Home Schooling Resource Guide

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We hope that this guide will help you and your family on your home school journey. We’ve included information about local groups and co-ops, great educational resources, nearby attractions, and more.

If you would like to suggestion an addition or update to this guide, please contact the Youth Services Desk at 856-772-1636 x7360 or ChildrenVT@camdencountylibrary.org

The Camden County Library System’s Mission
We meet the learning, recreational and informational needs of our customers, providing an open environment for our community

The Camden County Library System’s Vision
We are the Camden County Library System, your gateway to the world. With you, we create bridges that begin in Camden County and lead to the destination of your choice. Building on our proud heritage, we use technology to extend beyond our walls.

We exist to bring people, ideas and opportunities together in many resourceful ways. We promote continuous improvement in Camden County by fostering community growth and cooperation. We measure our success by your success.
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Library Offerings

Homeschool Collection
The Voorhees & South County Branches have special Home School Sections of their collections. The collections include textbooks, workbooks, and homeschool guides. South County subscribes to *Home School Today*; Voorhees subscribes to *Practical Homeschooling*. The most current issues remain in the branch, but back issues are available to be borrowed for 7 days.

Online Resources
Check out the library’s home schooling subject guide: [http://www.camdencountylibrary.org/home-schooling](http://www.camdencountylibrary.org/home-schooling) as well as the countless online resources and databases available with your library card at [http://www.camdencountylibrary.org/subscription-databases](http://www.camdencountylibrary.org/subscription-databases). Services include live chat-based tutoring with Tutor.com, learning centers and practice tests through Learning Express Library, and teacher handouts through Facts on File’s Curriculum Resource Center.

Programs and Events
Visit [http://www.camdencountylibrary.org/events](http://www.camdencountylibrary.org/events) and check frequently for educational & recreational events that are open to all at no charge. From story times to crafts, guest speakers to live bands, the Camden County Library System offers diverse programming for babies through senior citizens.

Museum Passes
The library offers a pass program for nearby museums and nature centers at all eight branches. Any adult with a card in good standing can check out a pass to attend with no admission charge. Get all the info at [http://www.camdencountylibrary.org/pass](http://www.camdencountylibrary.org/pass).

Passes to the following institutions can be checked out from any branch of the Camden County Library System:

- Academy of Natural Sciences – Admission for up to two adults and five children; 10% discount at the Academy Shop and Academy Cafe
- Camden Children’s Garden – Free admission for up to six guests
- Garden State Discovery Museum – Admission for up to six people; 15% discount at the Discovermore Toy Store
- Grounds for Sculpture – Admission for up to four people
- Morris Arboretum – Admission for up to two adults and four children; 10% discount at the gift shop
- Wheaton Arts – Admission for up to two adults and any children under 18
- Woodford Wildlife Refuge - Admission for up to two adults and any children under 18

The following passes are only available from the Voorhees branch:

- Guggenheim – Admission for up to four people; 10% discount at the Guggenheim store and restaurants
- Penn Museum of Archaeology – Admission for up to two people
- PAFA – Admission for up to two adults and four children
- Roebling – Admission for up to two adults and any children under 18
Local Groups and Resources

Classical Conversations
https://www.classicalconversations.com/
Christian-based group offering programs and academic services

ENOCH – Education Network of Christian Homeschoolers of New Jersey
http://www.enochnj.org/index.php
Holds an Annual Convention in May

Gloucester County Christian Home Schoolers Association
http://homeschool-life.com/nj/gcchsa/
Christian-based home school support group
Holds annual spelling bee

Homeschool Bands of Southern New Jersey
http://homeschoolband.org/
Band performance group based in Haddon Heights, NJ

Homeschool World’s Exhaustive list
http://www.home-school.com/groups/NJ.html
Check here an often-updated list of homeschool groups in New Jersey

New Jersey Homeschool Association
http://jerseyhomeschool.net/
Provides information about homeschooling in New Jersey

South Jersey Homeschool Choir
http://southjerseyhomeschoolchoir.webs.com/
Choral performance group based in Marlton, NJ

South Jersey Home Schoolers
https://www.facebook.com/sjhomeschool
Christian-based group that shares curriculum, events, and support
Local Co-Ops

Active Imaginations
https://www.facebook.com/activeimaginationshomeschool
http://activeimaginationshomeschool.com/
New co-op beginning September 2015
Mickelton, NJ

Blackwood Co-op
http://blackwoodnjhomeschoolcoop.blogspot.com/
Secular
Weekly classes September – May
Blackwood, NJ

HIS Homeschool Co-op
http://www.freewebs.com/HISHOMESCHOOLCOOP/
hishomeschoolcoop@gmail.com.
Christian-based educational and social network for home-school families
Meets at Fellowship Community Church & Mt Laurel Evangelical Free Church
Mt Laurel, NJ

Living Water Home Educators (LWHE)
http://www.lwhe.org / https://www.facebook.com/LivingWaterHomeEducators
Christian-based group that has classes September- May
Holds an annual Science Fair, Spelling Bee
Burlington County, NJ

Great Online Groups

Affording the Homeschool Life – Facebook Group
https://www.facebook.com/groups/594052600614228/

Crossing Over to Homeschooling – Facebook Group
https://www.facebook.com/groups/CrossingOverToHomeschooling/
Great for newbies

Secular Homeschool Families – Facebook Group
https://www.facebook.com/groups/SHF.CLOSED/

West Jersey Homeschoolers - Yahoo Group
https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/WestJerseyHomeschoolers/info
Academics

Products we use and liked (paid)

Big Brainz
http://www.bigbrainz.com/
Math games

The Great Courses
http://www.thegreatcourses.com/
Available streaming online or on DVD

IXL
http://www.ixl.com/
Practice Math & Language Arts, K-12

National Geographic
http://www.nationalgeographic.com/
Publishes excellent books as well as the classic magazine.

Peace Hill Press
http://peacehillpress.com
Education Press. Popular First Language Lessons & Story of the World series

Rosetta Stone
http://www.rosettastone.com/
Language learning courses

Sonlight Christian Homeschool Curriculum
https://www.sonlight.com/

Study Island
http://www.studyisland.com/
Test prep, literacy, enrichment, and more. Used by Voorhees and Clemention Schools.

Teaching Textbooks
http://www.teachingtextbooks.com/
Teach yourself math
Products we used and liked (free)

Calculation Nation
http://calculationnation.nctm.org/
Math games for upper elementary – middle school

CNN Student News
http://www.cnn.com/studentnews
Designed for use in middle and high school classrooms

DIY.org
http://www.diy.org
Learn new skills and connect with others

Easy Peasy All-in-One Homeschool
http://allinonehomeschool.com/
Collection of curriculum and lesson plans

Enchanted Learning
http://www.enchantedlearning.com/Home.html
Curriculum & other materials

Free Rice
http://freerice.com/
Answer questions from a variety of subject areas. For each correct answer, 10 grains of rice is donated through the World Food Programme.

Hoffman Academy
https://www.hoffmanacademy.com/
Learn to play the piano

Hooda Math
http://www.hoodamath.com/
Math games. Search by grade level, game type, and math subject

Khan Academy
https://www.khanacademy.org/
Practice exercises, instructional videos, learning dashboard for a variety of subjects.

Mathematics Enhancement Programme
http://www.cimt.plymouth.ac.uk/projects/mep/
Free match curriculum from the Centre for Innovation in Mathematics Teaching
NeoK12
http://www.neok12.com/
Educational videos, lessons, and games for K-12 kids

Pinterest
http://www.pinterest.com
Visual bookmarking site – great place to search for lesson plans, craft ideas, recipes, and more

Spelling City
http://www.spellingcity.com/
Game based spelling learning tool.

Tips & Thoughts

Classroom
Designate a room in your house your ‘classroom’. Have a desk or table, your library, and school supplies.

Customize!
Use family interests and experiences in your curriculum. Planning a trip to Disney? Give the assignment to create an updated ‘World of Tomorrow’ exhibit for Epcot Center.

Family Tree Project
This was a favorite assignment from one of our writers. Learn about the history of your own family while learning to use genealogy resources.

Find a Co-Op
Homeschool co-ops offer community, educational opportunities, and support.

Get a homeschool ID!
Some co-ops offer them. You can also use the letter the school sent when acknowledging your letter of intent. The Home School Legal Defense Alliance also offers IDs. Some businesses offer discounts to HS Families.

Work in your PJs!
Take advantage of the logistical perks of homeschooling. Set your own schedule. Avoid afterschool and weekend crowds. Do your math lesson in your pajamas!
Places to Go

Academy of Natural Sciences of Drexel University
http://www.ansp.org/
Philadelphia, PA
Self-Guided visits include Teacher’s guides. The museum presents on various topics daily, Sept- June.

Barnes & Noble Deptford
http://store-locator.barnesandnoble.com/store/2891
Deptford, NJ
Large homeschool material section, some events offered

Brandywine Zoo
http://www.brandywinezoo.org/
Wilmington, Delaware
Family programs and workshops offered

Brunswick Lanes
http://www.bowlbrunswick.com/
Turnersville, NJ
Every Tuesday at 1pm $5/kid, up to $15

Burlington County College
http://www.bcc.edu/
Mt Laurel & Pemberton, NJ
Homeschool students can register for class as part of their curriculum
Pinelands Institute for Natural & Environmental Studies offers educational programs:
http://www.bcc.edu/pines

Camden County College
http://www.camdencc.edu/
Blackwood & Cherry Hill, NJ
Register for class starting at age 11
Eligible for a library card with a valid Camden County Public Library card

Cedar Run Wildlife Refuge
http://www.cedarrun.org/
Medford, NJ
Offers Homeschool classes the 2nd Tuesday and Wednesday of the month, Sept-June (excluding Dec). 10am or 1pm. Knee-High Naturalist (Ages 3-4), Nature Nuts (Ages 5-7), and Eco Explorers (Ages 8+)
Cherry Hill Skate Center
http://www.cherryhillskatingcenter.com/
Cherry Hill, NJ
3rd Friday of every Month, 1-3:30 Home School Skate

Delaware Valley Earth Science Society
http://dvess.org/
Berlin, NJ
Promoting interest & knowledge in the earth sciences.

Edelman Planetarium at Rowan University
http://www.rowan.edu/planetarium/
Offer free nights open to public. Will schedule free planetarium field trips for a group.

Fort Mott State Park
http://www.state.nj.us/dep/parksandforests/parks/fortmott.html
Pennsville, NJ
Self-guided tour & programs throughout the year

Franklin Institute
https://www.fi.edu/
Philadelphia, PA
Offers Homeschool Workshops for students Ages 7-14, 10:30-2:30 p.m.

Ground for Sculpture
http://www.groundsforsculpture.org/
Hamilton, NJ

Historical Society of Moorestown
http://www.moorestown.com/history/
Moorestown, NJ
Historical place, Offers lectures

Howell Living History Farm
http://www.howellfarm.org/
Lambertville, NJ
Offers public and kids programs. Facility of the Mercer County Park Commission

Kids Bowl Free / Kids Skate Free
http://www.kidsbowlfree.com/
http://kidsskatefree.com/
Get free passes to bowl and skate at participating locations
Longwood Gardens
http://longwoodgardens.org/
Kennette Square, PA
Hosts home School Days

Mann Center for the Performing Arts
http://www.manncenter.org/
Philadelphia, PA
Workshops/demos/lectures through Judith Gitlin Arts Teach, annual free Young People’s Concert Series

Marine Mammal Stranding Center
http://mmsc.org/
Brigantine, NJ
Offers summer programs

National Constitution Center
http://constitutioncenter.org/
Philadelphia, PA
Website includes free educational resources

National Parks
http://www.nps.gov/index.htm
Offers lesson plans, Junior Ranger program

NJEA Convention
http://njeaconvention.org/
NJ Education Association’s Annual Convention is open to the public

Opera Philadelphia
https://www.operaphila.org/
Philadelphia, PA
Sounds of Learning Signature Program uses opera to teach lessons across the curriculum. Registration required, no cost.

Penn Museum
http://www.penn.museum/
Philadelphia, PA
Offers workshops and other activities to the public
Philadelphia Museum of Art
http://www.philamuseum.org/
Philadelphia, PA
Homeschool Museum Classes – 2 hours long, first Wednesday of the month October-June. Children’s Arts Classes offered. Website has free lesson plans and teacher materials.

Princeton University Museum of Art
http://artmuseum.princeton.edu/
Self-guided tour materials available for download, online activities. Free admission.

Royal Cinema / United Artist Cinema
$1 movie tickets early morning June – Aug

Wetlands Institute
http://wetlandsinstitute.org/
Stone Harbor, NJ
Offers monthly Homeschool Program (Ages 5-13) on the first Friday of every month / third Thursday of every month, September – May.

Wheaton Arts and Cultural Center
http://www.wheatonarts.org/
Milville, NJ
Home School Classes available for booking