

The Rough Guide to the Different Flavors of Homeschooling.

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We know there are a lot of unknowns out there, and you're here because you want to help your child move through the world with their own signature, not walking a one-size-fits-all path... Here's a distilled dive of some of the most prevalent kinds of 'other' education styles there are for you. Keep in mind, you have choice, and you can build upon and extract from numerous styles to design your own approach- what's important is that your child honors themselves, and has a chance to expand their horizons and impact, not shrink to fit what the masses dictate.

- **Global/Travel Schooling**, Using the region, road and globe as part of your curriculum is a big part of the appeal to this type of schooling. You can build around the destination itself, explore museums, art shows, local national parks, traditions, cuisine and language. Global schooling is immersion. It's trying on and extracting different things about that world that your child and family would not have otherwise known. It's the surest way to developing cultural and social intelligence- find new friends, savor new experiences and develop new experiences. You can travel school by choosing a country that has a lot of aspects that interest you, and move there for a term of 3 months or longer- or you can do vanschooling, or RV schooling and travel within your own country- hit states or provinces you haven't gone to; try new sports, meet new friends and families, etc... The key with global schooling, is to dare yourselves to be open. Be open to what's local, and not try to shape your new environments to your 'norm'- Big global schooling hack though; bring a couple things that are from home, not just clothes etc, but things that you associate with that 'home' feeling... could be your favorite old soft towels, your cereal bowls, fridge artwork... bring a few goodies that fell like home, then cultivate your roots with all the experiences you attract! Be interest and passion as your guide to choosing where to go... If your child has a love for sloths and rainforest conservation, find a spot in Costa Rica and learn more- perhaps surfing is your game, then choose a great surf spot and learn about local efforts to keep the ocean healthy, you could love politics-

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then set up shop near a dynamic Model UN chapter... You choose to cultivate what works for you- while harnessing what our great big world has to offer.

- **Hybrid homeschooling**, hybrid homeschooling is pretty obvious as far as approach, right? But the options available might be where you get a little puzzled. Hybrid schooling has a variety of choices, and you can choose what's best for you. In some states, you can register, without much drama, and establish your own private school- then you can utilize that private school, and sign up for a few individualized classes elsewhere, like tutoring, a homeschool co-op, learning center, like Hucklearning.org, and/or combine with online courses and/or programs. You really can shuffle the coconuts in whichever way benefits your family and student. Key here to remember that YOU have the power to choose how to educate your child. Don't forget that. There is loads of support out there, you just have to do a little searching, and we're happy to help you discover the tools and paths available to you!
- **Secular homeschooling**, Secular Homeschooling is not necessarily a method, but an umbrella of community, if you will, that does not define students or families by any religion or theist approach. Texts including language arts and history are secular, not created from a religious world-view. Secular homeschooling steers away from any religious teachings, like 'Creation' subjects, language arts and history are not created from a religious world view, and is free of religious references and scripture quotes. It's important to note, that Secular Education is not faith-neutral, either the science is- actually secular science. But anyone can use these resources. Whether you're religious, agnostic, atheist, spiritual but not religious, or you're not even having the religious convos. All are welcome.
- **Tech schooling** is a fairly new moniker, but as you can guess, it's very futurist forward and heavy on STEM- Primarily uses tech courses and activities to educate- perfect for your coders, and engineers. We'll include a few links to some super cool online places to dig into tech schooling.
- **Charlotte Mason**; The Charlotte Mason method of homeschooling is named for its founder, Charlotte Mason. She believed "Education is an Atmosphere, a Discipline, a Life." The bulk of the academics come from living books rather than dry textbooks. A living book is a book that brings a subject to life, usually written in narrative perspective by a person who has a passion for the subject in which they are writing. Along with living books, Charlotte Mason used copy work and dictation to teach

reading and writing. This method works well for families who enjoy literature-based learning.

- **Unschooling**; is one of the most relaxed forms of homeschooling. Also known as interest-led or child-led homeschooling, unschooling is more than just a type of homeschooling. Unschooling is a lifestyle. Instead of sticking to textbooks or a formal curriculum, unschooled children have the freedom to let their interests determine their lessons. There is no lesson plan or set schedule, so tasks in daily life become lessons. Play, chores, curiosity, and responsibility are the backbone of the learning process. Because children are able to use their interests to learn and research, they are empowered to become experts in fields they are passionate about. Unschooling is a very individual homeschooling method. There is no “right” or “wrong” approach in the unschooling community. Unschooling is often embraced as an option for young learners moving on from Waldorf Inspired early education.

- **Classical Homeschooling**; The Classical Homeschooling method is largely centered around written language & literature. This method structures learning by building off of the “trivium” – the Grammar Stage, the Logic State, and the Rhetoric Stage of learning. In the Grammar Stage, children build a foundation around their excitement for learning and memorization. Then, around age 11, students start the second stage known as the Logic Stage. During this stage, children shift from learning facts to analytical thinking. Children learn more complex skills and how the facts they learned in the Grammar Stage fit into life logically. Students then advance to the Rhetoric Stage during their high-school years. This stage builds upon the first two stages and encourages students to draw on the facts and logic they have learned in previous years to develop an individual approach to the way they think and learn.

- In conclusion, we want you to let yourself off the hook a bit, and realize that education is absolutely everywhere if you open your mind to it. **Choose to learn how to learn, more than what to learn, and empower your kids by giving them tools to keep asking questions and seeking fresh perspectives.** Thanks everyone, if you have other ideas for homeschooling, please share ‘em!