Homeschooling Resource Guide

Written by Local Homeschoolers

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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 suggest an addition or update to this guide, please contact the Youth Services Desk at 856-772-1636 x7360 or <u>ChildrenVT@camdencountylibrary.org</u>

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 supplemental materials, workbooks, and homeschool guides.

Online Resources

Check out the library's home schooling subject guide:

https://www.camdencountylibrary.org/parents#homeschoolers as well as the countless online resources and databases available with your library card at

<u>http://www.camdencountylibrary.org/subscription-databases</u>. Services include live chat-based tutoring with Tutor.com and Brainfuse, learning centers and practice tests through Learning Express Library, language learning with Rosetta Stone, and teacher handouts through Facts on File's Curriculum Resource Center

Programs and Events

Visit <u>http://events.camdencountylibrary.org</u> 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 <u>http://www.camdencountylibrary.org/pass</u>. Some museum passes are only available at one branch while others are available at multiple branches.

Passes to the following institutions can be checked out from 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.
- African American Museum Admission for up to six people, 10% discount at the Museum Shop; discount admission to the Art Sanctuary.
- Battleship New Jersey Admission for up to two adults and three children.
- Bucks County Children's Museum Admission for up to six people.
- Eastern State Penitentiary Admission for up to six people, not recommended for children under 7.
- Elmwood Park Zoo -- Admission for two adults and up to 6 children; 10% discount on items purchased from Nature Shop, cafe and throughout the zoo.
- **Guggenheim** Pass provides free admission for 4 adults. Also includes admission to over 30 other museums and Frank Lloyd Wright sites.
- Independence Seaport Museum Admission for up to two adults and four children.
- Museum of the American Revolution Admission for up to two adults and four children.
- Mütter Museum Admission for up to four people.

- National Constitution Center Admission for up to two adults and four children.
- National Liberty Museum Admission for up to six people.
- Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts Admission for up to two adults and four children.
- Penn Museum of Archaeology Admission for up to two people.
- Philadelphia Insectarium & Butterfly Pavilion Admission for up to two adults and four children.
- Philadelphia's Magic Gardens Admission for up to two adults and three children.
- Roebling Admission for up to two adults and any children under 18.
- Simeon Foundation Auto Museum Admission for up to four people
- State of NJ Park Passes Free parking at any of the state parks in New Jersey. Location of all state parks
- Wheaton Arts Admission for up to two adults and any children under 18.
- Woodford Wildlife Refuge Admission for up to two adults and three children.

Local Groups and Resources

Burlington County Tennis Association Homeschool Tennis (Facebook Group) https://www.facebook.com/Burlington-County-Tennis-Association-331632686905078/

Meets at Moorestown Tennis Club

Camden County Homeschoolers (Facebook Group)

https://www.facebook.com/groups/494965360949154/

Catholic Schoolhouse

https://camdencountynj.catholicschoolhouse.com/ A supplemental program designed to help homeschool families enrich educational experience inspired by classical elements

Classical Conversations

https://www.classicalconversations.com/

Christian-based group offering programs and academic services. Multiple locations including Marlton and Sewell.

Drama Kids International

https://dramakids.com/medford-voorhees-williamstown-marlton-nj/homeschoolers/ Drama Classes for Homeschoolers weekday mornings

Gloucester County Christian Home Schoolers Association

http://homeschool-life.com/nj/gcchsa/ Non-profit Christian-based home school support group Holds annual spelling bee

Homeschool Events in NJ, NY, PA, CT, MD, and DE

https://www.facebook.com/groups/287993004963807 Resource for local classes, events, and field trips.

Homeschool Playgroup of NJ

https://www.facebook.com/groups/1596403117294343 Plan and join meetups and field trips with other homeschool families

Homeschool Sell, Grab & Go (Facebook Group)

https://www.facebook.com/groups/741888945969289/ Local homeschool buy and sell group.

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

Mid Atlantic Music Academy

http://www.midatlanticmusicacademy.org/ Band performance group based in Haddon Heights, NJ

New Jersey Homeschool Association

https://newjerseyhomeschool.wordpress.com/ https://www.facebook.com/NJhomeschool/ Provides information about homeschooling in New Jersey

NJ Homeschool Fair

https://www.facebook.com/Homeschoolfair2022/ Hosts semi-annual fair, shares useful information in between events

Secular, Progressive Homeschoolers of South Jersey

https://www.facebook.com/groups/1061664300694780 Welcoming space for all homeschooling families

South Jersey Homeschool Choir

http://southjerseyhomeschoolchoir.webs.com/ Choral performance group based in Marlton, NJ

South Jersey Homeschool Forum (Facebook Group)

https://www.facebook.com/groups/291511407664562/ Connecting homeschooling families in the South Jersey area

South Jersey Homeschool Key Club

<u>https://sjhskeyclubweb.wixsite.com/sjhskeyclub</u> <u>https://www.facebook.com/groups/Homeschoolkeyclubsj/</u> Service program for high school students

South Jersey Homeschool Families

https://www.facebook.com/sjhomeschool Christian-based group that shares curriculum, events, and support

South Jersey Homeschoolers (Facebook Group)

https://www.facebook.com/groups/697151746973267/ Focusing on Gloucester, Cumberland, Camden, Salem, Atlantic and Burlington counties

West Jersey Homeschoolers (Facebook Group) https://www.facebook.com/groups/WestJerseyHomeschoolers/ Homeschool discussion Wild + Free South Jersey (Facebook Group) https://www.facebook.com/groups/1872661466387891/ Plan field trips, nature outings, and more

Will-Moore Gymanstics

http://www.willmoorgymnastics.net/class-schedule-homeschool/ Homeschool classes for first grade and up, Mondays at 2:30 p.m. in Mount Laurel.

Local Co-Ops

Exploration Kids Co-Op <u>https://www.explorationkidsco-op.com/</u> <u>https://www.facebook.com/explorationkidscoop/</u> Educational co-op that meets Mondays at MainStage Center for the Arts in Blackwood

HIS Homeschool Co-op

https://www.hishomeschoolcoop.org/

Christian-based educational and social network for home-school families Meets at Fellowship Community Church & Mt Laurel Evangelical Free Church in Mt Laurel

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

South Jersey Muslim Homeschoolers (SJMH)

https://www.facebook.com/groups/1634667343415660/

Encouraging and assisting Muslim families to home educate in south New Jersey with a Muslim worldview.

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/ https://www.crossingovertohomeschooling.com/ Great for newbies

Curious Minds Unite https://curiousmindsunite.com/ Online community for virtual classes and events

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

Useful & Free Online Resources

ArtistWorks

<u>https://www.camdencountylibrary.org/artistworks</u> Self-paced musical and artistic video instruction provided by the Camden County Library System

Brainfuse

https://www.camdencountylibrary.org/brainfuse Provided by the NJ State Library, Brainfuse offers live tutoring from 2-11pm each day

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.

Hooda Math

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

NeoK12

http://www.neok12.com/ Educational videos, lessons, and games for K-12 kids

Pinterest

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

Sheppard Software

<u>http://www.sheppardsoftware.com/</u> Educational games and activities in a wide variety of subject areas.

Spelling City

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

Tutor.com

https://www.camdencountylibrary.org/tutor

Provided by the Camden County Library System, Tutor.com offers one-on-one live tutoring for students, job seekers, and adult learners from 2pm-12am each day. Test prep resources available 24/7.

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-cops offer community, educational opportunities, and support.

Find an Extra-curricular

Explore a passion and meet others with the same interest.

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

<u>http://www.ansp.org/</u> Philadelphia, PA Self-Guided visits include Teacher's guides. The museum presents on various topics daily, Sept- June.

Adventure Aquarium

https://www.adventureaquarium.com/Groups/Specialty-Days/Homeschool-Week?fbclid=IwAR3CErFIViaabzArGyykMxqJBS7sJsv2VBWBxp6ri-1kLrhPlumSGM--ns

Camden, NJ Homeschool weeks: during special weekdays, homeschool families received special pricing

Barnes & Noble Deptford

<u>http://store-locator.barnesandnoble.com/store/2891</u> Deptford, NJ Large homeschool material section, some events offered

Brandywine Zoo

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

Camden County College

<u>http://www.camdencc.edu/</u> 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+)

Delaware Valley Earth Science Society

http://dvess.org/ Berlin, NJ Promoting interest & knowledge in the earth sciences.

Edelman Planetarium at Rowan University

<u>http://www.rowan.edu/planetarium/</u> Offer free nights open to public. Will schedule free planetarium field trips for a group.

Every Kid in a Park

https://www.everykidinapark.gov/get-your-pass/ Free pass for fourth graders to visit national parks

Fernbrook Farms

https://www.fernbrookfarms.com/center/homeschool-classes/ Bordentown, NJ Hands-on outdoor science and nature classes

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

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

Grounds for Sculpture

http://www.groundsforsculpture.org/ Hamilton, NJ

Historical Society of Moorestown

<u>http://moorestownhistory.org/</u> Moorestown, NJ Historical place, Offers NJ History Speaks programming

Hollydell Ice Arena

https://www.hollydellicearena.com/ Sewell, NJ Homeschool skate 2nd Tuesday of each month

Howell Living History Farm

<u>http://www.howellfarm.org/</u> 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

Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

https://www.kimmelcenter.org/ Philadelphia, PA Regularly offers free concerts and kids' events

Longwood Gardens

http://longwoodgardens.org/ Kennette Square, PA Hosts home School Days

The Makers Workshop

<u>https://www.themakersworkshop.net/</u> Laurel Springs, NJ Offers homeschool arts and crafts classes

Mann Center for the Performing Arts

<u>http://www.manncenter.org/</u> Philadelphia, PA Workshops/demos/lectures through Judith Gitlin Arts Teach, annual free Young People's Concert Series

Marine Mammal Stranding Center

<u>http://mmsc.org/</u> 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.

Pinncale Parkour Academy

http://www.pinnacleparkour.com/homeschool-programs/ Cherry Hill, NJ Specialized parkour programming designed to meet the schedules and needs of homeschooled students.

Princeton University Museum of Art

http://artmuseum.princeton.edu/

Self-guided tour materials available for download, online activities. Free admission.

Rowan College Burlington County

<u>http://rcbc.edu/</u> Take college classes for high school credit. Offers homeschool counselor Pinelands Institute for Natural & Environmental Studies offers educational programs: <u>http://www.rcbc.edu/pines</u>

Rowan College Gloucester County

<u>https://www.rcgc.edu/Pages/Home.aspx</u> Take college classes for high school credit at a 65% discount for homeschool students. Offers homeschool counselor

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

<u>http://www.wheatonarts.org/</u> Milville, NJ Home School Classes available for booking