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Home-Schooling For Today's Children

By David Riewe

In recent decades, homeschooling, or the traditional practice of educating children within the home as against sending them to a public or private learning institution, is slowly making its way back to the educational mainstream.

This alternative means of elementary and high school education dates back to 1906 in the United States when the Calvert Day School in Baltimore, Maryland offered the "curriculum in a box" partnered with a National Geographic advertisement. Shortly after its fifth year, almost 300 children employed Calvert's instructional materials for homeschooling. Almost a century later, this method, alongside many other methods and materials developed, spread like wild fire not only within the U.S. but also to 90 other countries all over the globe.

Notable home-schooled personalities include, Thomas Edison, Albert Einstein, Benjamin Franklin, Dakota Fanning (famous Hollywood child actress), Christopher Paolini (book author), Sho Timothy Yano (an American boy of prodigious intelligence), Lynx and Lamb Gaede (the girls of Prussian Blue).

Through history, the methodology with which homeschooling is carried out have proven to be effective. However, as times change, so do the needs and requirements of the learners change. With this, certain modifications are required of the conventional homeschooling methods. Something more stimulating, more motivating, and worthwhile to encourage today's children to learn and explore.

Looking through the vast resources available on the world wide web under the subject of home-schooling, it could be seen that there has been so much improvement on how homeschooling is done through its century long history. From the crude and very simple methods and materials, new ones that are more sophisticated and complex have become available.

Fresh ideas are readily offered on how lessons should be planned for children of varying ages. Suggestions for fun activities are also presented to always keep the homeschooling atmosphere exciting and something to be looked forward to by the children. It is understandable that kids have shorter attention spans that may usually be a deterrent in keeping their interest in sitting down and listening to a lesson. Taking this into consideration, doing fieldtrips to museums, libraries, even zoos might just do the trick for the little tykes.

In general, the conventional methods and techniques of homeschool need not always be applicable to all settings and apt for each child. Modifying these conventional methods by throwing in some fresh ideas for exercises and activities in such a way that suits the learner's needs the best should always be regarded.

It doesn't matter if you just want to explore home schooling possibilities or have made the decision and are looking for a guide to point you in the right direction, "The Parents Guide to Home Schooling" will provide you with the information you require. <http://www.free-online-course.com/homeschool>

Important Considerations For Home Schooling

By James Brown

The decision on whether or not to home school your child can be a very difficult one to make. Most two income families may not be willing to make a financial sacrifice when one of them will have to give up work to take on the reigns as a teacher in a home school set-up. Many are even thinking on whether or not their children will still obtain the same level of education in a home school set-up.

There are many more concerns about home schooling but despite certain apprehensions home schooling is on the rise. There are various reasons why many parents are considering home schooling education. If you are thinking about home schooling your child, it is important for you to consider several factors.

Your commitment to time is one important factor to consider. Home schooling will have the tendency to take up a lot of your time most of the day. Home schooling is not merely sitting down for several hours with books. There is more to it as it involves experiments, activities and projects plus lesson plan preparation, grading of papers, music lessons, field trips and so much more. To get an idea of a typical day, you can always research online for a sample schedule.

Home schooling entails personal sacrifice. As a home schooling parent, you may not have that much personal time for yourself as you will be spending a great deal of time with your child. The parent can feel overwhelmed if he or she will not allot personal time for himself or herself.

Home schooling will require one parent to stop working and sacrifices will have to be made if the family is used to having two sources of income. The gravity of the problem increases when you are a single parent.

It is of utmost importance in any home school set-up that the child be given enough time for socialization. It is essential to get your child together with his or her friends. With home schooling though, you get control over your child's social encounters. One drawback of home schooling is that it can isolate your child so you must prepare him or her with the necessary social skills to be able to socialize with other children.

Both of the parents must agree to home schooling. Chances for its success are slimmer if one is not in favor of it. It is also very important that the child is willing to be home schooled. Critical to the success of home schooling is a willing student. You might have a hard time teaching your unwilling child. The decision though rests ultimately on the parents.

Every parent knows that education is very important to ensure any child's future. There is more to home schooling and your time, commitment and involvement is very much important. If you are considering home schooling, associate with other parents in the area who are into home schooling their children for some helpful tips and advice. A good network will help in the planning process and sharing of ideas is very much possible.

James Brown writes about <http://www.homeschoolingcatalog.com> website

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