are enriching and build relationships in your family.

Fun activities to do at home

- ☐ _____
- ☐ _____
- ☐ _____
- ☐ _____
- ☐ _____

Fun outings to do as a family

- ☐ _____
- ☐ _____
- ☐ _____
- ☐ _____
- ☐ _____

Read-aloud book ideas

- ☐ _____
- ☐ _____
- ☐ _____
- ☐ _____
- ☐ _____

CREATING A VISION

Big List of Knowledge

Select the subjects you feel it is important to teach your kids before they leave home.

Core subjects

MATHEMATICS

- ☐ Arithmetic
- ☐ Algebra
- ☐ Geometry
- ☐ Calculus
- ☐ Financial literacy

LANGUAGE ARTS

- ☐ Reading (phonics & literature)
- ☐ Writing (penmanship & composition)
- ☐ Spelling
- ☐ Grammar

HISTORY

- ☐ Ancient
- ☐ Middle ages
- ☐ Colonial
- ☐ Modern
- ☐ American
- ☐ Civics

SCIENCE

- ☐ Earth science
- ☐ Biology
- ☐ Chemistry
- ☐ Physics
- ☐ Health
- ☐ Nature study
- ☐ _____

Elective subjects

GEOGRAPHY

- ☐ Physical
- ☐ Mapping
- ☐ Cultures
- ☐ Human

ARTS

- ☐ Art appreciation
- ☐ Music instruction
- ☐ Art instruction
- ☐ Crafts

FOREIGN LANGUAGE

- ☐ Spanish
- ☐ French
- ☐ German
- ☐ Latin
- ☐ _____

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

- ☐ Outside play
- ☐ Skill building
- ☐ Fitness
- ☐ Organized sports

Life Skills

PERSONAL

- ☐ Hygiene
- ☐ Nutrition
- ☐ Time management
- ☐ Goal setting/ self discipline
- ☐ Emotional intelligence
- ☐ Managing stress
- ☐ Hard work

SOCIAL

- ☐ Communication
- ☐ Empathy
- ☐ Boundaries
- ☐ Assertiveness
- ☐ Public speaking
- ☐ Team work
- ☐ Unselfishness

SPIRITUAL

- ☐ Prayer/ meditation
- ☐ Forgiveness
- ☐ Compassion/ giving
- ☐ Bible/character study
- ☐ Worship

HOME

- ☐ Food preparation
- ☐ Cleaning & organizing
- ☐ Basic repairs & maintenance
- ☐ Design/beauty/ comfort
- ☐ Yard work/ gardening

Long Term Education Plan For _____

Subjects to teach every year

- 1 _____
- 2 _____
- 3 _____
- 4 _____

Subjects I don't want to miss

- 1 _____
- 2 _____
- 3 _____
- 4 _____

Most valuable for a happy life

- 1 _____
- 2 _____
- 3 _____
- 4 _____

Required for graduation/college

- 1 _____
- 2 _____
- 3 _____
- 4 _____

Subjects

Grade	1	2	3	4	5	6
1						
2						
3						
4						
5						
6						
7						
8						
9						
10						
11						
12						

Long Term Education Plan For _____

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Grade

Subjects

1						
2						
3						
4						
5						
6						
7						
8						
9						
10						
11						
12						

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Subjects

1						
2						
3						
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5						
6						
7						
8						
9						
10						
11						
12						

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Grade

Subjects

1						
2						
3						
4						
5						
6						
7						
8						
9						
10						
11						
12						

My Four Year Plan

How do you want to organize your core subjects and electives for the next four years? Math and language arts are usually based on grade level for each individual child, but the remaining subjects can often be taught to all of your children at once.

Year 1

Subject	Focus
Math	
Language Arts	
History	
Science	

Year 2

Subject	Focus
Math	
Language Arts	
History	
Science	

Year 3

Subject	Focus
Math	
Language Arts	
History	
Science	

Year 4

Subject	Focus
Math	
Language Arts	
History	
Science	

My Homeschool Vision

How do you picture your homeschool?

Where do you study?

Are you learning together or individually?

How is the room decorated?

When do you study?

What Is My Homeschooling Style?

Tick every item that appeals to you in the lists below. Most homeschoolers are a mix of styles, but lean more toward one than the other. This will help you understand your own preferences, which is essential for choosing curriculum.

Classical

- ☐ Learning things in the right order is important.
- ☐ I want my kids to read and understand classic literature and the Great Books.
- ☐ I like being organized.
- ☐ I want to make sure my kids don't have major gaps in their education.
- ☐ I believe in a thorough education and an academic approach.

Unit Studies

- ☐ I like the idea of learning really deeply about topics my kids are interested in.
- ☐ I want my kids to have a lot of say in what we learn about.
- ☐ I like being creative.
- ☐ Being organized is a plus, but not essential.
- ☐ It's important that our lessons are interesting and exciting.
- ☐ Hands-on learning is super important.

Charlotte Mason

- ☐ It's important to me that my kids are well-rounded.
- ☐ I like the idea of studying nature and the world.
- ☐ I want my kids to read lots of books, but not text books so much.
- ☐ Curiosity is the most important part of being educated.
- ☐ The best way to assess learning is having your kids write or tell what they've learned in their own words.

Traditional School Method

- ☐ I want my kids to have a public school experience at home.
- ☐ I prefer teaching from text books.
- ☐ My main goal is to have my kids re-enter the public school system.
- ☐ I am using an online charter school.
- ☐ Standardized tests are important to me.

My homeschooling style leans toward...

Curriculum Comparison

Use this chart to compare two or more curriculum options in a particular subject.

Math
(subject)

	Money cost			Time cost				Philosophy		Learning styles					Support	
	Price	Requires expensive supplements	Can be reused	Open-and-go	Requires teacher prep time	Self directed	Teacher intensive	Homeschool style	Belief system matches mine	Activity & project based	Reading & writing based	Family-style	For individual learners	Online/computer based	Scripted, step-by-step	Lots of teacher support
Saxon Math																
Math-U-See																
Khan Academy																

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(subject)

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This Year's Curriculum

MY CHILDREN													
SUBJECTS													
Math													
Reading													
Writing													
Spelling													
Grammar													

Layers of Learning

GETTING ORGANIZED

Most homeschoolers eventually gravitate to a natural flow for their day and pay less attention to the clock. But when you are starting out or at the beginning of each school year, it is a good idea to be a bit strict until everyone gets into the flow.

In this column label and block out times for different parts of your day such as morning routine and breakfast, school hours, lunch and play times, chores times and so on.

In this column write your school routine. This is simply the order in which you will do each of your school subjects, without exact time or duration. You can also include breaks and snacks in your routine.

6:00	
7:00	
8:00	
9:00	
10:00	
11:00	
12:00	
1:00	
2:00	
3:00	
4:00	
5:00	
6:00	
7:00	
8:00	
9:00	
10:00	

[illegible]

Homeschool Supplies

Essential Items

CURRICULUM & LEARNING

- ☐ Textbooks or teachers guides
- ☐ Internet access
- ☐ Computer or tablet
- ☐ Printer (plus copier if possible)
- ☐ White printer paper
- ☐ Library card
- ☐ World map or globe

MATH & SCIENCE

- ☐ Calculator
- ☐ Ruler

WRITING

- ☐ Pencils
- ☐ Pencil sharpener
- ☐ Pens
- ☐ Lined notebook paper
- ☐ Handwriting paper for little ones
- ☐ Binder for each student
- ☐ Dividers
- ☐ Hole puncher
- ☐ Stapler

CRAFT SUPPLIES

- ☐ Colored paper
- ☐ Card stock
- ☐ Scissors
- ☐ Glue sticks
- ☐ School glue
- ☐ Washable tempera paint in several colors
- ☐ Variety of paint brushes
- ☐ Crayons
- ☐ Colored pencils
- ☐ Colored markers

Nice to Have

CURRICULUM & LEARNING

- ☐ Encyclopedia of history
- ☐ Encyclopedia of science
- ☐ Encyclopedia of art
- ☐ World atlas

MATH & SCIENCE

- ☐ Math kit for elementary students
- ☐ Electricity kit

- ☐ Microscope & basic biology slide set
- ☐ Telescope or binoculars
- ☐ Chemistry glassware and chemicals

WRITING

- ☐ Colored pens for writing
- ☐ Highlighters
- ☐ Colored lined paper

CRAFT SUPPLIES

- ☐ Pom poms
- ☐ Sequins
- ☐ Glitter
- ☐ Googly eyes
- ☐ Air dry clay
- ☐ Pipe cleaners
- ☐ Feathers
- ☐ Yarn
- ☐ Watercolor paints
- ☐ Craft sticks

Luxury

CURRICULUM & LEARNING

- ☐ Several fun reading books for each of your children
- ☐ Trips to visit learning opportunities
- ☐ A computer for each child

MATH & SCIENCE

- ☐ Kits to go with lessons

WRITING

- ☐ Pre-bound blank mini books

CRAFT SUPPLIES

- ☐ Glue gun
- ☐ Sewing machine
- ☐ Special kits for projects that coordinate with lessons
- ☐ Colored card stock

LESSON PLANNING

Pacing Guide

A typical school year is 36 weeks, or four weeks in each of nine months. Jot down the units, topics, or chapters you plan to cover in each week of your school year. You don't need to write down subjects that proceed from one chapter to the next, like math or spelling.

Week	Writing	History	Science			
1						
2						
3						
4						
5						
6						
7						
8						
9						
10						
11						
12						
13						
14						
15						
16						
17						
18						

Pacing Guide

The basic outline from the Pacing Guide gets transferred into a weekly planner where you write more details about chapters, books, videos, supplies, and testing.

Week	Writing	History	Science			
19						
20						
21						
22						
23						
24						
25						
26						
27						
28						
29						
30						
31						
32						
33						
34						
35						
36						

Lesson Planner

You can use this sheet to plan a single day's lesson for one subject. You won't write out this detailed planning very often once you are experienced. But planning out the parts of a lesson helps you to understand the structure so it becomes second nature.

subject

unit/chapter

objective

Step 1: Learning the Information

book or video

discussion topics

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Step 2: Hands-on to Solidify

craft, experiment, or activity

supplies needed

- | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

Step 3: Show What You Know

You don't have to test knowledge after every single lesson, but review once a week.

choose a way to test the knowledge

TRADITIONAL TEST

- ☐ Verbal test with oral answers
- ☐ Verbal test with written answers
- ☐ Written test

WRITING

- ☐ Oral narration written by mentor
- ☐ Written narration
- ☐ Essay or report

GAME

- ☐ Jeopardy
- ☐ Around the World
- ☐ Kahoot
- ☐ Matching

Weekly Lesson Planner

date

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Math					
Writing					
Reading					
History					
Science					
Geography					
Arts					