

Homeschooling - Getting Started!

So you've made the decision to homeschool your children!

Now what?

Don't worry! *Hundreds* of families have traveled this road before you and have left a wealth of information for you to learn from. Here's some helpful information to get you started:

1. JOIN a homeschool support group!

THE BEST place to gather information is from the people that are already doing it! We even suggest joining a year or so before you actually begin! Learn the culture. Gather ideas, by researching & examining different options, without the pressure of time. [FCH](#) is a perfect place to start because we're National!

1. Read, read, read!

There is so much information online! Start there. Then check your local area. Libraries are a great resource!

2. Talk to parents that are currently homeschooling!

A Support Group, like [FCH](#), is where parents can get ideas, share knowledge and curriculum. Some support groups like ours offer field trips, social events, academic fairs, 4-H, scouting and athletic events. Contact the group leaders in your area. Get connected and stay connected! It's the best way to get all the information you'll need. You'll see, it's money well spent to keep your family connected to an active community of folks that are doing the same thing you are!

3. Find out about the law in your state!

Homeschooling is legal in all 50 states but laws vary GREATLY from state to state. So don't ask your sister-in-law in New York, how you'll register in Florida. [FCH](#), a smaller local support group, or the state homeschool organization in your state can offer you the most accurate information. Most groups have a packet of information they make available for new homeschoolers through a New Homeschoolers Orientation. Plan to attend one! The Homeschool Legal Defense Association offers a great resource on their website listing [up-to-date Homeschool Laws in each state](#). In Florida, the FPEA offers a free [GUIDE TO HOMESCHOOLING IN FLORIDA](#). For your convenience, we have provided a link to this great resource on our Home Page, under Local Resources!

4. Choose a teaching method and/or curriculum.

There are so many options available; this can be an overwhelming task! Don't let it be! We encourage you to get connected with a support system [FIRST](#) and use those families that are already homeschooling as your springboard to researching methods and curriculums. From daily lessons prepared for you to designing your own curriculum, there's something out there for everyone! Talking to other homeschooling parents is a great way to find out what each curriculum is like. Many curriculum catalogs offer reviews and detailed explanations of curriculum as well as free samples for you to review! [FCH](#) provides it's paid membership with an awesome downloadable curriculum resource with clickable links.

5. Visit the Homeschool Legal Defense Association!

We encourage you to visit their website where you can read their information regarding home education & the law. Another great resource for beginners!