

# A Beginning guide to homeschooling

## Learning Styles (taken from <http://www.hslda.org/earlyyears/Tips.asp> )

Homeschooling enables you to tailor your child's education to his unique style of learning. "Children's overall learning style includes both the channel through which she/he learns (eye, ear, or hand) and the ways in which she/he is most motivated to learn—"thinking style;"

- **Visual** learners tend to grasp things by reading or watching a video. They tend to be more comfortable with textbooks and workbooks.
- **Auditory** learners tend to learn best by listening. They would respond well to being read to or listening to tapes or lectures.
- **Kinesthetic** learners are the ones we generally think of as "antsy." They prefer to learn through a hands-on approach or through activities. Most children start out as kinesthetic learners.

## SELECT A TYPE OF CURRICULUM & METHOD OF HOMESCHOOLING (taken from <http://www.hslda.org/earlyyears/Tips.asp> )

There are many educational philosophies that exist, even in homeschooling. When selecting the right fit for you, it may help to understand the main categories. There is no perfect one, only the one that fits best for you and your child. Also, many families find that their preferences change with age of the child and the amount of children that they are educating at the time.

- **Traditional** – textbook / workbook approach, emphasizing reading, writing, grammar, and spelling through drill and practice.
- **Classical**—Following the medieval "trivium," a child's education progresses from fundamental facts and skills to logic and advanced language abilities. Students study the great works of Western literature.
- **Living Books** – (based on the writings of Charlotte Mason) This approach teaches the child the basic skills of reading, writing, and math skills, and then exposes the child to history, science, art, and all others through classic literature and "living books."
- **Unit studies (instructor-designed thematic studies)**—Progress in several disciplines is woven around a particular theme. This approach works well when teaching a variety of age groups.
- **Unschooling / Child-directed / Delight-directed**—Allowing a child to learn by encouraging and equipping him to pursue his own interests (guided or unguided exploration).
- **Eclectic** – a combination of any of the above suited to meet your child's learning style.

# Sample Curriculum Suggestions (taken from Ghea.org)

## Traditional Textbook Curriculum

- [A Beka](#) - 877 223-5226
- [Alpha Omega](#) - 800 622-3070
- [BJU Press Homeschool Curriculum](#) - 800 845-5731
- [Christian Liberty Press](#)
- [Cornerstone](#) - 972 235-5149
- Rod & Staff (Mennonite) - 606 522-4348 - Worth the phone call

## Cyber & Satellite Curriculum

- [BJU Homesat](#)
- [www.lukeion.org](#) - The Lukeion Proejct (Greece, Rome, & Bible)
- [Alpha Omega Academy and Switched On Schoolhouse](#) - K-12

## Unit Studies

- [Beautiful Feet Books](#)
- [Five in a Row](#)
- [Greenleaf Press](#) - (history)
- [History Alive](#) - Diana Waring
- [Konos](#) - (unit study, character based)
- [Life in America](#) - (history)
- [Sonlight Curriculum](#) - 303 730-6292
- [Weaver Curriculum](#) - (unit study, character based)
- Learning At Home - Ann Ward (K-2nd) Buy from [Amazon.com](#)

## Specialized Unit Studies

- [Learn and Do Unit Series](#) - grades 4 and up - Kym Wright
- One Week Off Unit Study Series - order from [christianbook.com](#)

## Full Service Curriculum Companies

- [A Beka Academy](#) - 800 847-2352, K-12 book, video and DVD classes
- [Alpha Omega Academy and Switched On Schoolhouse](#) - K-12
- [Christian Liberty Academy School System](#) - 800 348-0899 - K-12
- [Landmark Freedom Baptist Curriculums](#) - 800 700-LFBC
- [Seton Home Study School](#) - K-12 (Catholic)
- [The Academy of Home Education](#) - 800 845-5731 - 9th-12th grades, book or satellite
- [The Angelicum Academy](#) - K-12 (Catholic)
- [School of Tomorrow](#) - 972 315-1776

## Math

- [Algebra](#) - on video tape
- Algebra II and Trigonometry - order from [Veritas Press](#)

- [Chalkdust Math](#)
- Harold Jacobs' Geometry - [Buy from Amazon.com](#)
- [Key Curriculum Press math curricula](#)
- [Landmark Freedom Baptist Curriculum](#) - Highschool Geometry
- Math It - Order from [hewitthomeschooling.com](#) or [elijahcompany.com](#)
- [Math-U-See](#)
- [Professor B](#)
- [Saxon Math](#)
- [Singapore Math](#)
- [Video Text Algebra](#)
- [Systematic Mathematics](#)

## Language Arts

- [A Reason for Writing](#) - (handwriting)
- [Association of Christian Schools \(ACSI\)](#) - (spelling)
- [Easy Grammar](#)
- [English From the Roots Up](#) - Greek & Latin roots of English words to improve vocabulary
- [Learning Language Arts Through Literature](#)
- [Shurley Grammar](#)
- Spelling Power - order from [castlemoyle.com](#)
- [The Institute for Excellence in Writing](#)
- [Total Language Plus](#) - middle & upper grades
- Wordly Wise (vocabulary and reading comprehension) - order from [sycamoretree.com](#)
- [Writing Strands](#)
- Wordsmith - writing curriculum - order from [elijahcompany.com](#)

## Phonics

- The Writing Road to Reading - multi sensory. Order at [riggsinst.org](#)
- [Alpha Phonics](#) - by Samuel Blumenfeld - 888 922-3000
- [Christ Centered Curriculum](#) - for Early Childhood (ages 3 to 7 or 8) - 800 884-7858
- Scaredy Cat Reading Program - 800 745-8212. Order at [joyceherzog.com](#)
- [Teach America To Read and Spell \(TATRAS\)](#) - or 253 531-0312

## Science

- Castle Heights Press, Inc. - middle school through high school. Order from [hometrainingtools.com](#) or 800 763-7148
- [Apologia Educational Ministries, Inc.](#) - 888 524-4724 - junior & senior high

## Other Subjects

- Character Building/Training:
  - [Doorposts](#) - Character building curriculum - 503 357-4749
- Critical Thinking Skills:
  - [Critical Thinking Books & Software](#) - 800 458-4849
  - The Fallacy Detective - order from [Christian Logic](#)
- Geography:
  - [The Ultimate Geography and Timeline Guide](#) - Unit study approach for geography and/or world history - grades K-12
  - [Around the World in 180 Days](#)
- Art:
  - [How Great Thou Art](#) - 800 982-3729
  - Art With a Purpose - Rod and Staff Publishers - 606 522-4348
  - [Art Curriculum for All Ages](#)
- Music:
  - [Color the Classics](#)
  - Music Masters Biographies. Order from [elijahco.com](#)
  - The Spiritual Lives of the Great Composers - Patrick Kavanaugh. Order from [elijahco.com](#)
  - Match teachers with students in Atlanta area [lessonmatch.com](#)