

What to Do for a Month of Homeschool

You did it. You've decided to homeschool. Now you are probably wondering where to start.

Begin by unlearning all the desk-and-paper habits learned through years of public-school training. There's an entire world out there to explore!

Whether you call this "deschooling" or simply a transition from public school, this guide takes you through twenty different fun ways to create a learning environment at home over the course of a month. Resources from The Old Schoolhouse Magazine® and SchoolhouseTeachers.com are included as idea starters.

Feel free to adjust the activities and throw in a liberal dose of local field trips, park days, science experiments, and fun adventures as you see fit. The goal is to open your horizons to the liberty of homeschooling. The principle behind it is that many of the skills taught in isolation in classrooms can be learned in practical applications instead.

- A trip to the grocery store can turn into a primer on arithmetic and estimation.
- A walk through the downtown plaza can turn into a discussion of local history.
- Following a recipe can turn into both a science lesson and a math lesson.
- Reading a book together can lead to discussions of history, social studies, faith, or politics.

These techniques can be adapted to older students as well. This is a great way to expand what you consider school and to begin to enjoy time spent together.

The bookwork will come, and may certainly continue while you add in the fun listed below. Taking some time off, however, will also allow you to formulate an academic plan for your own unique homeschool.

Enjoy!

Week 1

Day 1: Read a Classic

- [*The Old Schoolhouse Magazine®*, March 2013](#): Children's Classics as Unit Studies
- [*The Old Schoolhouse Magazine®*, Winter 2021-22](#): The Other Classics
- [Adventures with Books](#)
- [Book Lists for Families](#)

Day 2: Start a Nature Journal

- [*The Old Schoolhouse Magazine®*, Spring 2021](#): Journaling About Nature: What Homeschoolers Learn by Keeping a Journal
- [*The Old Schoolhouse Magazine®*, Spring 2022](#): Three Best Practices for Nature Journaling
- [Nature Journal and Animal Classification Printables](#)
- [Nature/Outdoors](#)

Day 3: Make Slime

- [*The Old Schoolhouse Magazine®*, Summer 2021](#): Slime! How to Make It and How It Can Help you Teach
- [Curious Science](#)
- [Discovering Disgusting Creatures](#)
- [Science Experiments with Jason Lindsey](#)

Day 4: Play Games

- [*The Old Schoolhouse Magazine®*, Annual 2016](#): Let's Play! 7 Great Reasons to Add Games to Your Elementary Homeschool Program
- [*The Old Schoolhouse Magazine®*, Winter 2023-24](#): Gamifying Your Homeschool
- [Everyday Games](#)
- [World Book Kids Games](#)

Day 5: Draw Something

- [*The Old Schoolhouse Magazine®*, June 2012](#): Six Essentials to Inspire Your Young Artist
- [*The Old Schoolhouse Magazine®*, Summer 2015](#): Five Tips for Teaching Your Child (or Yourself) How to Draw
- [Drawing in Pen and Ink](#)
- [Drawing with Realism](#)

Week 2

Day 1: Bake Something

- [*The Old Schoolhouse Magazine®*, Fall 2020](#): Science in the Kitchen
- [*The Old Schoolhouse Magazine®*, Summer 2023](#): How to Make Math a Little More Fun
An Interview with Pat Murray
- [Breadmaking Devotional](#)
- [Ditch the Desk – Baking with Math](#)

Day 2: Practice Handwriting

- [*The Old Schoolhouse Magazine®*, Fall 2021](#): The Art of Penmanship
- [*The Old Schoolhouse Magazine®*, Fall 2021](#): Cursive Handwriting Does Serve a Purpose
- [Beginning Handwriting and Phonics](#)
- [Everyday Copywork](#)

Day 3: Listen to an Audiobook

- [*The Old Schoolhouse Magazine®*, March 2013](#): Literature Resources
- [*The Old Schoolhouse Magazine®*, Summer 2015](#): Inspiring Your Child by Reading Aloud
- [Literature](#)
- [Loving Literature Through Chapter Books](#)

Day 4: Make Some Noise

- [*The Old Schoolhouse Magazine®*, February 2013](#): The Power of Music
- [*The Old Schoolhouse Magazine®*, Winter 2020-21](#): Music Grows the Body, Spirit, and Mind
- [Appreciating the Gift of Music](#)
- [Fun with Music](#)

Day 5: Make Paper Airplanes

- [*The Old Schoolhouse Magazine®*, 2014 Annual Print Book](#): Homeschool in the Air: One Homeschooler Goes for His Pilot's License
- [*The Old Schoolhouse Magazine®*, Annual 2017](#): Exploring Flight the 'Wright' Way
- [Fun with Gravity and Science](#)
- [History of Air Travel](#)

Week 3

Day 1: Review Math Facts

- [*The Old Schoolhouse Magazine®*, Supplement 2019](#): Math Memorization Fun
- [*The Old Schoolhouse Magazine®*, Fall 2021](#): Falling Behind in Math?
- [Daily Math](#)
- [Let's Do Math Outside](#)

Day 2: Play a Game

- [*The Old Schoolhouse Magazine®*, Fall 2016](#): Fun & Games: Unleashing the Power of Play
- [*The Old Schoolhouse Magazine®*, Winter 2023-24](#): What's in a Game? When Learning is Fun.
- [*The Old Schoolhouse Magazine®*, Winter 2021-22](#): Learning through Play
- [Teaching Reading Through Play](#)

Day 3: Visit a Virtual Museum

- [*The Old Schoolhouse Magazine®*, July-August 2013](#): Living History Museums—Your Secret Community Resource
- [*The Old Schoolhouse Magazine®*, Spring 2021](#): Using Museums in Your Studies
- [Discovering Art History](#)
- [Foods and Food Production](#)

Day 4: Watch a Wildlife Webcam

- [*The Old Schoolhouse Magazine®*, Spring 2021](#): Unit Studies through Journaling Nature
- [*The Old Schoolhouse Magazine®*, Spring 2022](#): Nature is Necessary!
- [Ditch the Desk – Backyard Critters](#)
- [Let's Do Science Outside](#)

Day 5: Go on a Treasure Hunt

- [*The Old Schoolhouse Magazine®*, September 2012](#): Unexpected Treasures that Bless Your School Year
- [*The Old Schoolhouse Magazine®*, Spring 2016](#): Nature Bowl
- [Digging for Treasure](#)
- [World Book Scavenger Hunts](#)

Week 4

Day 1: Explore a History Topic

- [*The Old Schoolhouse Magazine®*, Annual 2016](#): History in the Elementary Years
- [Homeschool History Unit Studies](#)
- [This Day in History](#)
- [Writing on This Day in History](#)

Day 2: Make Something Yummy

- [*The Old Schoolhouse Magazine®*, November/December 2014](#): Dishing Up Science: Making Learning “Yum”
- [*The Old Schoolhouse Magazine®*, Fall 2020](#): Cook to Serve: Loving Others While Teaching Cooking Skills
- [Fun with Cooking](#)
- [Whole Foods Cooking](#)

Day 3: Go Outside and Draw

- [*The Old Schoolhouse Magazine®*, 2015 Annual](#): Teaching Art in the Homeschool Environment
- [*The Old Schoolhouse Magazine®*, Spring 2021](#): Three Ways to Simplify the Art of Nature Journaling
- [Homeschool Art Curriculum and Unit Studies](#)
- [Let’s Do Art Outside](#)

Day 4: Turn Grammar into Play Time

- [*The Old Schoolhouse Magazine®*, August 2012](#): Grammar FUNdamentals
- [*The Old Schoolhouse Magazine®*, July/August 2013](#): Grammar Time: Go (Outside) and Play
- [Daily Puzzlers](#)
- [Everyday Games – Reading](#)

Day 5: Plan a Meal Together

- [*The Old Schoolhouse Magazine®*, Fall 2018](#): Meal Planning: How to Save Time and Money
- [*The Old Schoolhouse Magazine®*, Fall 2020](#): 5 Steps to Meal Planning
- [*The Old Schoolhouse Magazine®*, Summer 2023](#): How to Make Cooking Fun for Young Children
- [Monthly Menu](#)

Taking It a Step Further

Here are some more resources available on SchoolhouseTeachers.com to continue the open-ended learning.

- [Everyday Astronomy](#)
- [Lapbooking](#)
- [Lapbooking Through the Ages](#)
- [Lapbooking Through Science](#)
- [Achieving Art Success with Art Achieve](#)
- [Music/Voice](#)
- [Nourishing Nuggets](#)
- [Science Experiments with World Book](#)
- [Weekly Writing Challenge](#)
- [Tinkers' Club](#)
- [Unit Studies](#) in a variety of subjects