

# HOME EDUCATION: Where To Begin

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## I. EDUCATION

### A. Children's Education. Eight questions:

1. **Why** do we want to home educate?
2. **Who** will do the teaching?
3. **What** is/are our educational philosophy/-ies?
  - a. Textbook/Workbook
  - b. Unit Studies
  - c. Classical
  - d. Charlotte Mason
  - (e. Principle Approach)
  - (f. Unschooling)
4. **What** are our children's learning styles?
  - a. Visual
  - b. Auditory
    - (1) [www.singnlearn.com](http://www.singnlearn.com) - Making learning fun with music.
  - c. Kinesthetic/Hands On
5. **Which** subjects should we teach/books should we use?
6. **How much** time will home education take?
7. **When** should we teach?
8. **Where** should we teach?

### B. Parents' Education

1. **Read** general, beginning homeschooling books.

*The Three Rs* by Ruth Beechick – A series of three 24-page booklets: *A Home Start in Reading*, *A Strong Start in Language*, and *An Easy Start in Arithmetic*

*A Mom Just Like You* by Vickie Farris and Jamie Farris Metzgar

*The Busy Homeschool Mom's Guide to ... Daylight* by Heidi St. John

2. **Research** and choose a philosophy/ -ies of education.

- TEXTBOOK/WORKBOOK:

**Abeka** - [www.abeka.com](http://www.abeka.com) , 877-223-5226

**Alpha Omega – Monarch/Switched-On Schoolhouse/Lifepac/Horizon**  
[www.aop.com](http://www.aop.com) , 800-622-3070

**Bob Jones University Press** - [www.bjup.com](http://www.bjup.com) , 800-845-5731

**Christian Liberty Academy School System (CLASS)** -  
[www.homeschools.org](http://www.homeschools.org) , 800-348-0899

**Accelerated Christian Education (ACE)** -  
[www.aceministries.com](http://www.aceministries.com) , 615-612-5200

and others

- UNIT STUDIES

*Unit Studies Made Easy* by Valerie Bendt

**Amanda Bennett’s Unit Studies** - [www.unitstudy.com](http://www.unitstudy.com)

*The Five in a Row* series by Jane Claire Lambert - [www.fiveinarow.com](http://www.fiveinarow.com)

**Konos** - [www.konos.com](http://www.konos.com)

and others

- CLASSICAL

*Teaching the Trivium* by Harvey & Laurie Bluedorn -  
[www.triviumpursuit.com](http://www.triviumpursuit.com)

*The Well-Trained Mind* by Jessie Wise and Susan Wise Bauer -  
[www.welltrainedmind.com](http://www.welltrainedmind.com)

**Veritas Press** - [www.veritaspress.com](http://www.veritaspress.com)

**Cornerstone Curriculum** by David Quine -  
[www.cornerstonecurriculum.com](http://www.cornerstonecurriculum.com)

- CHARLOTTE MASON METHOD

*The Original Home Schooling Series* by Charlotte M. Mason

*A Charlotte Mason Education* – and – *More Charlotte Mason Education*  
by Catherine Levison – [www.simplycharlottesmason.com](http://www.simplycharlottesmason.com)

*A Charlotte Mason Companion* by Karen Andreola

**Ambleside Online** – A free, modern-day Charlotte Mason curriculum at  
[www.amblesideonline.org](http://www.amblesideonline.org)

**Greenleaf Press** – [www.greenleafpress.com](http://www.greenleafpress.com)

and others

3. **Subscribe** to a home education magazine or two.

*The Teaching Home* – [www.teachinghome.com](http://www.teachinghome.com)

*Homeschooling Today* – <https://homeschoolingtoday.com/>

*Homeschool Digest* – [www.homeschooldigest.com](http://www.homeschooldigest.com)

4. **Join** a support group

[www.mhea.net](http://www.mhea.net) » Resources » Support Groups

5. **Get** organized

a. Home

Don Aslett's books and materials --

*Is There Life After Housework?*

*Do I Dust or Vacuum First?*

*Make Your House Do the Housework*

*Clutter Free* and a ton of others from The Cleaning Center

[www.cleanreport.com](http://www.cleanreport.com) , (208) 899-8777

b. Time

See above books plus books by Emilie Barnes

- c. Money

Crown Financial Ministries - [www.crown.org](http://www.crown.org) , 800-722-1976

Dave Ramsey's - [www.daveramsey.com](http://www.daveramsey.com) , 888-227-3223

## C. The Law

1. Mississippi Law - <https://hsllda.org/legal/mississippi> and <https://mdek12.org/OCSA/HS>
2. Home School Legal Defense Association [www.hsllda.org](http://www.hsllda.org) \$130/year 540-338-5600

## D. Switching Educational Tracks During the Year – Withdrawing your children from the public or private school system.

### 1. What to do

- a. **Pray for God's will.** Be in agreement with your spouse so the kids will not divide you. Tell your children you are going to home educate them and tell them why.
- b. **Alert the school principal *in writing*.** Sign the note, date it, and keep a copy for your records. You may also need to fill out a form to withdraw your child(ren) from school.
- c. **Pay any outstanding fines and return all materials** and books that belong to the school.
- d. **Request** your child(ren)'s school records and transcripts.
- e. **File a Certificate of Enrollment with your Student Attendance Officer** for each child you are removing from the system to home educate.
- f. **Join HSLDA** to help secure your homeschooling freedoms.

## 2. Cautions

- a. It will be more difficult to pull your children out mid-year than to wait until the school year ends and keep them out the following autumn.
- b. If your kids do not want to be taken out of school, and they sense that you are approaching home education as an experiment, you will more than likely have difficulties with their cooperation.
- c. Also, if you put them into (or back into) school, you automatically give the school system permission to test your children for placement. The school can put them in whatever grade or class that they deem necessary.

## II. HOME

### A. Personal Relationships

1. God
2. Spouse

*Let Me Be A Woman* by Elisabeth Elliot

*The Mystery of Marriage* by Mike Mason

*A Sacred Foundation: The Importance of Strength in the Home School Marriage*  
by Michael Farris and Reed Elam

3. Parents' relationship with children

*Shepherding a Child's Heart* by Tedd Tripp

*Hints on Child Training* by Henry Clay Trumbull

*Child Training Tips* by Reb Bradley

4. Children's relationship with one another

See # 3 above

*Making Brothers and Sisters Best Friends* by Sarah, Stephen, and Grace Mally

5. Family activities, traditions, time spent together, etc.

*Family Driven Faith* by Voddie Baucham, Jr.

B. Atmosphere of the home

1. Music
2. TV/Movies
3. Telephone use

- C. You're a family, not an institution. Your children are God's blessings to you--not only to be trained and taught, but also to be enjoyed and loved.

**\*\* MHEA does not necessarily recommend or endorse any curricula or resource. \*\***