

Homeschooling Fundamentals

Getting started with a structured academic approach

The decision to homeschool is daunting. Parents ask themselves: *Am I qualified to be my child's teacher?* —They worry about missing essential topics or even entire subjects that are critical to a thorough academic plan. Few newcomers to homeschooling are aware of the wide range of options now available—options that make it feasible for homeschooling parents to provide to their kids a world-class education.

This workshop provides essential information that empowers you to create an effective, workable educational plan. It also gives you concrete tools for effective homeschooling:

- ♦ **The Trivium.** Using this ancient model of cognitive development to inspire your child and enhance his or her intellectual capabilities.
- ♦ **Great books.** Using “great books” as the core of your homeschool curriculum.
- ♦ **Inspired and inspiring.** “Living books” vs. textbooks.
- ♦ **Developing a love of learning & child-led learning.** Games and projects for learning as alternatives to worksheets.
- ♦ **Reading.** Establishing good reading habits in your household.
- ♦ **Developing writing skills in your student.** The limited role of grammar, handwriting, and dictation in developing your child's “voice” in writing.
- ♦ **The home-educator as manager.** Goal-setting and end-of-year assessments.

Workshop fee (includes printed reference materials): \$89. For a couple, \$150.

About the facilitator

Diane Speed has been a home educator for more than a dozen years. Using an academic, college-prep program of her own design, she's tutored two children from pre-school through high school. Her son, Tristan, was awarded a full academic scholarship—tuition, room, and board—to Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles, where he completed a B.A. in screenwriting with a minor in music. Diane is happy she still has one at home: teenage daughter Holden plays classical guitar and ukelele and has just taken up the mandolin; she also writes and sings her own songs.

Diane is the founder of the Classical Kids Network, the home-school support group she has led since its inception in 2001. Classical Kids now serves more than 200 families in CT and surrounding states. In 2007, Diane launched the website classickids.net to enhance all services to member families.

Prior to being a home-educator, Diane was a management consultant, designing team-building and sales-training programs, as well as software training programs.



UPCOMING WORKSHOPS

Bethel, CT

Date TBD: 1:00 – 4:30 PM

CONTENT

Part 1: Philosophies of home-education. A tutorial with detailed explanation of structured approaches, e.g., *The Well-Trained Mind*, Charlotte Mason, etc.

Part 2: Tailoring your approach. A primer on tailoring the approach to your needs and circumstances. Topics will include developing your own curriculum, transitioning to homeschooling from school, homeschooling multiple children, etc.

Part 3: From Home-educator to Manager. Ways to organize yourself and motivate your child: schedules, goal-setting, assessments, etc.

WITH TIME FOR...

- ♦ answers to all your questions;
- ♦ perusing curriculum samples selected for their quality & suitability.

For questions or to confirm your seat, contact:

Diane Speed
203.942.6155

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Once again you have led me in what seems to be the right direction. You are definitely a lady with many resources in that brain of yours. I feel blessed to have met you.

—*New homeschooling mom of three, ages 5, 6, & 9*

I was fortunate to attend a workshop you led when I first started homeschooling. To this day I refer to the handouts you created. When people talk to me about homeschooling, I share your amazing materials with them to show them that they too can do it!

—*Homeschooling dad of two, ages 8 & 10*

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