

Ages and Stages: Real-Life Homeschooling

Jennifer Georgia

A list of the best homeschooling resources around, compiled by Jennifer Georgia, Kami Harris, Linzy Allen, and Susan Van Cleave

Resources for YOU

Books and Articles:

“The Lost Tools of Learning” by Dorothy Sayers
Classical Education and the Homeschool by Jones, Wilson, and Callihan
The Well-Trained Mind by Susan Wise Bauer
The Well-Educated Mind by Susan Wise Bauer
A Thomas Jefferson Education Home Companion by Oliver and Rachel DeMille and Diann Jeppson
How Children Learn by John Holt
The Successful Homeschool Family Handbook by Dr. Raymond and Dorothy Moore
Free to Learn by Dr. Peter Gray
Teaching Children Joy by Linda and Richard Eyre
A Passion-Driven Education by Connor Boyack
The Time-Starved Family by DeAnne Flynn
The 5 Love Languages of Children by Gary Chapman and Ross Campbell
Teaching from Rest by Sarah Mackenzie
Homeschooling with a Meek and Quiet Spirit by Teri Maxwell
Happy Homeschooling, Best Homeschool Secrets, and Homeschooling Questions and Answers by Diane Hopkins found on LoveToLearn.net
TheFamilySchoolOnline.org

Podcasts: Read Aloud Revival, Power of Moms Radio

Facebook Groups: Thomas Jefferson Education (TJEd), Read Aloud Revival

Favorite Preschool Resources

Math:

Cuisenaire rods and rod track, pattern blocks, counters, Learning Wrap Ups, abacus, rulers, tape measures, measuring cups and spoons, thermometer, a cheap calculator (to play with), a cheap clock (to play with), balance scale, attribute blocks, Mighty Mind (pattern blocks and patterns), rice bin or sand box

Reading:

Be a “laundry basket lady” at your local library
Bob books
Dr. Seuss books
Explode the Code
Calvin & Hobbes books by Bill Watterson

Church Resources:

Scripture Stories (illustrated, summarized stories from each book of scripture), Gospel Art Kit, Visual Aid Cutouts, Friend magazine

Games and Toys:

Tangrams, Memory, Hoot Owl Hoot, Fish Sticks, Spot It!, Puzzles, Wooden Blocks, Gears, Bristle Blocks, TinkerToys, Lego Duplos, Sum Swamp, Science Lab for preschoolers, Unifix Cubes

Art:

ARTistic Pursuits Series by Brenda Ellis (goes all the way through the grades);
Drawing with Children by Mona Brookes
Draw Write Now: A Drawing and Handwriting Course for Kids! by Marie Hablitzel and Kim Stitzer

Favorite Elementary School Resources

Math:

Miquon Math Lab (you need to get Lab Sheet Annotations also)

Life of Fred

Calculus by and for Young People by Don Cohen

Family Math and *Family Math for Young Children* by Stenmark and Coates

Magical Math: A Book for Young Children and Their Parents by Jennifer Georgia

Math story books like the Sir Cumference series, Stuart J. Murphy's MathStart books, anything by Theoni Pappas, David Schwartz, and Greg Tang
Math games like Base Ten Number Kit, Set, Set Cubed, Blockus, Chess, Checkers, Sudoku, TipOver, RushHour, Tangrams, Weigh to Learn Math Kit, origami, real money and a calculator, and Sum Swamp

Times Tales DVD (learn multiplication—and remember them—fast!)

Exact Change (like Uno but with a 'money twist')

Timez Attack (monster battling computer game)

Language:

Latin Primer by Martha Wilson

Hey Andrew, Teach Me Some Greek by Karen Mohs

English from the Roots Up by Joegil K. Lundquist

Rummy Roots (Greek and Latin root word card game)

Language Arts:

Vocabulary from Classical Roots Series

Easy Grammar series

Lynn Truss's grammar picture book series

All About Spelling if your child has difficulty and needs structure/rules;

Unifix Cubes (they have some with letters/ blends)

Podcasts: Stories Podcast (to listen to stories)

Logic:

Mind Benders, Red Herrings, Plusplus blocks,

Professor Fizzwizzle computer games, *The Fallacy*

Detective by Nathaniel Bluedorn and Hans Bluedorn

Science:

Berean Builders curricula by Jay Wile, PhD

Wild Days: Creating Discovery Journals by Karen Skidmore Rackliffe

Or just pick a topic, go to that section of your library, and bring home a bunch of books on it.

Podcasts: BrainsOn!

History:

The Story of the World series by Susan Wise Bauer;

The History News series; lots of story books and documentaries

Reference Books:

Children's dictionaries and encyclopedias, children's history encyclopedias and science reference books, field guides (to bugs, birds, trees, wild flowers and weeds, and even our field guide to the crazy mushrooms and fungi that grow in Virginia have all been very fun and useful to have)

Favorite Middle School Resources

Math:

Mathematics: A Human Endeavor by Harold Jacobs

Life of Fred series

Saxon math

A Beginners' Guide to Constructing the Universe by Michael S. Schneider

Proofs Without Words: Exercises in Visual Thinking by Roger B. Nelson

Murderous Maths series by Kjartan Poskitt

Language Arts:

Easy Grammar series

Classical Writing series by Gustilo and Jaqua

Vocabulary from Classical Roots series

Spelling Workout (we use the upper levels of this to teach commonly misspelled words)

Eats, Shoots, and Leaves by Lynn Truss

I Laid an Egg on Aunt Ruth's Head: Conquering English and Its Ruthless Ways by Joel Schnoor

Nitty-Gritty Grammar and *More Nitty-Gritty Grammar* by Edith Fine and Judith Josephson

Logic:

Critical Thinking by Anita Harnadek
Introductory and Intermediate Logic by Douglas Wilson and James Nance

Literature:

The Well-Trained Mind reading lists, *A Thomas Jefferson Education* reading lists

Language:

Latin Everywhere, Everyday: A Latin Phrase Workbook by Elizabeth Heimback
Latina Christiana by Cheryl Lowe

Science:

The Rainbow Science series by Durrell Dobbins, PhD;
Berean Builders *Exploring Creating with...* series by Jay Wile, PhD

History:

Genevieve Foster series: *Augustus Caesars's World*, *The World of Columbus and Sons*, *The World of Captain John Smith*, *The World of William Penn*, *George Washington's World*, *Abraham Lincoln's World*

Albert Marrin series: 30 books for youth—preview if your child is sensitive

Holling C. Holling books: combine history, geography, and some have a science focus too

Government and Economics:

The Five Thousand Year Leap by W. Cleon Skousen
The “Uncle Eric” books by Richard Maybury
How an Economy Grows, and Why It Crashes by Peter D. Schiff (the title may sound boring, but the book is an island parable, illustrated, and very engaging)
Capitalism for Kids by Karl Hess

Favorite High School Resources

If possible, have your teens use *Preach My Gospel* as part of their daily studies, or use it for family devotionals

The Great Courses video series from The Teaching Company has FABULOUS classes on nearly every topic. We've enjoyed the history, science, and math classes, which we check out from our library.

Coursera.org also has a huge number of free classes, as does MIT OpenCourseWare

Math:

Elementary Algebra; Geometry: Seeing, Doing, Understanding; and *Mathematics: A Human Endeavor* by Harold Jacobs

Life of Fred series (do Statistics instead of Calculus in high school)

Saxon Math; Art of Problem Solving

Math-U-See

Flatland by Edwin Abbott

Flatterland by Ian Stewart

Euclid's Window by Leonard Mlodinow

What Is Calculus About? by W.W. Sawyer

How Not to Be Wrong: The Power of Mathematical Thinking, by Jordan Ellenburg

Language Arts:

Continue programs from middle school

Abeka *Grammar and Composition*

Institute for Excellence in Writing *High School Essay*

Intensive, by Andrew Pudewa

Elements of Style, by Strunk and White (as in E.B.

White, author of *Charlotte's Web*, and a fabulous essayist)

Rhetoric:

The Art of the Argument by Aaron Larsen
Rulebook for Arguments by Anthony Weston
Classical Rhetoric by Martin Cothran: video lectures, workbook, Aristotle's *Rhetoric*
How to Read a Book by Adler and Van Doren,
Figures of Speech: 60 Ways to Turn a Phrase by Arthur Quinn.

If possible, enroll your child in a speech and/or debate class/co-op

Literature:

Teaching the Classics by Adam Andrews
The Book of Great Books: A Guide to 100 World Classics by W. John C. Campbell, PhD.
Great Books Tutorial has a week-by-week guide to reading through the world classics on their website (gbt.org)

Another very challenging one is the BYU Honor's Society Reading List for a Lifetime
Oxford School Shakespeare books are our favorites

Language:

Athenaze by Maurice Balme and Gilbert Lawall
Oxford Latin by Maurice Balme and James Morwood
Rosetta Stone programs

Science:

Biology: God's Living Creation, A Beka
Berean Builders series by Dr. Jay Wile
The Biology Coloring Book, Robert D. Griffin
The Botany Coloring Book, by Paul Young
The Great Courses video series (many topics in many fields)
The Standard Deviants video series

History:

The History of the Ancient World, The History of the Medieval World, The History of the Renaissance World by Susan Wise Bauer
The Timetables of History by Bernard Grun
Joseph Smith's America: His Life and Times by Chad M. Orton and William W. Slaughter
From Dawn to Decadence - 1500 to the Present: 500 Years of Western Cultural Life by Jacques Barzun
Western Civilization: A Brief History by Jackson J. Spielvogel

Government:

Basic American Government, by Clarence Carson
The Making of America: The Substance and Meaning of the Constitution, by W. Cleon Skousen
The Law by Frederic Bastiat
The Proper Role of Government by Ezra Taft Benson

Economics:

The Foundation for Economic Education (fee.org) has these: *Anything That's Peaceful* by Leonard Read; "What Is Seen and Not Seen" by Frederic Bastiat; *Economics in One Lesson* by Henry Hazlitt
Commanding Heights book and PBS series (available to watch on the PBS web site)
Free to Choose by Milton and Rose Friedman plus the PBS video series of the same name (on Video.Google.com)

Art:

Drawing on the Right Side of the Brain by Betty Edwards
The Annotated Mona Lisa: A Crash Course in Art History from Pre-historic to Post-modern by Carol Strickland, PhD
ARTistic Pursuits Series by Brenda Ellis

Life Skills:

Financial Peace for Teens by Dave Ramsey
The Secrets of Great Communicators by Jeff Myers
The Seven Habits of Highly Effective Teens by Sean Covey
Sometimes You Win, Sometimes You Learn by John Maxwell
TJEd for Teens by Oliver DeMille and Shanon Brooks