

BEST Homeschool Tips

Make a Schedule

- Like the brick and mortar classroom, students working from home thrive with a routine. Test drive the schedule for a few days and then make adjustments as a team.
- Daily goals are important and will help students to make progress. Help break down the units with them and set a to-do list for the day. Reviewing this with your student at the end of the day will give daily closure and help to form goals for the next day.
- Clear starting and ending times eliminates arguing and other “classroom” management issues.
- Homeschooling often takes less time than a typical school day. With the lack of regular classroom dynamics, it is typical to finish a school day in four to five hours.

Know Family Dynamics Will Shift

- Acknowledge and discuss with your children that the family dynamic is going to be a little different. You are now the teacher, principal, recess and lunch supervisor.
- This can bring families closer, but also can create tensions. It's great to discuss this together before starting homeschooling. Establish guidelines and rules before starting and then revisit them after a few days.

Limit Distractions

- Establish guidelines for visitors, phones, instant messaging, social media, games, and opening up non-school tabs on the computer.
- If using online classes, have the computer in a common use area or in the designated school classroom.

Work as a Team

- Families are more successful when they work together. The older the student, the more choice should be allowed. However, it is still important that the adult is the person in charge of the education.
- Be the leader when checking daily progress. Do not make it the student's responsibility to report daily progress as this may put the student in a position to stretch reality.
- For checking online classes, have the student show you by opening the site. Pay attention to the time spent in the daily activity log as well as the overall grade percentage for time spent on a subject.

Some Homeschool Resources and Curricula

* = Free

Math

*Brain Pop and Brainpop Jr. – Free (OL)

*Learning Links from the district website (OL) - Free

*Prodigy (OL) – kids love it, supplemental, more like a game -Free

*Moby Max – (OL) free for all subjects, supplemental - Free

*Khan Academy – (OL) Free

*FNSBSD Classlinks

Teacherspayteachers.com – various prices depending upon selection, some Free

ALEKS (OL)

Teaching Textbooks (OL)

Math-U-See

Zearn (OL) -like Khan academy, but for younger kids

Beast Academy

Redbird

Super Teacher Worksheets - \$25.00 per year, all subjects

Math Mammoth

Social Studies/History/Geography

(OL = online)

*FNSBSD Classlinks (Culture Grams, Discovery Education, the “Gale” series) - Free

*PBS (OL) - Free

*Brain Pop and Brain Pop Jr - Free (OL)

*Kids Discover online (OL) - Free

*Scholastic Magazine

PebbleGo – research site for young children (OL)

Amazon Prime (OL)

Netflix (OL)

Super Teacher Worksheets (OL)

Teacherspayteacher.com (OL)

Animatedheroclassics.com

Aunt Phil’s trunk (Alaska resource)

Curiosity Chronicles

Passport Pals – young children

Beautiful Feet

Newsela

Science

*FNSBSD Classlinks - Free

*Mystery Science – K-5 (OL) – you might be able to get a free year.

*Brain Pop and Brain Pop Jr. (OL) - Free

*AK Department of Fish and Game Alaska Wildlife Curriculum and Project Wild (OL – Place based) Free

*Magic School Bus – supplemental (science videos) (OL) Free

*Bill Nye the Science Guy (science videos) (OL) Free

Kiwi Crates

Exploration Education – project based

PebbleGo – research site for young children (OL)

Civil Air Patrol (CAP) – online resources and free books, STEM activities and curriculum

Hands-on Science

R.E.A.L. Science Odyssey

Supercharged Science

Real Science for Kids, Building Blocks of Science

Project Learning Tree

Steve Spangler (OL)

Language Arts

*FNSBSD District Classlinks (Sora, Brainpop, S.L.E.D, FNSBSD Libraries)

*Spellingcity.com (OL) Free

*Moby Max – (OL) Free

*Brainpop and Brainpop Jr. (OL) Free

*Storybird – (OL) Free writing program

*Tumblebooks (OL) Free

Evan-Moor

Write-At-Home

World Languages

*Pronunciator at the Noel Wien Public Library Electronic Materials

*Duolingo

Rosetta Stone

Babbel

All Inclusive Online Curriculum

*Khan Academy

*Noel Wien Public Library Electronic Materials

*Coursera

*All in One Homeschool – K–12 Free

Acellus – K - 12

APEX

BYU

Oak Meadows

Time 4Learning, K - 12

North Dakota Center for Distance ED.

Earth Schooling -online Waldorf

Teacherspayteachers.com – build your own

The Great Courses