



# CONFIDENT HOMESCHOOL

## R O A D M A P

■ **CREATE A SOLID HOMESCHOOL VISION**

■ **DIAL INTO PERSONALITY**

■ **DISCOVER LEARNING STYLES**

■ **RESEARCH HOMESCHOOLING STYLES**

■ **SEARCH FOR CURRICULUM**

■ **PLAN YOUR HOMESCHOOL**

■ **STRUCTURE THE DAY**

# CREATE A SOLID HOMESCHOOL VISION

- **Decide your WHY of homeschooling**
- **Decide what do you think is the purpose of education**
- **Decide what you want your kids to look like at 25**

## **Spiritual**

Personal behaviors  
Outward actions

## **Mental**

Formal education  
Life learning  
Skills

## **Financial**

Literacy  
Management  
Wealth creation

## **Physical**

Diet & exercise  
Medicine  
Home  
*Laundry*  
*Cooking*  
*Decorating*  
*Cleaning*

## **Social**

Family  
Friends  
Marriage  
Community

## **Emotional**

Health  
Worldview

- **Decide what steps they need to take to get them there**

## **Career**

## **Passions**

## **College**

Undergraduate  
Graduate

## **High School**

Skills  
Classes

## **High school prep**

- **Evaluate where your kids are on those steps**

What are they doing well?

What do they need to work on?

- **Determine what to do in the next four to six months.**

Don't overdo it

Remember baby steps

- **Take regular inventory**

## **Weekly**

Mentor journal

## **Quarterly**

**Evaluate and adjust**

**Get input!**

# DIAL INTO PERSONALITY

## ● Different kids, different personalities

**YOU are different than your kids**

**Personality DRAMATICALLY effects how kids approach learning**

Sit quietly vs. Bounce around  
Cautious vs. Eager to explore  
Question everything vs. Easily accept authority

**Affects motivation as well**

**Tailor school to honor personality**

More games vs. less worksheets  
Lots of new exciting adventures vs. staying home to snuggle  
Schedules and charts vs. More personal flexibility

## ● Lots of Personality Typing Systems

**Each has benefits**

Myer-Briggs  
Color Code  
Enneagram  
Four Temperaments  
ColorWorks  
Child Whisperer

**Four basic categories**

Category 1: High energy, spontaneous, fun

*Bounce off the walls*  
*Fun*  
*Twinkle in the eye*  
*Laugh a lot*  
*Like telling jokes - getting others to laugh*  
*Play*  
Super important for them  
Like games -- fun  
*Ask tons of questions*  
After the age when others stop  
*Very creative*  
Keep asking "why"  
*Inventive*  
See connections others miss

*Crazy ideas*  
Most won't work  
Don't feel trapped to fulfill  
*Can be too much energy*  
Come across as ADHD  
Destructive  
*Distracted*  
Spacy  
Thinking about all their ideas  
*Struggle in public school*  
They don't fit the mold

Category 2: Relationships, emotional, connected

*Primary concern is relationships*  
How are you doing?  
Want to make sure everything  
is okay  
Check in throughout the day  
*Hugs & snuggles*  
Touch often important – but  
not always  
*Nurturers*  
Little Moms or Gentle Dad  
*Nurses*  
First to jump in and help

*Overly emotional*  
Drama queen (or king!)  
Fall apart over little  
*Sensitive*  
Feel things strongly  
Inside & outside  
*Smells & sounds*  
*Touch -- tags & seams bother*  
*Emotions -- highly aware*  
*Cautious*  
Startle easily  
Scared to try new things  
*Move slowly*

Category 3: Driven, energetic, intense

*Goal orientated*  
Focused on results  
What they accomplish  
Like projects  
Type A  
*Movers & Shakers*  
Tackle big things  
Determined  
Natural Leaders  
*Hard Workers*  
Get things done  
Big doesn't scare them  
Where there's a will, there's a  
way

*Driven*  
Get out of their way  
Know what they want  
*Bossy*  
Know how it should be done  
Tell others how to do it  
Like to be in charge ALWAYS  
*Rude*  
Assertive and aggressive  
Relationships aren't as  
important as results  
Say what's on their mind  
*Do well in traditional school*  
IF it's a goal they want

Category 4: Intellectual, linear, still

*Thinkers*  
Think deeply  
Wow? Where did that come  
from?  
Little philosophers  
*Organized*  
Like structure  
*Schedules*  
*Workbooks*  
*Checklists*  
*A homeschool mom's dream!*  
*Calm*  
Low energy  
Easy to be in a room with  
Sit still – nice for a classroom  
setting

*Critical*  
See the world in black & white  
Point out the discrepancies  
Say "stupid" a lot  
*Because they think it is*  
*Hard on Themselves*  
Want to be perfect  
See all their flaws  
Don't like to accept mistakes  
*Do well in "traditional" school*  
Like organization and  
structure

# DISCOVER LEARNING STYLES

## ● General

Will have some strengths in each area

Find strength – then try to meet

More interest

Greater motivation

## ● Auditory

### Listening

Information presented verbally (usually!)

Music enhances learning

Background noise

Information & books on CD/Audios

Teach through stories

Visual may actually distract (close eyes/don't watch speaker)

Works for some kinds of learning and not others

### Verbal

Speak outloud to learn

Helps know what know/remember

SAY words – not just listening

Like to read outloud

Recipes, directions on map, memorizing, making a decision

Discussion groups

## ● Visual

### Picture Learners

Think in PICTURES

*Translate incoming information into pictures*

*Some think entirely IN pictures*

*Difficulty with spellers/readers*

Converts words into pictures

Charts, graphs, designs, forms, layouts, maps, objects, drawings, movies, dramatic performances

Graphic presentations: charts with pictures, sequential drawings, time lines with pictures

Picture note-taking

Information mapping

“Moving” pictures – movies/videos/live presentations

### Print Learners

Think in WORDS

*Converts pictures into words*

Natural readers/spellers

May be confused by diagrams & illustrations

*Reading "how-to" manual – ignore pictures and just read words*  
Read a book  
Complete a workbook  
Research a topic  
Outline  
*Highlight words into different colors*  
*Take notes with words*  
*Write down verbal information*  
*Translate visual into words*

## ● Tactile-Kinesthetic

### General

Tactile – touch

### Kinesthetic – Movement

Tapping foot  
Doodling  
Touching before instructions (just get my hands on it!)  
Pent-up energy/lots of movement  
Fiddling with something in hands while talking  
Read with fingers  
Stretch or move frequently while learning  
Draw or make models  
Touch and examine something learned

### Whole-Body Learners

Act out  
Walk around  
Play  
Exercise  
Build  
Anything that uses the entire body – large movements

### Hands-on Learners

Building with hands  
Assembling or taking something apart  
Working/feeling textured materials  
Manipulating objects

### Sketching Learners

Drawing  
Coloring  
Doodling

### Writing Learners

Write – printing/cursive  
Journaling  
Note takers  
Resemble print learners  
*Translates visual information into print*

# RESEARCH HOMESCHOOLING STYLES

## ● Many different “ways” to homeschool

Personal choice

Based on everyone involved

Mom  
Dad  
Kid  
God

## ● Eclectic

Can mix & match

Different needs in different areas

Makes your homeschool uniquely you

Where most long-term homeschoolers end up

## ● School-at-Home

Rigid schedule

Lots of assignments

Online charter schools

Lots of boxes to check  
Unnecessary assignments  
Lose ability to customize (usually)  
*Those that make it work often end up “gaming” the system  
OR hating the system*  
Easy to fall into without vision  
*That’s all you know  
What “school” looks like  
Takes time to transition out of*  
Causes “burn out”  
*Too much with more than one kid  
Multiple teacher syndrome*  
You have to be as many teachers as you have children  
Insists you follow their schedule

One word description: TRADITIONAL

## ● Thomas Jefferson Education

Also called “Leadership Education”

Philosophy NOT a curriculum  
Goal: Train leaders to accomplish their life mission  
*Delays academics*

*Allows for child-led interests*  
*Encourages an intense scholar phase in teen years*  
All learning should be inspired not required

**Focuses on classics to do teaching**

**Mom needs to also be engaged in information**

**Can feel too unstructured for some**

**One word description: MISSION-FOCUSED**

## ● Classical

**Based on model started with ancient Greeks**

**Pioneered by**

Jessie Wise  
Susan Weiss Baeur (daughter)

**Trivium based**

Grammar  
*Facts*  
*Information*  
*Data*  
Logic  
*Making connections*  
*Understanding relevance*

Rhetoric  
*Opinions*  
*New ideas*  
*Sharing own thoughts*

Focuses on classics  
*Latin at a young age*  
*Great Books*  
*Socratic method*  
Spirals content  
*Covered multiple years at higher level*  
Dictation/Narration

**Can feel intense – lots of memorizing when young**

**One word description: RIGOROUS**

## ● Charlotte Mason

**British educator in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century**

In response to children growing up in industrial sweatshops  
Never saw grass or nature  
Worked 12-hour days  
Took orphans to English countryside  
Goal was to reclaim childhood

**All about developing the “whole child”**



## **“Living Books”**

Don't read “twaddle”  
Beautiful, great literature  
*Heavily weighted toward 18<sup>th</sup> century and earlier*

### **Encourages appreciation of beauty**

Great literature  
Art study  
Poetry study  
Handicrafts

### **Nature study is a daily activity**

Outside  
Drawing and journaling

### **Narration/Dictation**

### **Can feel a little perfection orientated**

MUST like nature/being outside a lot  
Discipline descriptions require massive consistency

### **One word description: GENTLE**

## **● Unit Study**

### **Covers lots of subjects at same time**

### **Topic or theme-based**

Connect different subjects  
Focus on one element then branch out to others

### **Encourages natural “blending” of learning**

Each subject is arbitrarily divided in schools  
Holistic learning – like real life

### **For example: Bridges**

History of bridges (history)  
Build bridge samples (physics/math)  
Famous bridges in paintings (art)  
Strength of different bridges (math/physics)  
Read “The Old Man at the Bridge” by Hemingway – older kids (literature)  
Sing London Bridges/learn background (music/history)  
Write own poem about bridges (language arts)

### **Can feel overwhelming to put together**

### **One word description: CONNECTED**

## **● Unschooling**

### **Term originally coined by John Taylor Gatto**

Meant “not public school”  
Now means unstructured and unplanned

### **Focuses on interests of the child**

- Child knows best when and how to learn
- Follow the wonder
- Believes best way to cultivate intrinsic motivation

### **Entire world is classroom**

- Out and about
- Fieldtrips

### **Spontaneous**

- Can feel chaotic

### **Can be difficult to track learning and progress**

### **Very unconventional**

### **Possibly results in bigger “gaps” if taken to extreme**

### **One word description: CHILD-LED**

## **Montessori**

### **First female Italian doctor in 1800s**

### **Alternative public schooling method**

- Popular in Europe

### **Holistic and child-centered**

- Order and movement
- Hands-on activities

### **Structures activities to create intrinsic motivation**

- Can feel like mom does a lot of “work” to create activities

### **One word description: HANDS-ON**

## **Waldorf**

### **Emphasizes education at age-ready stages**

### **High focus on quality**

- Wooden instead of plastic
- Schedules that emphasize cleanliness and order
- School work

### **Can be expensive to implement**

### **One word description: QUALITY**

## SEARCH FOR CURRICULUM

### ● First ask yourself – “Do I need one?”

#### It depends on ...

- Homeschool style
- State’s reporting requirements
- You & Dad’s level of confidence
  - Subject comfort level*
- Age of the child
  - Younger needs less*
  - Older often benefit from the structure*
- Personality & learning style
  - Workbook learner vs holistic learner*
- Educational philosophy
- Vision for homeschool

#### **DON’T run out and buy!**

- Often purchase and then not use
- Be deliberate
- Purchase small amounts – get more later

### ● Before you start ...

**Review your vision for your homeschool**

**Review your philosophy of education**

**Determine learning & personality style**

### ● Search method 1 – Google

#### **Google subject area & homeschool style**

- “reviews homeschool curriculum language arts charlotte mason”
- “best homeschool curriculum math waldorf”

**Create a master list of curriculums that appeal to you**

#### **Google curriculum name and “review”**

- “review five in a row curriculum”
- “review story of the world curriculum”
  - Look at samples*
  - Read reviews*

## ● Search method 2 – Pick-a-Mom-Brain

### Post a question in a homeschool forum

Facebook  
Yahoo group

### PLEASE remember ...

Be specific  
Include personality  
Ask “why” not just “what” of their answer  
Every mom has an opinion

### Be discerning

### Compare answers to your own family

Philosophy  
Vision  
Learning Styles  
Personality Styles

### Ask if you can look at it if they live close

## ● Places to purchase curriculum

### Some of my favorites

Rainbow Resource  
Amazon  
Ebay  
Homeschoolclassifieds.com  
Half.com  
Local  
*Ask in local groups*  
*Someone might have on shelf*  
Homeschool conferences/conventions  
*Great chance to touch & review*  
*Not as much selection*

### Check return policy

### Purchase in small quantities

You can always go back and buy more

### Used curriculum sales peak

May – moms done for the year  
July/August – cleaning out to make room for next year

### Keep in good condition

Resell later to recoup cost

# PLAN YOUR HOMESCHOOL

## ● What to plan

### Plan different subjects –

Use different ways to plan depending on the subject

*Chapter book – go with the order and flow*

*Math – more structure/certain number of lessons*

### Consider the following –

#### Language Arts

*Younger*

Phonics

Reading

Handwriting

*Older*

Writing:

creative/

essay

Grammar

Punctuation

Spelling

#### Math

*Computation*

*Problem solving*

#### Science

*Earth*

*Physics*

*Life*

*Chemistry*

#### History

#### Geography

#### Art/Music

*Appreciation*

*Skills*

#### Technology

#### Computers

*Coding*

*Typing*

#### Entrepreneurship

#### Foreign Language

#### Physical

*Life skills*

*(exercise)*

*Dance*

*Sports*

#### Handicrafts

*Needlepoint*

*Woodworking*

*Sewing*

#### Life Skills

#### Character/Value

#### Training

### As you plan

Be flexible – give permission

Build in the time

### Record what you ARE doing helps feel better

Learning is happening

## ● Full Year “Big picture”

### Set some goals – Where want to be by end of the year?

#### Big Picture Planning Style 1: Get Done Method

The amount you want to get done

*Take total amount for year (e.g., 40 lessons)*

*Break it into the number of weeks/days*

*Amount per week*

*Build in emergency/life days – fieldtrips/ weather / etc.*

#### Big Picture Planning Style 2: Order and Flow Method

Not a “set” amount

Just a subject you want to cover

*Chapter book or science experiment book*

*No set time frame*

You do one/ then move on to the next one

## ● 4 Month Chunk

### Seasons

Flow of the year  
*Fall*  
*Winter*  
*Summer*

## ● Weekly

### You know your schedule for week – more realistic

Easy to adjust  
*Some do three on/one off*  
Humans think in weeks

## ● Daily

### What “feel” like doing today

### What is actually realistic to accomplish

### Basic map to pull from

Determine flow for the day

### IMPORTANT! -- Even if most pieces are already decided

Determine what happens when/what to adjust  
Calendar is usually pretty set  
We live in a day – one day at a time

## STRUCTURE THE DAY

### ● How much you plan in a given day will depend on ...

#### Your philosophy of education

Child-led  
Structured

#### Ages of children

Younger require more flexibility  
Older can handle more structure/life gives more structure

#### Personality

Different kids need different amounts of structure  
*Some need to be able to follow the inspiration of moment*  
Need spontaneity  
*Some need dependable structure to feel safe*  
Like lists and boundaries  
*Different moms – some need more and less too!*

### ● Create an “IDEAL” plan for each kind of day—

#### At home day

#### Fieldtrip/activity/lesson day

#### Co-op day

#### Post-vacation/sick day

#### REMEMBER!!

It is an IDEAL!!!!  
Very few days will actually look like this day!

### ● Create chunks of day

#### Before you begin —

Allows you to be flexible  
Shorten or lengthen as day progresses  
*High-interest*  
*Interruptions*  
*Disasters*

#### Chunks of time

Planning  
*Create day before you live it*  
*Know what is going to happen*  
*Don't miss anything*  
Work  
*House cleaning & chores*  
*Working together*

Together

*"Couch time" - sit together*

*Share what's interesting*

*Devotional*

*Connect and gather*

Individual Learning

*Subjects like math/spelling*

*Mom moves from kid to kid*

Free

*Excellent chance to develop intrinsic motivation*

*Gives mom time to do other things*

*Observe*

*Be available*

Mom

*Recharge batteries*

*Enough energy to give to everyone else*

*Morning time or evening time*

*Respect yourself enough to set boundaries*

*Happy  
Homeschooling!*



# RESOURCES

## PURPOSE OF EDUCATION

[www.ted.com/talks/ken\\_robinson\\_says\\_schools\\_kill\\_creativity](http://www.ted.com/talks/ken_robinson_says_schools_kill_creativity)

*Teach Your Own: The John Holt Book of Homeschooling* by John Caldwell Holt

*A Thomas Jefferson Education: Teaching a Generation of Leaders for the Twenty-First Century* by Oliver DeMille

*The Well-Trained Mind: A Guide to Classical Education at Home* by Susan Wise Bauer and Jessie Wise

*Dumbing Us Down: The Hidden Curriculum of Compulsory Schooling* by John Taylor Gatto

*102 Top Picks for Homeschool Curriculum* by Cathy Duffy

Google “reasons to homeschool”

## FAMILY MISSION/VISION STATEMENTS

[home-school-coach.com/sample-family-mission-statements/](http://home-school-coach.com/sample-family-mission-statements/)

[home-school-coach.com/family-mission-statement-more-examples/](http://home-school-coach.com/family-mission-statement-more-examples/)

[www.confessionsofahomeschooler.com/blog/2012/01/our-family-mission-statement-2012.html](http://www.confessionsofahomeschooler.com/blog/2012/01/our-family-mission-statement-2012.html)

[www.thebettermom.com/2012/01/02/say-yes-series-1-and-better-mom-mondays-link-up/](http://www.thebettermom.com/2012/01/02/say-yes-series-1-and-better-mom-mondays-link-up/)

[www.theunlikelyhomeschool.com/2012/10/family-mission-statement-house-rules.html](http://www.theunlikelyhomeschool.com/2012/10/family-mission-statement-house-rules.html)

[www.ldsmag.com/article/1/9219](http://www.ldsmag.com/article/1/9219)

[beinglds.blogspot.com/2011/09/family-mission-statement-that-makes.html](http://beinglds.blogspot.com/2011/09/family-mission-statement-that-makes.html)

[themormonhousewife.blogspot.com/2013/07/strasburg-mission-statement-2013.html](http://themormonhousewife.blogspot.com/2013/07/strasburg-mission-statement-2013.html)

## EDUCATIONAL MISSION/VISION STATEMENTS

[www.knowledgehouse.info/articles/hs\\_sample\\_mission.html](http://www.knowledgehouse.info/articles/hs_sample_mission.html)

[www.mariannesunderland.com/2013/04/why-homeschool-how-to-make-a-homeschool-mission-statement/](http://www.mariannesunderland.com/2013/04/why-homeschool-how-to-make-a-homeschool-mission-statement/)

## PERSONALITY

*Nurture by Nature: Understanding Your Child's Personality Type—And Become a Better Parent* by Paul Tieger and Barbara Barron-Tieger

*Homeschool by Personality* by Shannon Ward and Rebecca Bockart (Pamphlet or Book) [www.familycolorworks.com/product.html](http://www.familycolorworks.com/product.html)

*The Child Whisperer* by Carol Tuttle

## LEARNING STYLES

*Discover Your Child's Learning Style* by Mariaemma Willis and Victoria Kindle Hodson

*102 Top Picks for Homeschool Curriculum* by Cathy Duffy

[www.homeschoolbuyersco-op.org/learning-styles-overview](http://www.homeschoolbuyersco-op.org/learning-styles-overview)

## HOMESCHOOLING STYLES

### **General Information**

<http://www.homeschool.com/Approaches/>

<http://thepioneerwoman.com/homeschooling/five-different-approaches-to-homeschooling/>

<http://www.confessionsofahomeschooler.com/blog/2013/10/homeschooling-101-methods-styles.html>

Google —“main styles of homeschooling”

### **Thomas Jefferson Education/Leadership Education**

*A Thomas Jefferson Education: Teaching a Generation of Leaders for the Twenty-First Century* by Oliver DeMille

*Leadership Education: The Phases of Learning* by Oliver DeMille, Rachel DeMille, Michele Smith and Daniel Ruesch

*A Thomas Jefferson Education Home Companion* by Oliver DeMille, Rachel DeMille and Diann Jeppson

<https://www.tjed.org/>

### **Classical**

*The Well-Trained Mind: A Guide to Classical Education at Home* by Susan Wise Bauer and Jessie Wise

[www.welltrainedmind.com](http://www.welltrainedmind.com)

<http://biblicahomeschooling.org/classical/introduction.html> Charlotte Mason

[www.amblesideonline.org](http://www.amblesideonline.org)

[www.simplycharlottemason.com](http://www.simplycharlottemason.com)

*For the Children's Sake: Foundations of Education for Home and School* by Susan Schaeffer Macaulay

*A Charlotte Mason Companion: Personal Reflections on The Gentle Art of Learning* by Karen Andreola

### **Unit Study**

[www.homeschoolinthewoods.com/HTTA/UnitStudy.htm](http://www.homeschoolinthewoods.com/HTTA/UnitStudy.htm)

*Unit Studies Made Easy* by Valerie Bendt

## **Unschooling**

zenhabits.net/unschool/

www.johnholtgws.com/frequently-asked-questions-abo/

unschoolery.com/

*The Unschooling Handbook : How to Use the Whole World As Your Child's Classroom* by Mary Griffith

## **Montessori**

simplehomeschool.net/montessori-at-home

montessoriconfessions.blogspot.com

## **Waldorf**

www.waldorfhomeschoolers.com

simplehomeschool.net/waldorf-homeschooling-learning-to-let-go

## **CURRICULUM SEARCH**

### **Scope & Sequence**

*Home Learning Year by Year: How to Design a Homeschool Curriculum from Preschool to High School* by Rebecca Rupp

*What Your ... Needs to Know* by E.D. Hirsch

*The Well-Trained Mind: A Guide to Classical Education at Home* by Susan Wise Bauer and Jessie Wise

*102 Top Picks for Homeschool Curriculum* by Cathy Duffy

### **Places to Buy**

<http://psychowith6.com/the-best-places-to-buy-borrow-sell-or-donate-used-homeschool-curriculum/>

[www.smockityfrocks.com/2013/07/where-to-buy-used-homeschool-curriculum.html](http://www.smockityfrocks.com/2013/07/where-to-buy-used-homeschool-curriculum.html)

[www.homeschoolclassifieds.com](http://www.homeschoolclassifieds.com)

[www.rainbowresource.com](http://www.rainbowresource.com)

## **HOMESCHOOL DAY EXAMPLES**

<http://simplehomeschool.net/your-turn/>

<http://homeschooling.about.com/od/scheduling/a/dailyschedule.htm>

<http://www.reallifeathome.com/my-typical-homeschool-day/>

<http://modernmrsdarcy.com/what-a-typical-homeschool-day-looks-like-at-my-house/>

<http://thepioneerwoman.com/homeschooling/a-day-in-the-life-of-a-structured-homeschooler/>

<http://www.heatherhaupt.com/2013/08/25/what-does-a-typical-homeschool-day-look-like/>

*Note: Some of these links go to sites where I am an affiliate. That means I get a few pennies if you choose to buy. However, I ONLY recommend things that I absolutely love and think will be helpful for you!*



# CONFIDENT HOMESCHOOL

## R O A D M A P

with  
*ToriAnn Perkey*



HOMEschool *to* HOMEschool

[www.homeschooltohomeschool.com](http://www.homeschooltohomeschool.com)

**ToriAnn Perkey** is a mother, mentor, keynote speaker, and teacher. Homeschooling since 2004, she strives to lead each of her children—along with others that she mentors—to discover, celebrate, and prepare for the unique role that each has come to earth to play. Since 2008 ToriAnn has been empowering families through her interactive workshops, inspiring keynotes, and online programs to feel confident and successful as they liberate their children's education. She has served as the past president of Wasatch Home Educators Network (the largest homeschooling network in Utah) and the main teacher for The Homeschool Support Group.

