

# 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 [ChildrenVT@camdencountylibrary.org](mailto: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.

# Table of Contents

Library Offerings.....	pp 4-5
Local Groups and Resources.....	pp 6-7
Local Co-ops.....	p 8
Great Online Groups.....	p 9
Academics.....	pp 9-11
Tips & Thoughts.....	p 12
Places to Go.....	pp 13-17

# 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.

## 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

<http://www.camdencountylibrary.org/subscription-databases>. Services include live chat-based tutoring with Tutor.com, 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 <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.

The Voorhees Branch holds large book sales twice a year, in October and June. Info here

<https://www.camdencountylibrary.org/booksale>

## 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>. 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
- Battleship New Jersey – Admission for up to two adults and three children
- Bucks County Children's Museum – Admission for up to six people
- Camden Children's Garden – Admission for up to six guests
- 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 purchase made in shop & cafe
- 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
- Mutter Museum - Admission for up to four people
- Museum of the American Revolution - Pass provides free admission for two adults and up to four children under the age of 18 (guests not included), member discounts for public programming and 10% off in the Museum Shop and Cafe.
- National Constitution Center - Admission for up to two adults and four children.
- National Liberty Museum - Admission for up to six people.
- Paws Discovery Farm - 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 Magic Gardens – Admission for up to two adults and three children.
- Roebling – Admission for up to two adults and any children under 18.
- 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-Homeschool-Tennis-1923879147668101>

Meets at Moorestown Tennis Club

**Camden County Homeschoolers** (Facebook Group)

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

Meet at Voorhees library 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m.

**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 Magnolia NJ.

**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/>

Non-profit Christian-based home school support group

Holds annual spelling bee

**Homeschool Sell, Grab & Go** (Facebook Group)

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/741888945969289/>

Local homeschool buy and sell group. The idea is to Eliminate shipping and costs & share resources.

You must be willing to pick up your items.

**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**

<http://jerseyhomeschool.net/>

Provides information about homeschooling in New Jersey

**NJ Homeschool Dances** (Facebook Group)

<https://www.facebook.com/DANCES4TEENS/>

Holds the Cinderella Ball (spring) and Masquerade Ball (fall) at the Palace in Blackwood NJ

**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**

<https://sjhskeyclubweb.wixsite.com/sjhskeyclub>

Service program for high school students

**South Jersey Homeschool Moms** (Facebook Group)

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/251874941978256/>

Homeschool/unschool moms to share events, classes, discussion

**South Jersey Homeschoolers** (Facebook Group)

<https://www.facebook.com/sjhomeschool>

Christian-based group that shares curriculum, events, and support

**West Jersey Homeschoolers** (Facebook Group)

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/WestJerseyHomeschoolers/>

<https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/WestJerseyHomeschoolers/info>

Homeschool discussion

**Wild + Free South Jersey** (Facebook Group)

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1872661466387891/>

Plan field trips, nature outings, and more

**Will-Moore Gymnastics**

<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

## Academic Co-op Community

<https://www.facebook.com/ACCHomeschoolCoop/>

Meets Tuesdays at Mantua United Methodist Church

## Active Imaginations

<https://www.facebook.com/activeimaginationshomeschool>

<http://activeimaginationshomeschool.weebly.com/>

Social and activities-based homeschool co-op in Mickelton, NJ

## Excelsior

Christian Classical/Charlotte Mason Homeschool Cooperative in Moorestown

Weekly co-op classes on Wednesdays from 9:45 AM-2:00 PM at Maranatha Church in Moorestown

## 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 (SJMHS)

<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

Secular Homeschool Families – Facebook Group

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/SHF.CLOSED/>

## Academics

Products we use and liked (paid)

Education.com

<https://www.education.com/>

Resources for PreK-5

The Great Courses

<http://www.thegreatcourses.com/>

Available streaming online or on DVD

IXL

<http://www.ixl.com/>

Practice Math & Language Arts, K-12

Math U See

<https://www.mathusee.com/>

Math learning for K-12

Outschool

<https://outschool.com/>

Small online classes for K-12 either self-paced or scheduled , including health classes

### A Reason For

<https://areasonfor.com/>

Christian-based science, handwriting, spelling, and guided reading

### Sonlight Christian Homeschool Curriculum

<https://www.sonlight.com/>

### Study Island

<http://www.studyisland.com/>

Test prep, literacy, enrichment, and more.

### Teachers Pay Teachers

<https://www.teacherspayteachers.com/>

Teacher resources and lesson plans

### Teaching Textbooks

<http://www.teachingtextbooks.com/>

Online subscription

### Time4Learning

<https://www.time4learning.com/>

Online curriculum for PreK-12

## Products we used and liked (free)

### Calculation Nation

<http://calculationnation.nctm.org/>

Math games for upper elementary – middle school

### 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/>

Mathgames. 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.

**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

**Sheppard Software**

<http://www.sheppardsoftware.com/>

Educational games and activities in a wide variety of subject areas.

**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.

## **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

<http://www.ansp.org/>

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=IwAR3CE-rFIViaabzArGyykMxqJBS7sJsv2VBWBxp6ri-1kLrhPlumSGM--ns>

Camden, NJ

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

### 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

### 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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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

3<sup>rd</sup> 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.

### **Deptford Skate Zone**

<https://dscdeptford.com/hours-pricing/special-events/>

Deptford, NJ

Home school skate first Friday of each month, 12:30-2:30 p.m.

### **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.

### **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**

<https://www.fi.edu/>

Philadelphia, PA

Offers Homeschool Workshops for students Ages 7-14, 10:30-2:30 p.m.

### **Grounds for Sculpture**

<http://www.groundsfor Sculpture.org/>

Hamilton, NJ

### **Historical Society of Moorestown**

<http://moorestownhistory.org/>

Moorestown, NJ

Historical place, Offers NJ History Speaks programming

### **Hollydell Ice Arena**

<https://www.hollydell.com/page/show/3842223-public-skating>

Sewell, NJ

Homeschool skate 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month

### **Howell Living History Farm**

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

Lambertville, NJ

Offers public and kids programs. Facility of the Mercer County Park Commission

### **ISC Cherry Hill**

<https://isccherryhill.com/hours-pricing/>

Cherry Hill, NJ

Hosts homeschool Physical Education days

### **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**

<https://www.themakersworkshop.net/>

Laurel Springs, NJ

Offers homeschool arts and crafts classes

### **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

### **Moozie's Play Café**

<http://www.mooziesplaycafe.com>

Turnersville, NJ

Fun clean safe play with special events

### **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.



### **Pinnacle 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**

<http://rcbc.edu/>

Take college classes for high school credit. Offers homeschool counselor

Pinelands Institute for Natural & Environmental Studies offers educational programs:

<http://www.rcbc.edu/pines>

### **Rowan College Gloucester County**

<https://www.rcgc.edu/Pages/Home.aspx>

Take college classes for high school credit at a 65% discount for homeschool students. Offers homeschool counselor

### **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