# **ANDREW PUDEWA** EDUCATIONAL SPEAKER

Andrew Pudewa is the founder and director of the Institute for Excellence in Writing. Presenting around the world, he addresses issues relating to teaching, writing, thinking, spelling, and music with clarity, insight, practical experience, and humor. His seminars for parents, students, and teachers have helped transform many a reluctant writer and have equipped educators with powerful tools to dramatically improve students' skills. Although he is a graduate of the Talent Education Institute in Japan (Suzuki Method) and holds a Certificate of Child Brain Development, his best endorsement is from a young Alaskan boy who called him "the funny man with the wonderful words." He and his beautiful, heroic wife, Robin, have homeschooled their seven children and are now proud grandparents of eighteen, making their home in northeastern Oklahoma's beautiful green country.

### **SPEAKING TOPICS**

- 1. But . . . but . . . What about Grammar?
- 2. Culture, Curriculum, and Care: Building Community in a Time of Need
- 3. Cultivating Language Arts Preschool through High School
- **4.** Fairy Tales and the Moral Imagination
- 5. Four Deadly Errors of Teaching Writing
- 6. Hacking High School: Rethinking the Teen Years
- 7. However Imperfectly: Lessons Learned from Thirty Years of Teaching
- 8. Mastery Learning, Ability Development, and Individualized Education
- 9. Nurturing Competent Communicators
- **10.** Power Tips for Improving Teaching and Learning

- **11.** Preparing for Persecution A Curriculum Proposal
- 12. Principles of Motivation
- **13.** Reading Strategies for the Struggling Reader or Nonreader
- **14.** Renaissance Education OR Renaissance in Education?
- 15. Spelling and the Brain
- **16.** The Three Best Things I Did as a Homeschool Dad
- 17. What to Do When Kids Don't Like to Write
- 18. Why and How to Memorize—A Lot!
- **19.** The Why, When, and How of Teaching Writing to Children
- **20.** Why You Need Superpowers and How to Get Them

### **CONTACT US**

### 1. But . . . but . . . but . . . What about Grammar?

 Knowing how to teach grammar is especially challenging for individuals who do not feel confident in their own grammar proficiency. Grammar programs often consist of piles of workbooks, wasted dollars, and way too much time spent trying to complete that subject. Often what is taught in those workbook pages does not translate into success in writing. The results are poor mechanics and a less-than-stellar understanding of "What is a verb?" or perhaps more importantly "How do verb choices enhance writing?" If you are asking, "But what about grammar?" Andrew Pudewa has answers.

### 2. Culture, Curriculum, and Care: Building Community in a Time of Need

What is the nature of culture? What is the nature of curricula? Explore how each affects the other. Andrew Pudewa will discuss the single element that rests at the core of our success in teaching our children. Furthermore, we can integrate all these ideas as we work to build community with like-minded fellow homeschoolers in a time when we all feel an increasing need for it. From his three decades of teaching and parenting experience, Andrew will share useful concepts and humorous stories to answer these questions and help invigorate your homeschool.

### 3. Cultivating Language Arts – Preschool through High School

- Listening and reading well, speaking and writing clearly,
   and thinking and debating effectively are abilities
   that most parents hope to cultivate in their children.
   With that goal in mind, Andrew Pudewa explores
   various environments and activities that accelerate the
- development of these language skills, beginning with the youngest students and continuing into the high school years.

### 4. Fairy Tales and the Moral Imagination

- Are fairy tales good, even important, for Christian
   students? Where did they come from, what can they
   teach our children, and should we spend our valuable
   time reading them? Andrew Pudewa discusses several
   basic themes in fairy tales and traditional children's
   literature (goodness, truth, beauty, hope, honesty, and
  - literature (goodness, truth, beauty, hope, honesty, and wishes) as well as key archetypes of literature and their importance to the moral imagination. With the confusion surrounding modern fantasy writing, many parents and teachers feel uncertain in discerning good and important literature from misleading and confusing books, stories, and movies.

# See last page for icon topic legend.

### 5. Four Deadly Errors of Teaching Writing

- of teaching, Andrew Pudewa realized that
- students' frustrations were often caused by teaching
- mistakes. Have you committed one of these errors in
- your teaching? Overcorrecting, holding back help, unclear assignments, and over-expectation can frustrate your students and hamper your best efforts. Join Andrew Pudewa to learn how to overcome and avoid these four deadly errors of teaching writing.

### 6. Hacking High School: Rethinking the Teen Years

- Most of us have presuppositions about what high school
- is based on our own experience. Times are changing, and the opportunities for home educating high schoolers have grown rapidly. Many of these opportunities will save time, help your family avoid higher education debt, and give your teens a head start on their next decade of life.

### 7. However Imperfectly: Lessons Learned from Thirty Years of Teaching

- In this talk Andrew Pudewa shares many humorous
- experiences (and painful lessons) he has learned over
- 😣 thirty years of teaching and homeschooling. You will be
- challenged, reassured, and sure to leave with an expanded
- vision of your calling as a home educator.

### 8. Mastery Learning, Ability Development, and Individualized Education

- What is mastery learning? How does it relate to
- 😒 education? Andrew Pudewa explains the methods,
- goals, and benefits of the ability development model as developed by Dr. Shinichi Suzuki. He also discusses applications to disciplines other than music. Learn how you can create success in areas where you or your students have struggled in the past.

### 9. Nurturing Competent Communicators

 Many teachers and parents assume that good readers
 will naturally become good writers. Others think
 that writing talent is a natural ability. Some have it.
 Others don't. Both are myths. History and modern
 research demonstrate how good writers develop the two most critical skills needed for a high level of aptitude in writing. With humor and insight, Andrew Pudewa explains these two easy but powerful skills, which build language patterns and nurture competent communicators.

### 10. Power Tips for Improving Teaching and Learning

- While we try to carefully choose and use the best
- curricula for our classrooms, several factors have a far greater impact on day-to-day teaching and learning than the differences in materials or methods of instruction.
   From schedule to diet and from exercise to environment, you can use simple lifestyle adjustments to make education less stressful, more joyful, and more effective.

#### 11. Preparing for Persecution – A Curriculum Proposal

- In the future is it imaginable that freedom of speech and
- I freedom of religion could be suppressed where we live?
- History indicates so. Andrew Pudewa discusses ways to
- prepare for such a contingency, which may include
- persecution and even martyrdom. He also explains how to cultivate necessary virtues without sparking burdensome fears. Although this is not a pleasant subject to contemplate, it is an important one.

#### 12. Principles of Motivation

- A life-long student of motivation, Andrew Pudewa
- has organized fundamental ideas of motivation into
- categories: four forms of relevancy, three laws of motivation, and two secret weapons. This expansion of Andrew's previous talk *Teaching Boys & Other Children Who Would Rather Be Making Forts All Day* includes new and updated stories, tips, and information.

### 13. Reading Strategies for the Struggling Reader or Nonreader

- As schools have made reading their new god, they
- believe that producing good readers will solve all
- their academic problems. As a result, many children—the dyslexic, the easily distracted, the auditorily challenged—are left behind in the rush to improve test scores. What schools do not know (but what many parents and teachers discover) is that reading is not simply being able to rapidly decode symbols with the eyes. With humor and insight, Andrew Pudewa shares stories and strategies for helping students who need to engage the cognitive processes of reading but who are more likely to excel through a wider variety of practical, creative, and imaginative approaches.

### 14. Renaissance Education OR Renaissance in Education?

- 😣 Would a Renaissance education help bring about a
- renaissance in education? What sort of training
- and life did a young Shakespeare or da Vinci have? What elements of that can we recapture and apply in our tech-driven modern world? Andrew Pudewa contemplates craft, attentiveness, stock, imitation, constraint, freedom, and more!

### 15. Spelling and the Brain

Many children have difficulty learning to spell, but the
difficulty may not be with the student. Often parents
and teachers feel ill-equipped to help students who are

not natural spellers. Join Andrew Pudewa to learn how spelling information is most efficiently stored in the brain, to gain greater insight into the nature of spelling and neurological function, and to be better equipped to teach students how to spell.

### 16. The Three Best Things I Did as a Homeschool Dad

- While there are many, many things I could have done
- better as a homeschool father, there are three distinct
- things that I did try to do as consistently as possible during our years of homeschooling that were the most helpful according to my wife. Join me to discover the three best things I did and to glean some ideas for making your homeschool years the best they can be. Moms are welcome as well!

### 17. What to Do When Kids Don't Like to Write

- Many children really do not like to write. Why? Andrew
- Pudewa answers this basic question and teaches a
- specific and successful method of separating the
- complex process of writing into the smallest possible steps. This process makes it possible for even the most reluctant writers to produce short but complete compositions so that they will be proud and motivated to write again. Results guaranteed!

### 18. Why and How to Memorize—A Lot!

Memory is under attack in our modern world by the twin

prongs of technology and progressive education. What
 are the neurological, emotional, and practical benefits of cultivating better memory? What is worth memorizing?
 What are some differences among students as well as variables in the material for memorization? And of course, what techniques and tools make memorization easier and more permanent? Join Andrew Pudewa for a discussion on memory.

### 19. The Why, When, and How of Teaching Writing to Children

With AI writing capability exploding in both business
 and education, is it even necessary to still teach English
 grammar and composition? Yes—maybe now more than ever! But when to start and how to do it effectively are still questions many homeschool moms face. Join Andrew Pudewa as he shares from his thirty years of teaching the arts of language to answer these vital questions and more.

### 20. Why You Need Superpowers and How to Get Them

Do you ever feel overwhelmed by the evil in the world
 and the complexities of modern life? While unassisted human flight, outrunning a speeding bullet, and X-ray vision are still only comic book fantasies, we can make ourselves do anything we would want to (or should!) do, thereby being able to accomplish seemingly impossible things! Such superpowers are available and can be developed by the practice of three traditional Christian disciplines.

### REFERENCES

#### Hillsdale Academy

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#### Leman Academy of Excellence

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It has been my privilege to host Andrew Pudewa's workshops. I had to turn people away at the door because we had no more room. He speaks from the heart and inspires, encourages, and equips families in their homeschool journey. He lays out easy-to-complete steps to strengthen academic skills but more importantly to strengthen family relationships. The only challenge that I had—and that you will face—is that there is not enough time for him to answer all the questions!

Donald Acker (Home Educators Association of Virginia)

### **ICON TOPIC LEGEND**



**101** Choose this informative talk if you are serving new homeschoolers.



**Leadership** Opt for this talk if your goal is to equip and inspire people who are raising up leaders for the next generation.



**Language Arts** Add this talk to your event if you are serving teachers and teaching parents of the language arts: listening, speaking, reading, writing.



**Keynote** Pick this talk if you need an engaging presentation about big ideas for a large audience.



**Homeschool Focus** Choose this talk to specifically encourage and equip homeschool parents.



**Convention Favorite** Offer this in-demand talk to energize your audience.



**Classical** Select this talk for audiences interested in classical education—from method to philosophy.



**Christian Content** Include this talk if your event allows for distinctly Christian content.



**PowerPoint** Provide this talk if you want a PowerPoint presentation for your audience.



**Learning Differences** Incorporate this talk into your program to encourage and equip teachers and parents of students with learning differences.

## LEARN MORE ONLINE



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