

# Family Academy<sup>®</sup> News

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## What Family Academy<sup>®</sup> Offers Homeschoolers

Our teachers are qualified to assist your family needs while continuing to homeschool.

We provide:

- School year planning
- Weekly Contact with students and parents
- Quarterly conferences
- Report cards for K-8
- Sports report cards for district needs
- Great online resources for Special Education Needs
- New Phonics program for K-2 online coming this Fall! Limited enrollments available.
- Highschool accreditation through a partner program for grades 9-12
  - Keep homeschooling and get an accredited diploma.
- Testing and Assessments
- Outdoor Schools
- Online courses available
  - Spanish, German or French Classes
  - Music Classes
  - Art Classes
  - Media Arts Online

We have teachers in:

- Sequim/Port Angeles area (Tutor)
- Arlington – 1 learning center
- Burien – 2 learning centers
- Vancouver – 1 learning center
- Marysville – 2 learning centers
- Special Needs Teachers – Online
  - Colorado
  - Oklahoma
  - Nebraska
  - Oregon
  - California
- Music and Foreign Language Teacher
- Tulalip Tribal Language Teacher

To inquire about registration and availability please email us. We look forward to assisting you!

## Mother's Day

Its that time of year again, that marks many homeschoolers choice to close “classes” for the summer. It brings about renewed vigor to get things done around the house and embark on Camping trips.

For some, it's a mark of getting those self-sustaining gardens going.

For others it means special project that the kids want to do for Mom and Dad! Let them. With the idea in mind, have them ponder what they would like to do for you! Give them funds and take them shopping or have dad take them shopping! They work on a special project that you must stay out of their rooms until Mother's Day.

Its about giving a little freedom to let their creative juices flow. Be thankful for whatever they come up with and keep those special gifts. It means more to them if they find them displayed than you will ever know.

## Reviews

We are looking for curriculum reviews from parents! If you love a curriculum, please share your experience. Contact the office with your review.

## Registration

If you find that you need assistance with homeschooling, we can register your family and offer weekly conferences to help you be an effective parent educator.

By allowing us to help you, it takes a lot of anxiety away. We have several online options for curriculum available as well as in person locations. We are here to help you!

Family Academy  
PO Box 157, Arlington, WA 98223  
(206) 928-2934 [school@familyacademy.org](mailto:school@familyacademy.org)

## New Courses Available for High School Students!

We have entered an exclusive contract with FilmMaking4Teens out of Arizona. A homeschooling family that found a way to teach Media Arts to other homeschooling families! Credits available.

### **Intro to Film Making: \$295**

Learn the art of filmmaking start to finish in this 18-section course (complete a section every two weeks or in one week if you are working fast). Good for 1 high school elective credit for one year (120 hours)

### **Photography 4 Teens: \$195**

Learn the basics of photography in a 12-part course featuring lessons, demonstrations, workshops, and assignments. (One semester credit)

### **YouTube 4 Teens: \$195**

This course gives students the training to start, grow and launch a YouTube channel. A 12-week course for tweens, teens, or adults! (80 Hours or 1/2 elective credit). 1 semester (80 hours)

### **Acting for the Screen: \$150**

In this 12-part course, we will teach the basic building block that makes a great screen performance. Acting 4 the Screen equals 1 semester elective credit (80 hours)

## Aleks.com Math

This online Math course from McGraw-Hill is just awesome. It's great for kids that struggle with book work. Great for 3<sup>rd</sup> grade and up.

This program has great features and some games, videos to teach, but the best thing of all is that it keeps going over concepts learned to reinforce that learning. Plus, you as a parent, do not need to grade papers!

Our teachers assign work and tests on a regular basis. Plus, they can come on and see where your child is having troubles and help. Best of all, parents don't need to grade! Grading is automatic by the system. Even shows your student where they went wrong!

Program fees are:

One-month trial for \$30.00  
Three-month subscription \$50.00  
Nine-month subscription \$70.00  
Twelve-month subscription \$90.00

You are saving up to \$238.00 a year, plus they have books to correlate with the curriculum if you need them. \$45.00 registration for one course!

Aleks even offers some classes for Biology and Chemistry. To order a subscription to Aleks.com at a discounted rate, please contact the school. Takes about 3-4 days to get activated.

## Journal Prompts for May

This year, start a book of writing prompts that get the creative juices flowing for your student. Below are four prompts for the month of April.

Have your student copy the verse from the Bible; then finish the writing prompt. Then you correct and have them re-write their journal prompt. This is how children learn!

**Ecclesiastes 3:1** - Look back on your school year so far. Think of something you would change if you could do it over again. How would you make it better?

**Hebrews 13:2** - You're on a long train ride, and you meet another passenger you suspect is an angel. Tell a story about what happened.

**I Peter 5:10** - Pretend that April showers bring May powers (instead of May flowers). What powers have you gotten after being locked out of the house in the rain overnight?

**Proverbs 31:28** - Write your Mom or mother figure a letter for Mother's Day (next Sunday) and fix it up to give to her.

**Ezekiel 16:44** - Write down what you did for Mother's Day, so that you will always have the memory—and you can think of it when you are old! (And don't forget to give your mom the letter you wrote last week!)

## New Contract with Schoolhouse Teachers

This is an excellent way to find lessons for your child. Hundreds of lesson plans are available. You can check them out through our link [here](#)! PreK-12<sup>th</sup> grade. Plus, you get access to World Book online for great added surfing! Fees are reasonable and there are a lot of choices with some on video teaching!

## About Our Teacher Consultants

John & Tammie Elliott of [Puget Sound Academic Center](#) in Burien, has combined 34 years' experience homeschooling their own children and others! Although they don't have a learning center this year, they are doing one on one through Zoom and have a full load of high schoolers this year.

Chris and Wendy Wenger of [Highline Tutoring and Testing Center](#) in Burien have 30+ years of experience with tutoring and one on one teaching. They have openings and can do all your educational testing needs to meet homeschool requirements.

Diana McAlister at [Family Academy](#), the founder and one of the writers of the homeschool law, knows her stuff! She likes to educate the parents on how to homeschool. You can set up a meeting with her at any time! She charges \$50.00 but its well worth it!

Whitney Sapp & Lynn Sutton at [Stride Academy](#) is utilizing the unique adventure of Acton Academy curriculum. Students earn badges and Family Academy brings it together with a transcript for the high school students. There are still openings! Learning center is in Marysville.

Carrie Patterson at [Salmon Creek Learning Center](#) in Vancouver is a great resource for homeschoolers and offers the Homeschool the High Schooler course.

Scooter Perlwitz at [Educational Express](#) offers one on one tutoring and has great resources for homeschool families. Her center is in Sequim.

Maggie Dail at [Unlocking Learning Potential](#) works with our families of special needs children. She offers online and zoom conferencing. Maggie is out of Oklahoma but is a Washington State Certificated Teacher.

If you know of anyone outside of Washington State needing an experienced Teacher Consultant, please let us know. We have one in California; Florida and Texas that are in the process of becoming Teacher Consultants with us!

## Assessments

Now is the time to schedule your child's assessments! The months of March through August are the busiest months for assessments.

We have a few teacher consultants who can test for your student's academic level using a variety of state approved forms. This is available in-person and via zoom.

They can also Proctor any online test that you may decide to do including:

- CAT Online
- IOWS Online
- PASS (in home)
- WIDA Online / in person
- WRAT4 Online / in person

You will need one of our teacher consultants who can proctor in and validate that you did not assist your child while taking the online exam.

If using an online assessment program, make sure they are approved by Washington State.

For a Proctor, please contact us through the website!

## Curriculum For Sale

If you have curriculum that you have not marked up, didn't work for your student, we would like to offer you the chance to list it! Issues for June and July are about services and curriculum.

As you start to plan your next year, and with many starting in August, now will be a great time to contact us with the ISBN number, and if its in new, used, or marked up condition and of course your price!

We will have a complete listing run for those two months and its free of charge to family membership members.

If you are not a family membership member, consider joining this year. Its \$60.00 and you get 10% off all our services and products! A huge savings!

Contact the office with your items. You will be responsible for shipping so make sure to weigh your item, envelope or packaging and include that in your price.

## MAY 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Lemonade Day	2 Truffle Day	3 Teacher Appreciation Day	4 Orange Juice Day	5 Cinco de Mayo	6 Space Day	7 Fitness Day
8 Mother's Day	9 Sleepover Day	10 Clean up your room Day	11 Eat what you want day	12 Nutty Fudge Day	13 Apple Pie Day	14 Dance Like a Chicken Day
15 Chocolate Chip Day	16 Sea Monkey Day	17 Idaho Day	18 No Dirty Dishes Day	19 Devil's Food Cake Day	20 NASCAR Day	21 Learn to Swim Day
22 Solitaire Day	23 Lucky Penny Day	24 Scavenger Hunt Day	25 Towel Day	26 Paper Airplane Day	27 Grape Popsicle Day	28 Hamburger Day
29 Paperclip Day	30 Memorial Day	31 Utah Day				

*These give you some ideas that you can use for English, History and Art classes for the month (in some cases even Science and Math). Learn everything you can about these days, including occupations that go with them for your child's English, History and Art or Occupational Education requirements.*

Ideas what to do this month:

**Lemonade Day** – Help your kids learn about how lemonade is made. Buy lemons and make from scratch.

**Truffle Day** – Learn what Truffles are all about. Go to a store in the mall or in your community and talk to bakers!

**Teacher Appreciation Day** – Leave your kids with supplies to make a present for you or your spouse today.

**Orange Juice Day** – Make homemade orange juice with the kids. Learn how many oranges for one glass!

**Cinco de Mayo** – Learn all about this holiday and make dinner around it.

**Space Day** – Learn all about Space! Create a mobile with Styrofoam, painted and hung up! Amazon has some great kits for this!

**Fitness Day** – Make up a fitness challenge to do outside. Have prizes for the top achiever and runners-up. Make it fun, like carrying an egg on a spoon, doing the crab backwards, longest spit-wad, let your imagination run wild. Fun Fitness Activities!

**Mother's Day** – Let the kids work on a special project all week for you. You sit and let them do things for you!

**Sleepover Day** – Invite your child's best friend to sleep over! Create a space inside that they can use as a fort and sleep in for the night.

**Clean Up Your Room Day** – We should all do this. Take three laundry bins and place labels: "Keep", "Donate" and "Garbage" and have your kids put everything on the floor in one of those three bins. You may need a bin for dirty laundry!

**Eat what you want day** – Let the kids see if they can make good choices when it comes to food. Mark down what they eat and discuss at dinner.

**Nutty Fudge Day** – Take the recipe and make it. Share with others!

**Apple Pie Day** – Make a homemade pie crust and apple pie. Get the kids involved with this oldest American past time.

**Dance Like a Chicken Day** – Its time to turn up the music and dance! See who can dance the best chicken dance!

**Chocolate Chip Day** – This can be fun. Make some banana bread and put chocolate chips in. Find out what type of chips are available at the grocery store. Decide on two to try you never had before! Do a taste test. Skies the limit!

**Sea Monkey Day** – Order a kit off Amazon to study Sea Monkeys. This is fascinating to do. They are so tiny you can barely see them!

**Idaho Day** – Spend today learning about our neighboring state.

**No Dirty Dishes Day** – This is hard to do. Tell your kids that today, you can't use any dishes, cups, pots, pans, plates, utensils, etc. See how they think up ways to do things! Write the list down, have a camera ready and expect to laugh a lot!

**Devil's Food Cake Day** – As a reward for doing well yesterday, bake a cake together and learn how to frost!

**NASCAR Day** – Find a rerun of a NASCAR video. Watch it. Ask the kids to come up with a list of jobs that are needed to be a NASCAR driver. Find out when the events started and what the earliest car was. Go to a mechanic and ask what it takes to be one. Have them round this all out into a nice paper! If your kids are too little for this investigation, watch the movie CARS today from Disney.

**Learn to Swim Day** – I learned how to swim by being thrown in the water. Its about that time in some locations! Go to the beach, take a life vest, and investigate the water.

**Solitaire Day** – Spend some time teaching this game that kids can do on their own at any time. Great way for counting and learning numbers.

**Lucky Penny Day** – Go on a walk-through town and find as many pennies as you can. The person with the most gets a prize. Or you can learn about the history of the penny and gather all the change in the house and see if you can start your own collections.

**Scavenger Hunt Day** – Prepare in advance with local businesses and make a scavenger hunt through your town. Kids love this. Prize at the end is ice cream from one of the shops!

**Towel Day** – Look up items on Pinterest that you can make out of hand towels, have your kids make some! Great gift ideas!

**Paper Airplane Day** – A lovely day to fly planes. Look up Origami airplane templates and print. Have an airplane contest.

**Grape Popsicle Day** – Make your own grape juice popsicles.

**Hamburger Day** – I love trying new recipes. Find a new one, add to your normal burgers and do a customer comment on the chef's change up. Was it better or worse?

**Paper-clip Day** – You can do so many things with paperclips. Have your children make a box with paperclips. Not as easy as it sounds, but they will have fun!

**Memorial Day** – This one is last, although this year it's not the last day of the month. Take flags out to family members who have fought for your freedom. Honor them, and let your kids partake in that honor.

**Utah Day** – Learn everything you possible can about that state.

## **Family Membership**

*Receive a 10% discount off services.*

As a Family Member with Family Academy, you get access to our current roster of Teacher Consultants that are trained in Homeschooling procedures. These TC's have homeschooled their own kids (or are still doing so). We know the hardships, the rewards and all that comes with homeschooling children.

With our Family Membership you receive:

- 10% off our services, and products
- A monthly newsletter
- Consultations with the TC's
- Learning Styles Analyses
- Yearly planning at no cost to you!
- Much More.

The cost for this service is \$60.00 a year (\$5.00 a month!) Register at <http://www.familyacademy.org>

***Refer a new family to join our membership program and be entered into a drawing for free gifts!***

## WHAT SHOULD MY CHILD KNOW WHEN?

by Carrie Patterson

As spring approaches and many parents begin to think about testing, those thoughts that often lurk in the back of our minds always lurch forward, causing moments of doubt and wonder: *Am I teaching my child(ren) everything they are supposed to know? How do I know I'm not missing something that might be important? How do I know what they should be learning?*

For homeschoolers in Washington, there is not a government-mandated list of details telling what our children must master. We enjoy the freedom to individualize our children's learning. What may be essential for one student to know in the future may be useless to another. However, many parents still seek the checklist of basics, to check up on what they have been teaching. So, here are some ideas, examples, and resources for those who wonder and want some reassurance to beat those thoughts back into the closet of the brain.

*Annual testing offers one check-up for parents. The state has a list of approved tests for homeschooled students to take. Most standardized tests are similar, providing information on where the student ranks nationally among students in their grade. The most helpful information for parents is actual examination of the child's answers and the test itself, which will show the areas which have been mastered or need improvement.*

In Washington State, an alternative to testing is a non-test assessment. More expensive and time-consuming, it is individualized and more appropriate for students who do not test well, have special needs, or are not yet reading.

Additional resources are also available. For families who are using a set curriculum, ask the company for a *Scope and Sequence*. This lists in summary form all the subjects covered in each grade level, according to that company's curriculum. Here are a few samples to look at:

1) Alpha Omega Life Pacs - [https://glnmedia.s3.amazonaws.com/pdf/products/scope\\_and\\_sequence/lifepac\\_ss.pdf](https://glnmedia.s3.amazonaws.com/pdf/products/scope_and_sequence/lifepac_ss.pdf)

2) Bob Jones Press - <https://www.bjupresshomeschool.com/pdfs/catalogs/2020-scope-and-sequence-grade.pdf>

3) The Good and the Beautiful - [https://www.goodandbeautiful.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/PreK-to-8-Scope-Sequence\\_1\\_0.pdf](https://www.goodandbeautiful.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/PreK-to-8-Scope-Sequence_1_0.pdf)

Another resource that will provide additional information is:

*Skills Evaluation for the Home School* by Weaver (available through Alpha-Omega)  
<https://www.aop.com/search?q=Skills+Evaluation+for+the+Homeschool>

For assessing the development of young children, check out the child development series by Louise Bates Ames, *Your-One-Year-Old*, *Your-Two-Year-Old*, etc. up through age nine, and *Your Ten-to-Fourteen-Year-Old*.

## Reminders of Him (Colleen Hoover)

By Pearle P.  
(10<sup>th</sup> grade student)

Reminders of Him by Colleen Hoover is a young adult romance novel that follows the story of Kenna Rowan, who was recently released from prison for the accidental murder of her boyfriend.

After giving birth to her only child not long after her conviction, her one goal is to find a way to see her now 4-year-old daughter Diem.

Unfortunately, but understandably, the grandparents of Kenna's dead boyfriend Scotty have custody of Diem with no intention of letting Kenna be a part of her life. This sets the premise of the story, with Kenna dead set on reuniting with her daughter.

Colleen Hoover is a well-known, talented romance author. Though her stories often possess mature themes, labeling them as young adult novels, her unique writing style and fresh ideas keep readers like myself intrigued.

I finished this book that totals 318 pages in a week, and I found it to be one of my favorite reads. Not only was it emotional and moving, but there was comedic relief throughout the pages. I didn't find any of it to feel rushed or bland, and the overall message of the story was a perspective I hadn't considered before. The innocence and human behind what we called a "murderer." Truly, an incredible book.

## Neurodevelopmental Department of Family Academy®

Maggie Dail has been our lead Special Education Brain Trainer that assists those with Neurodevelopmental issues has a variety of services. If you have kids that are behind, who may need some special courses or are noted with disabilities, these services may help you.

Did you know that if your child has an IEP or has had a psychological evaluation and is confirmed special needs that you can get access to Social Security Disability Educational funding for your student's expenses?

During this time of the Pandemic, you can get funding to pay for tutors and other school related staff and services. Contact Maggie for more information on the services she has available. Hear Builder and MySciLearn are excellent programs for those who have special needs.

Check out more of Maggie's products by going to:  
<http://unlockinglearningpotential.net>

## OPENINGS

These classes fill up fast!

We have openings for MySciLearn – so if your child is struggling with reading or they are just learning you may want to take advantage of this program.

Hear Builder also has openings for those with hearing difficulties.

Contact us for more information!

## Preschool Corner

We have just entered an agreement with **TheMomentsAtHome.com** and Lisa Yvonne to bring you a full year of Preschool Curriculum and a Kindergarten extension option!

This is an exciting development here at Family Academy. Although we firmly believe that your child needs to play, and work with playdough to develop the hand / eye coordination, but also to start developing muscles in their hands, some children grow at different rates. If your child is cutting, coloring in the lines, then you will want to start this great curriculum. Everything you need will be sent to you each month.

There is a disclaimer that you will need to sign, that states you will not sell or give away the curriculum to anyone else. The license we have with Lisa Yvonne states it's for use with our school only! **Registration with Family Academy is \$199.00 and you will receive monthly emails with everything you need!**

**Make memories today!**

If you want free curriculum, then choose one of these companies to work with:

Starfall.com  
Preschool-Plan-It.com  
Gospel Project online  
[ABCmouse.com](http://ABCmouse.com)