

Can I Homeschool?

What scares you about homeschooling? *Write it down*

It's a big step, but here are a few steps to follow – easy as 1. 2. 3.

#1 Know Your Reasons

Knowing what you're hoping to get out of this endeavor will help you accomplish that goal. Families homeschool for very different reasons – what are yours?

- I want my child to have the benefit of 1-on-1 instruction
- Homeschool provides more physical or emotional safety for my child
- Family reasons like unity or scheduling school around parents' work schedule
- Homeschooling can provide better academic outcomes individually customized for each child
- Homeschooling can allow for character growth or for religious reasons
- My child's special needs aren't being met by the school
- What are your reasons? _____

Is homeschooling legal? The state of Indiana is one of the best states to homeschool in. People move from across the country to be able to homeschool here. By the state of Indiana a homeschool is considered

- a non-accredited non-public school
- which is required to keep attendance for 180 days of instruction for kids aged 7-18
- equivalent with a public school education in through the English language
- no registration is required of your school unless directly contacted by State Superintendent of Education
- There is also no requirement for teacher credentials in a homeschool. – Mom will do PERFECTLY in that role.

If you keep attendance for 180 days and teach your kids, your homeschool is legal.

Is homeschooling hard? The short answer is 'Yes', it can be hard at times. Anything worth doing is worth working for. Parenting is hard. Work is hard. But your children are worth your every effort.

Friends and community can make all the difference in the world. Hiking is hard, unless friends are along and then it's an adventure. So **contact a support group in your area:** Find a friend for you and your child.

2. Order Your Books

It can be as easy as ordering a box of 3rd grade books online and having them arrive at your doorstep. Or as complicated & in-depth as you want to customize for each of your children.

WOW! There are SO. Many. Choices.

Narrow Down Your Options

- Protestant
- Catholic
- Secular
- Don't care

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Method That Appeals to You

- **Unschooling:** delight-directed learning, education follows the child's interests using real-life experiences
- **Charlotte Mason:** focus on educating the whole child, not just the mind; heavy literature focus
- **Montessori:** learning through natural hands-on self-directed process
- **Traditional:** School-at-home method
- **Unit Studies:** several subjects woven around a theme
- **Classical:** Stages of rhetoric, logic, & grammar instead of grades
- **Eclectic:** A bit or more of several options

- Cathy Duffy's 102 Top Picks for Homeschool Curriculum <http://www.cathyduffyreviews.com>
- The best place for used books online is www.bookfinder.com

3. Plan Your Year

Explore Options for Clubs, Sports, Extracurricular Activities

- Homemade News put out by FWAHS \$10-\$20/year <https://www.fwahs.org/homemade-news>
- Fort Wayne Resources https://www.lifehs.net/fort_wayne.html

Buy yourself a Planner

- Some school-in-a-box curriculum provide you one with all the lesson plans written in
- There are tons of planners to choose from, just pick one.
 - o Well Planned Gal <https://wellplannedgal.com>
 - o Donna Young Free Planner to print yourself <http://donnayoung.org/forms/index.htm>

How do I get It all done?

- Planners of Their Homes <http://www.titus2.com>

What is my child's learning style? [Click-o-meter](#)

https://www.homeschooldiner.com/quiz/click_o_matic_guide_to_homeschool.html

Helps

- ✓ Life Adventures Support Group <https://www.lifehs.net> \$25/year
- ✓ Fort Wayne Resources https://www.lifehs.net/fort_wayne.html FREE
- ✓ FWAHS Fort Wayne Area Home Schools Homemade News – quarterly resources & events <https://www.fwahs.org/homemade-news> \$10-\$20/year
- ✓ HSLDA Home School Legal Defense Association www.hsllda.org \$130/year

START!

Your children love you, and you obviously love them to consider this undertaking. You'll make mistakes along the way; we all do. They'll forgive you and you'll forgive them. *Welcome to the ADVENTURE of homeschooling.*