

How Many Homeschoolers?

1, 773, 000 Homeschool children are in the U.S. (2012), up 61.8% in 10 years, OR 3.4% of the school-age population.

—National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), a division of the U.S. Department of Education

General Resources

Top 100 Homeschool Websites 2019

<https://www.homeschool.com/top-100-2019/>

THSC Homeschool SPECIAL NEEDS Resources (PDF)

<https://www.thsc.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/09/THSCSpecialNeedsResources.pdf>

Personalized Homeschool Diploma

<https://store.hslda.org>

Homeschool High School Transcripts

http://a2zhomeschooling.com/teens/homeschool_transcripts_template/



Homeschool Giveaways & Freebies Group

If you have questions on homeschooling or need assistance locating homeschool resources, a staff librarian can assist you.

Please take our online survey to give us feedback on how we can improve library service for homeschoolers. →

Weatherford Public Library

1014 Charles Street
Weatherford, TX 76086
Phone: 817-598-4150

Email: libinfo@weatherfordtx.gov

Library online catalog address:

Web: <http://www.wpltx.com>



SURVEY

Contact Us

Weatherford Public Library

Homeschool Resources Guide

Homeschool Rules

- 1) Get out of your seat
- 2) Talk in class
- 3) Don't raise your hand
- 4) Kiss your teacher
- 5) Chew gum

Table of Contents

Table of Contents.....	2
Library Resources.....	3
Why Homeschool.....	4
Homeschool Laws.....	5
Teaching Approaches.....	6
Curricula.....	7-12
Teaching Tips.....	13
Learning Styles.....	14
Helpful Hints.....	15
Special Needs.....	16
Challenging Students.....	17
Struggling Students.....	18
Local Classes.....	19
Contact Information.....	20

Disclaimer: The Weatherford Public Library is providing this resource to assist local homeschoolers. A great amount of the information is useful for all educators and parents. It is not an endorsement of any product or business mentioned or a promotion of homeschooling as a preference over other choices in education.



Local Homeschool Groups



<https://www.facebook.com/pccheducators>



Parker-Wise County Homeschool Group



<http://www.weatherfordexpress.com/>

See more resources at our Homeschool Resources webpage



Local Homeschool Classes



<http://shapeacademy.com/> (Granbury)

AND

<http://www.aledochristianschool.com/homeschoolclasses.cfm>

"Homeschooling is largely heart to heart. The methods and even the curriculum do not matter nearly as much as the relationship between the child and parent."
—Ruth Beechick

STRUGGLING STUDENTS

Frustrated **Unmotivated**
Non-Compliant *Stressed*
Disorganized **Behind in skills**

- Break from the work that is frustrating the student and take time away to develop a solution strategy together
- Provide motivation for finishing work, like a favorite game or activity
- Incorporate natural and hands-on learning
- Encourage more school work selections by the student based on his or her own personal interests
- Concentrate on finding any problems or deficits and correct learning gaps found
- Integrate organization skills as part of school study
- Set deadlines for longer and more difficult assignments, allowing time to make corrections and ask questions
- When annoyed, take a breather, then return and try again
 > *walk it off OR find something enjoyable to distract and clear the mind*
- Allow freedom of movement
 > *Ex. read a nature book in the back yard*
- Mastery should be the focus of a good education, not grades
- A child's learning style should be considered when determining school assignments and evaluating progress

"It is the duty of a citizen in a free country not to fit into society, but to make society." —John Holt



- ◆ The TexShare databases have access to practice tests for college entrance exams, research aids, and many more resources for educational purposes.
- ◆ E-books, audiobooks and e-magazines are available through the library system.
- ◆ Try different formats to add variety to the homeschool experience. Audiobooks, multi-media kits, online learning and educational DVDs are some of the options that can boost interest.
- ◆ Programs for all ages are available throughout the year, and the Summer Reading Challenge is a great opportunity for motivating your children to read. Summertime at the library is also a wonderful choice to supplement the school year...with more than 100 programs and activities!
- ◆ Check our calendar for scheduled book sales (2-3 per year). Home Educators and Teachers are invited for a preview night. All proceeds benefit the library and its collections.
- ◆ The WPL Homeschool Resource webpage contains links to library items and online websites of interest to home educators. It is an extensive resource created by a homeschooler for homeschoolers.
- ◆ Ask a librarian for any assistance with locating items for your educational needs, including suggestions for literature and homeschool materials in the collection.

For the most complete and current list of homeschool information links, go to:

Homeschool Resources

 www.weatherfordtx.gov/WPLhomeschoolresources



Why Homeschool?

Parents decide to homeschool their own children for a variety of reasons.

- *Family convictions of faith or moral standards*
- *Bullying, peer pressure, or another negative experience that has occurred in a school setting*
- *Academic expectations*
- *The child's learning or health needs are not being addressed appropriately or satisfactorily*
- *To instill a love of learning*
- *To enrich strengths and work on weaknesses at a pace that works for the individual student*
- *Better use of time by learning practical things that matter rather than subjects of no interest or use to the student's future plans*
- *Creative and unique opportunities can be explored*
- *Behavior guidance is consistently applied throughout the day according to the family's personal values*

101 Reasons to Homeschool

<http://www.raisinglifelonglearners.com/reasons-to-homeschool/>

CHALLENGING STUDENTS

Special Needs

Learning Disability

Behavior Disorders

Homeschooling is especially helpful for students with challenges. The options are unlimited for modifications that fit the child's ability, interest and learning style.

- Frequent breaks, as needed, watching for signs of frustration
- Work at a comfortable level, with slight challenge
- Hands-on fun (see, hear, taste, touch, smell)
- Learning should be personally meaningful and have a purpose that will be useful to the child in life
- Work at child's own pace
- Use a timer to motivate improvement and increase attention, concentration and independence
- Use games, distance learning and computer software for variety
- Incorporate therapy into school work
- Create an incentive based plan (with prizes) OR a reward system
 - >Chore Chart
 - >Choice Board
 - >Work Boxes
 - >Token Economy

*"Education is an atmosphere, a discipline, a life."
—Charlotte Mason*

Special Learners

CURRICULA

- *The ABA Companion Guide AAR/AAS (Orton-Gillingham)
- *How do I Teach this Kid to Read? Simply Classical (Memoria)
- *Self-Help Skills for Autism Teach Me Language
- *Teaching by Design *The Writing Road to Reading
- *Breaking Through: Using Educational Technology...
- *Helping Children with Down Syndrome Communicate Better
- *Success Strategies for Teaching Children with Autism

DISTANCE LEARNING

- | | |
|------------------------|------------------|
| Bridgeway Academy HOPE | Reading Horizons |
| Reading Rockets | StarFall |
| Time4Learning | WiloStar3D |

PRODUCTS

- | | |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| Little Giant Steps | Difflearn company |
| Therapro | SuperDuper Inc. |
| Model Me Kids | Tasks Galore |

Area Resources

- | | |
|---|---|
| Behavioral Innovations | Child Study Center |
| FEAT-NT Center | Green Apple Therapy |
| Miracle League of Parker County | Sylvan Learning Center |
| Mathnasium | Kumon Centers |
| http://www.senteacher.org/ | http://www.difflearn.com/ |
| https://www.superduperinc.com/ | https://zacbrowser.com/ |
| https://www.touchmath.com/ | http://filefolderheaven.com/ |
| https://homeschoolingwithdyslexia.com/ | www.do2learn.com/ |
| https://www.time4learning.com/learning-special-needs.shtml | |
| http://learningabledkids.com/reading | |

Texas Homeschool Laws



In accordance with Texas Education Code §51.9241, the state of Texas considers the successful completion of a homeschool education to be equivalent to graduation from a public or private high school. —U.S. Department of Education

TEA code §21.033 “Any child in attendance upon a private or parochial school which shall include in its course a study of good citizenship” is exempt from the requirements of compulsory attendance.

Under the Texas Supreme court decision rendered in Leeper vs. Arlington ISD and Article 7, Section 2 of the Texas Constitution, a homeschool curriculum must include the following provisions:

1. The instruction must be *bona fide* (i.e., not a sham).
2. The curriculum must be in visual form (e.g., books, workbooks, video monitor).
3. The curriculum must include the five basic subjects of reading, spelling, grammar, mathematics, and good citizenship.

TEA code §25.086 requires you to withdraw your child from public school should they already be enrolled. For instructions on withdrawal procedures, go to <https://www.thsc.org/getting-started/7-easy-steps-to-begin/withdraw-from-public-school/>

Advocacy

Homeschool Legal Defense Association
<https://www.hsllda.org/>

Texas Homeschool Coalition
<https://www.thsc.org/>

Texas for Homeschool Freedom Public Group



National Center for Homeschool Liberty (a division of the National Center for Life and Liberty)
<http://homeschool.ncll.org/>





TEACHING APPROACHES

School-at-Home

- Traditional classroom approach using textbooks and workbooks
- Labor intensive for instructor and often boring for child
- Other options, e.g. distance learning online

Classical

- The three stages of learning: Grammar, Logic and Rhetoric
- History and Science are studied in four year cycles
- Systematic and rigorous

Charlotte Mason

- “Living books”
- Copy work, narration, dictation, nature study and fine arts
- “Learning for the sake of learning”

Unschooling

- Parent is a facilitator rather than instructor
- Child-directed, choosing materials and researching personal interests
- BOOKS only—no curriculum, workbooks, texts, or tests

Unit Studies

- “Cross-curricula” theme
- Lapbooks are a popular format
- Great for large families to work and learn together
- Hands-on and interest driven
- Easy to integrate into any method

Montessori

- “Errorless” learning at child’s pace
- Prepared, controlled and structured environment
- Self-directed time with exploration encouraged
- Emphasis on nature and practical life skills

Eclectic

- Most common method used
- Emphasis on the basics—Reading, Writing, Math, History and Science
- Flexible for family and child’s preferences

HELPFUL HINTS

For Teacher Burnout

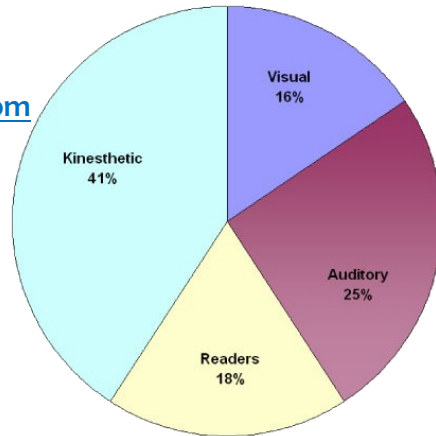
- ⇒ *Turn the phone ringer off*
- ⇒ *Train children to help with housework*
- ⇒ *De-clutter and organize*
- ⇒ *Make plans, but be reasonable and flexible*
- ⇒ *Exercise*
- ⇒ *Take a power nap OR take a break*
- ⇒ *Find “praises” each day*
- ⇒ *Put on some uplifting music*
- ⇒ *Ask for help from a local homeschool group or friend*
- ⇒ *Do something fun in school or on your own*
- ⇒ *Make time for a personal project or hobby*
- ⇒ *Avoid comparing your child’s progress with another child*
- ⇒ *Avoid comparing your teaching style against another teacher*
- ⇒ *Ask family for some “alone” time*
- ⇒ *Choose different teaching options and reduce activities:*
 - Transition all or some of work to online
 - Limit extra-curricular choices
 - Use a different format (e.g., audiobooks or DVDs)
- ⇒ *Take a day off to refresh and focus, then pick back up with a new perspective and positive outlook*

“I have never let my schooling interfere with my education.”
-Mark Twain

Learning Styles

Discover your child's learning style, sometimes referred to as multiple intelligences. Below is a link to a test online to help evaluate.

<http://www.whatismylearningstyle.com>



This sample pie chart is from the study below and supports the concept that a student benefits from an education based on learning modalities.

Evaluating the Impact of Technology Education on Military

Maintenance Students —*Journal of STEM Teacher Education*

<http://scholar.lib.vt.edu/ejournals/JSTE/v47n2/jordan.html>

VARK Learning Styles

◆ Visual Learners

-need to see photos, graphs, charts, pictures

◆ Auditory or Aural Learners

-need to hear and repeat aloud information

◆ Read/Write Learners

-need to read books, write flash cards, etc.

◆ Kinesthetic Learners

-need to DO something active, discuss, walk, create, move while learning

POPULAR CURRICULA

All-in-One

A Beka
Alpha Omega
Book Shark
Calvert
Five in a Row
KONOS
Memoria Press
My Father's World
Pearson Homeschool
Rainbow Resource
Sonlight Curriculum
Tapestry of Grace
Veritas Press

A.C.E. Paces
BJU Press
Christian Liberty Press
Classical Conversations
Heart of Dakota
Layers of Learning
Master Books
Oak Meadow
Prentice Hall
Rod and Staff
Sycamore Academy
Timberdoodle
Winter Promise

Online Options

<https://www.allinonehomeschool.com>

<http://www.homeschoolshare.com>

<http://www.themeasuredmom.com>

<http://www.123homeschool4me.com>

<http://www.enchantedlearning.com>

<https://www.amblesideonline.org>

<http://www.thisreadingmama.com/>

<http://www.discoveryk12.com/dk12/www.simplyfun.com>

<http://www.mamashappyhive.com>

<http://www.tinasdynamichomeschoolplus.com>

<http://www.criticalthinking.com/>

<http://www.audiomemory.com/>

<http://www.schoolexpress.com>

<https://www.khanacademy.org>

<https://www.time4learning.com>

<http://oyc.yale.edu>

<http://www.kidzone.ws/>

<http://www.hippocampus.org>

<http://www.guesthollow.com>

<https://>



More links available online at WPL Homeschool page

Curricula By Subject

**indicates some items available at WPL or through PCLA*

READING

*A Beka Readers	All About Reading
*Alpha-Phonics	Explode the Code
Foundations (Logic of English)	*Phonics Pathways
Primary Phonics	*Reading Pathways
*Teach Your Child to Read in 100 Easy Lessons	

<http://www.readinghorizons.com>

<http://www.spalding.org/>

<http://www.k12reader.com>

<http://www.adrianbruce.com/reading>

<http://www.ortonacademy.org/>

<http://www.simplylearningkids.com>

<http://www.readingkingdom.com>

<http://readingeggs.com>

SPELLING & VOCABULARY

All About Spelling	Sequential Spelling
Spelling You See	Spelling Wisdom
Spelling Power	Word Roots
Vocabulary from Classical Roots	*E-Z Spelling
*Word Smart CDs	Wordly Wise 3000

<http://www.wordcentral.com>

<http://www.homespellingwords.com>

<http://www.spellingcity.com/>

<http://myspellit.com/>



- ⇒ Refrain from teaching curriculum *verbatim*. Instead, use it as a guide and choose activities that are the most appropriate for each child's educational goals.
- ⇒ Skip repetitious exercises, use what works, and add in elements of interest and fun for each child when possible.
- ⇒ Look for unique learning opportunities in your daily routine and provide electives at the high school level that creatively support future aspirations.
- ⇒ Gradually guide children to some form of independence in their work, boosting confidence and promoting responsibility.
- ⇒ Avoid getting bogged down in planning. The focus should be on the child's success, not completion of a schedule.
- ⇒ Have a "done" moment for the day, but take advantage of natural learning outside of school hours.
- ⇒ Praise is motivating to any student. Celebrate in a way that is complementary to your student's personality.
- ⇒ Set reasonable expectations for each student based on their strengths.
- ⇒ Encourage towards improvement through correction.
- ⇒ Focus on understanding and mastery rather than errors.
- ⇒ Change up your routine to reduce monotony.
- ⇒ Focus on language development and hands-on activities for preschoolers and special needs students.

Reading aloud to child
Gross motor skills
Environmental print
Tactile awareness
Pretend play
Imaginative play
Listening

Fine motor skills
Counting
Practical life skills
Phonemic awareness
Following directions
Conversational speech
Articulation

FINE ARTS AND ELECTIVES

LOGIC

The Art of Argument	Critical Thinking Co.
Fallacy Detective	Introduction to Logic
Thinking Toolbox	Traditional Logic

ART

Artistic Pursuits	Art with a Purpose
Atelier Art Curriculum	Meet the Masters
See the Light DVDs	Visual Manna

MUSIC

Alfred's Guitar	Classical Kids CDs/DVDs
Color the Classics	Harmony Fine Arts-Music
Piano Adventures	Vocal Coach CDs

*The Story of the Orchestra (book & CD)

COMPUTERS

Kid Coder	Teen Coder
SOS Computer Applications series	*Programming like a Pro

CHRISTIAN WORLDVIEW

Deeper Roots Bible Study	CLP Bible Curriculum
Explorer's Bible Study	*Operation World
*What We Believe series	*Christian Heroes: Then & Now

*I Don't Have Enough Faith to Be an Atheist

FOREIGN LANGUAGE

BJU Press	Excelerate Spanish
La Clase Divertida	The Learnables
Rosetta Stone	SongSchool CDs
Excelerate Spanish	The Learnables
*Living Language	
http://www.8notes.com/piano	https://bible.org
https://www.ultimate-guitar.com	http://heartofwisdom.com
http://mnrussbaum.com/	http://www.dltk-kids.com
https://ww.rocketlanguages.com/	https://www.duolingo.com/
http://biblebasedhomeschooling.com	http://artisticpursuits.com/
http://factorytoursusa.com	http://www.teachwithmovies.org
http://compusolar.com/homeschool	http://www.techknowtraining.com/

WRITING

Institute for Excellence in Writing (IEW)

Classical Composition (Memoria)

Handwriting Without Tears

Essentials in Writing

Italic Handwriting

*Jensen's Format Writing

Wordsmith series

Writer's Inc. Handbook

Write with the Best

*Writing Strands

*Writing with Ease

*Writing with Skill

*The Elements of Style

*Unjournaling

<http://www.handwritingworksheets.com>

<https://owl.english.purdue.edu>

<http://www.sense-lang.org>

<https://www.time4writing.com/>

ENGLISH AND GRAMMAR

A Beka Language

Analytical Grammar

Easy Grammar

Editor-in-Chief

*First Language Lessons

Grammar Songs

Hake (Saxon) Grammar & Writing

Grammar Ace

Rod and Staff English

Winston Grammar

Life of Fred Language Arts

*Schoolhouse Rock DVD

*Grammar Girl series

*E-Z English or Grammar

*Word Smart-Grammar Smart CDs Zaner Blozer products

Holt Elements of Language (Warriner's updated)

Language Lessons for Today (Emma Serl updated)

LLATL (Learning Language Arts Through Literature)

<http://www.englishmaven.org/>

<http://www.gardenofpraise.com/mugram.htm>

<http://www.kissgrammar.org/>

https://www.mhschool.com/reading/treasure_workbooks/national.html

<http://www.dailygrammar.com/archive.html>

MATHEMATICS

Horizons Math

*Life of Fred

Math Mammoth

Miquon Math

*Singapore Math

Jacobs Math

*Interactive Notebooks for Math

<http://www.tlsbooks.com/mathworksheets.htm>

<https://www.purplemath.com>

<http://www.homeschoolmath.net>

<http://www.donnayoung.org/math/index.htm>

<http://www.mathsisfun.com>

<http://themathworksheetsite.com>

Kinetic Books Math

Mathematical Reasoning

Math-U-See

*Saxon Math

Teaching Textbooks

Developmental Math

*Algebra Survival Guide

SCIENCE

*Apologia Science

*Christian Kids Explore Chemistry

*Eyewitness Science

*Milliken transparency books

*VanCleave For Every Kid series

*The Story of Science (Hakim OR Bauer)

<https://www.brainpop.com>

<https://answersingenesis.org/kids>

<http://www.sciencekids.co.nz>

<http://www.howstuffworks.com>

<https://thehomeschoolscientist.com>

<http://www.playdoughtoplato.com>

<https://www.thehappyscientist.com/>

<https://www.nasa.gov/audience/forstudents/index.html>

<http://www.science4us.com/homeschool>

Berean Builders

Elemental Science

Holt-McDougal

Supercharged Science

Thames-Kosmos kits

*Basher science books

<http://www.christiananswers.net>

<http://thestemplaboratory.com>

<http://discoverykids.com>

<http://www.guesthollow.com>

<http://www.sciencebuddies.org/>

<https://www.exploratorium.edu/>

<https://brainly.com/>

HISTORY

Beautiful Feet guides

*Draw & Write Through History

*Eyewitness History

Geography Songs kit

*History Pockets

Jim Weiss CDs (Greathall)

Map Trek

Notgrass History

*Sterling Biographies

*Story of the World, also guides

*Trail Guide to U.S. Geography

Veritas Press Omnibus

*Politically Incorrect guides History Through the Ages Timelines

<https://bensguide.gpo.gov>

<http://www.eyewitnestohistory.com>

<http://www.50states.com>

<http://www.havefunwithhistory.com>

<https://www.hillsdale.edu/academics/free-online-courses/>

LITERATURE

A Beka Literature

Progeny Press Guides

Teaching the Classics

<http://manybooks.net/>

<http://www.arbookfind.com/>

<http://www.pinkmonkey.com/index2.asp>

<http://www.classical-homeschooling.org/celoop/1000.html>

http://a2zhomeschooling.com/main_articles/reading_lists_p1/

<https://classicalhouseoflearning.wordpress.com/>

<https://www.commonsemmedia.org/book-lists>

Biblioplan

Drive Thru History DVDs

Famous Figures in History

History Odyssey

History Revealed

*Landmark Biographies

*The Mystery of History

Runkle Geography

*The Story of US

Trail Guide to Learning

Truthquest History

James Stobaugh History

IEW Literature guides

Stobaugh Literary Analysis guides

Total Language Plus

<http://www.litcharts.com/>

<https://archive.org/details/gutenberg>