

HOMESCHOOLING IN SC: EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW

But....I'm not qualified to teach!

None of us gave a second thought to teaching our kids how to talk, walk or go potty. None of these are easy to teach. They require a lot of patience on our part. We did it because it had to be done!

If you want to teach your children, if it's that important to you, then you can do it!!

That doesn't mean you do everything by yourself, alone. Today we have millions of resources to help with this great endeavor.

But...what about Socialization?

This Great Myth says that children need to spend large amounts of time with children their own age to learn to relate properly to other people.

A person who is well-socialized is able to relate to people from a wide variety of age groups and lifestyles. The real world is an age-integrated place.

In a homeschooling environment, kids have the opportunities to be exposed to the world in which adults live and work, the world we should be preparing them for.

Did you know that the greatest predictor of genius is the amount of time a child spends with adults?

Educational failure should be virtually nonexistent. You simply go back to the level you haven't mastered & proceed from there.

What do I teach? When do I teach it?

There is nothing sacred about the particular subjects taught in school or the order in which they are taught. (with the exception of math & phonics which really do need to be taught in a step-by-step sequence)

Kindergarten

- *read lots of books together
- *go outside & look at nature
 - *count lots of things
- *bake cookies together
- *answer their questions
- *involve them in real life

STEP ONE: THE TOOLS OF LEARNING

1. Learn to read well
2. Learn printing, handwriting & keyboarding
3. Learn to write well (creative writing)
Writing is talking on paper!
4. Learn summarizing & narrating
5. Learn basic arithmetic

STEP TWO: THE FACTS

1. History: read historical biographies & fiction aloud, watch videos, discuss holidays' histories
2. Geography: look up locations on map/globe when they come up, teach how to use a map/globe, puzzles, games
3. Science: read books aloud, nature walks, pets, simple experiments, basic personal hygiene

STEP THREE: PUTTING IT ALL TOGETHER WITH FORMAL STUDIES

It's foolish to suffocate kids with more information than they are able to remember. Wait until they are able to comprehend, then teach it well.

Fit the pace of learning to the individual child & don't worry about comparing him to others.

If your child isn't responding well to a learning opportunity, he's probably not ready to learn it yet.

Real education is what we adults have been doing ever since we left school. We find answers by looking them up; learning what we need to know when we need it; learning something just because we want to, because we're interested. We should strive to create self-sufficient learners who will know what to do in life if ever a need arises. We want our kids to realize that we'll never know it all; but we can always find the answer if we really care to.

General Homeschooling Information:

- SOUTH CAROLINA HOME EDUCATORS ASSOCIATION <http://schea.net/>
- THE SOUTH CAROLINA HOMESCHOOLING CONNECTION <https://www.homeschoolingnc.org/>
- HOME SCHOOL LEGAL DEFENSE ASSOCIATION hslida.org/earlyyears/StartHere.asp www.hslida.org/highschool/academics.asp
- "HOW TO GET STARTED IN HOMESCHOOLING" www.home-school.com <http://schea.net/start-homeschooling/>

Support Groups:

- TRI-COUNTY HOME EDUCATORS (LOCAL) <https://www.homeschool-life.com/606/>
- SC HOME EDUCATORS ASSOCIATION (STATE) <http://schea.net/>

Homeschool Magazines:

- PRACTICAL HOMESCHOOLING www.home-school.com HOMESCHOOLING TODAY www.homeschoolingtoday.com

Curriculum Reviews & Recommendations:

- "102 TOP PICKS FOR HOMESCHOOL CURRICULUM" BY CATHY DUFFY cathyduffyreviews.com
- <https://www.goodreads.com/user/show/55770042-octog>

Curriculum Recommendations to Get You Started

- K- Grade 3: Ruth Beechick's "The Three R's", "Language and Thinking for Young Children"
- Grades 4-8: Ruth Beechick's "You Can Teach Your Child Successfully",
"A Biblical Home Education"
- Easy Peasy All-in-One Homeschool: Allinonehomeschool.com allinonehighschool.com

YOU WILL BE COVERING "EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO" WHEN:

Your children have learned to read, to write and type, have adequate grammar and spelling, learned to do basic math & have read a lot of books (both fiction and non)

How far beyond the basics you go is determined by your goals for your children and what their goals are for themselves. Pick out the materials that will help them meet those goals.

If we can learn to see our children as people, each with his/her own unique contribution to give the world—which may include being the one who does not fit in to society, but instead helps change society—we will realize we have an obligation to treat each one differently.