

# Top 10 De-Schooling Tips

1. SIMPLIFY! Do only the VERY BASICS--reading, writing, math.
2. LIMIT (REALLY LIMIT) the TIME spent on academics each day--plan on spending a couple of hours MAXIMUM on any sort of bookwork--10-15 minutes per subject is just fine to start (even 5 minutes per subject is fine for younger kids.)
3. PICK YOUR BATTLES. Choose the relationship over the academics. Fighting kids over academics is not the battle to fight at the beginning. Don't worry, they are going to learn and will turn out just fine. Relationship first.
4. READ ALOUD AS A FAMILY--Choose a book and start for a few minutes a day..."Charlotte's Web" is a GREAT one to start with regardless of age--even teens secretly love it.
5. PLAY AS A FAMILY--This includes board games, video games, or indoor and outdoor sports, but do it together!
6. HIKE AS A FAMILY--Find local hiking spots and start with short, little hikes.
7. GO ON ADVENTURES AS A FAMILY--Museums, Historical sites, Staycations, Be a Local Tourist for a Day--places you've been MEANING to go to, but haven't had the time, fishing, picnics, farmer's markets, boating, etc. You can get creative--call a local restaurant, bank, ice cream shop, etc., and ask to tour it. No need to spend money. (Don't worry about giving the kids "assignments" or "worksheets" to fill out--it sucks the fun and learning right out of the experience--just go and have fun--they WILL learn cool things!)
8. SPEND TIME IN NATURE AS A FAMILY.
9. VISIT YOUR LOCAL LIBRARY AS A FAMILY, check out books on subjects of interest, and read them together.
10. HAVE FUN TOGETHER AS A FAMILY! No need to spend a lot of money. Quality time together is what matters most! Remember, you are building the relationship while helping them discover a love for learning again!