

SCHOOL TO HOMESCHOOL

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# HOMESCHOOL ROADMAP

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# Roadmap Checklist

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1. Look up state homeschooling laws
2. Withdraw children per state law and requirements
3. Create a vision for what I hope for my kids long-term.

*Think overarching principles and things you want your kids to leave your home with such as:*

- Want them to be compassionate and servant leaders*
- Want them to know how to learn on their own.*

4. Began the deschooling process.  
(See Checklist)
5. Join local homeschooling Facebook Groups
6. Start learning about different educational philosophies
7. Start visiting various co-ops/enrichment programs/classes
8. Do a little read-aloud with kids
9. Have the kids write something each day
10. Have the kids do a little math.



# STEP 1: KNOW & FOLLOW YOUR STATE LAWS

- It is legal to homeschool in all 50 States.
- Every state is a little different
- Public School Laws are often NOT the same as homeschool laws
- Find Your State Laws:

Homeschool Legal Defense Association



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## STEP 2: DESCHOOL

Deschooling is the Transitionperiod between traditional schooling & homeschooling, where a child does less formal school work to reconnet with their intereests & natural love of learning.

It can be a time for parents & students to adjust their understanding of how a child learns.

It is a time to reconnect with your child and get their heart back.

\*Rule of thumb: For every year a child is in school, it will take around a month to deschool.



# 4 DESCHOOLING OBJECTIVES

1 Re-establish Relationship & Connection

*Get their hearts  
back.*

2 Remove your own mental shackles

*Learn what true education Looks like.*

3 Help your children heal from Trauma

*Be Patient & Put Relationship First*

4 Awaken their natural wonder

*Give them the time & Space to  
Rediscover their interests*



# The Deschool Worksheet

Print one page for each member of the family--parents, too!

What I love & will miss about school:

(ex. seeing friends, recess, my teacher, sports, extracurricular activities, a particular class)

What I dislike about school:

(ex. 7-9 hours a day, feeling lonely in the lunchroom, having no friends, feeling bullied, feeling anxiety, boring or unnecessary classes, feeling like a waste of time, hating subjects, feel dumb, classes too easy, up too early, up too late, unnecessary hours of homework, waiting in pick up line, etc.)



# Time to Dream

## Subjects I would like to learn about or Spend More Time Studying:

(ex. Dancing, Robotics, Coding, Car Design, Watercolor, Oil Painting, Clothing Design, Pyrotechnics, Cultures, Languages, Cooking, Baking, Fitness, Aeronautical Engineering, Legos, Blacksmithing, Bladesmithing, Flying, Theater, Sewing, Woodworking, Flower Arranging/Floral Design, Engineering, WWII, History, etc. The Sky is the Limit!)

## Places I Would Like to Visit:

(ex. Europe, the Grand Canyon, Civil War Sites, Museums in my area, State Capitol, Camping in Mountains, the Pacific Ocean, etc.)



# Deschooling Tips:

- Focus on relationship first.
- Meet them where they are...if they aren't on grade level, that is fine—you meet them exactly where they are right now.
- Slow Down...be a turtle
- Do what works best for your family.
- Have them write a LITTLE something everyday: Copy out of a book, seriously.
- Have them read something everyday: Read to them, read with them, read, read, read! Audiobooks work as well!
- Have them do a LITTLE math (10 minutes) everyday: Khan Academy is Free. So is cooking.
- If your state requires other subjects, utilize free resources such as Khan Academy; Professor Dave Explains on YouTube; Mysteryscience.com
- watch a documentary
- watch a quick video on that subject
- Read a book or part of a book on that subject...or look it up.
- Allow them time for sleep. Children and teens are grossly sleep deprived—allow them rest.
- Limit screen time.
- Allow time for play, exploration, and BOREDOM...it is your friend.
- Play WITH them and learn together! Board games, physical games, video games, cooking, baking
- Get them in nature.
- Go on adventures together: hikes, bike rides, museums, parks, the library.
- Expect hard days.





# Deschooling Don'ts:

- Start buying curriculums—it is ok to use curriculums at the beginning, if needed, but wait a bit and learn more about how your kids learn before potentially wasting money!
- Check the public school state standards (homeschooling laws, yes, public school standards, no!)
- Expect to do hours of book work a day
- Turn your house in to a public school—no need to spend money on desks when you have a kitchen table, couch, floor, the stairs.
- Worry about your child getting “behind.” Behind what and who?
- Worry about grades/testing/quizzes



# **STEP 3:**

# **CREATE A VISION**

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# WHERE DO YOU WANT TO GO?

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"To begin with the end in mind means to start with a clear understanding of your destination. It means to know where you're going so that you better understand where you are now and so that the steps you take are always in the right direction."

— *Stephen R. Covey, Seven Habits of Highly Effective People*



Alice: Which way should I go?

Cat: That depends on where you are going.

Alice: I don't know.

Cat: Then it doesn't matter which way you go.

—*Lewis Carroll, Alice in Wonderland*



# QUESTIONS

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- What is the end goal for your child? College? Trade School? Entrepreneurship? Keep them open for possibilities?
- How does your end goal for them align with their talents & interests?
- What are the most important things you want them to leave your house knowing/believing?
- What are the most important things they will need to know as they go into adulthood?
- Reflecting on your own life: what were the most valuable lessons/classes you had that helped you into adulthood and your life?
- What information has been the most useful?
- What were your most memorable moments and memories from growing up?
- What classes/concepts proved to be a waste of time in your personal life?
- What information were you expected to learn that hasn't been useful?
- What classes/information do you WISH you had learned?



# WRITE IT OUT

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# **STEP 4: LEARN ABOUT VARIOUS PHILOSOPHIES**

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# Philosophies at a Glance

## Traditional (School-at-Home)

follows a teacher-led approach, closely mirroring public school with textbooks, workbooks, and tests. It provides a familiar transition for families leaving the school system but can feel rigid or overwhelming.

## Classical homeschooling

emphasizes memorization, critical thinking, and Socratic discussion, using a curriculum rich in literature, history, and Latin. While it develops strong reasoning and writing skills, it can be rigorous and time-intensive.

## Charlotte Mason

promotes a gentle, literature-based approach with short lessons, “living books,” and nature study. It fosters a love of learning and strong language skills but places less emphasis on standardized testing.

## Montessori

encourages child-led, hands-on learning with real-world tasks and manipulatives, fostering independence and self-motivation, though it requires specialized materials and setup.

## Waldorf

integrates arts, storytelling, and creativity, delaying formal academics to encourage imagination and natural development, but it limits technology and may not suit families who prefer early academics.

## Eclectic

homeschooling allows parents to mix and match methods, creating a highly adaptable, personalized learning experience. While flexible, it can feel overwhelming to plan.

## Unschooling

takes a completely child-led approach, relying on life experiences and interests rather than a set curriculum, fostering independence but sometimes lacking structure for those who prefer formal academics.

## Unit Studies

immerse students in a single topic across multiple subjects, offering an engaging, hands-on experience that works well for multi-age teaching, though it requires careful planning to ensure comprehensive coverage.



# **STEP 5: FIND COMMUNITY & FRIENDS**

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# **FINDING**

## **Homeschooling Community:**

Enrichment Programs: 1 or 2 days a week

Co-ops: Parent/Family-led

Classes/Clubs for Homeschoolers:

Sports/Writing/Music/Art/Dance

Local Facebook Homeschool Groups

Meet-ups

Create your own

**BE PATIENT & GIVE IT TIME.  
IF THINGS AREN'T WORKING, MAKE A  
CHANGE.**

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*You got this!*

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