

Family Academy[®] News

Volume 2, Issue 4

April 2022

What Family Academy[®] 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!

Happy Easter!

Now is the time to take a break. Take Holy Week off and enjoy your family and the festivities in churches this Lent / Holy week sessions leading up to Easter.

If you're not into celebrations take some time and go explore the Pacific Northwest! There are so many activities that are now opening! Or take your RV and head out for a week.

Leave homeschooling behind and go enjoy what our great state offers. You won't be sorry! Plus, its considered hands on homeschooling!

IXL Curriculum Online

We now have the availability to offer IXL to you for curriculum. It covers English, Math, Science, Social Studies and Foreign Language. Teacher engagement available.

There are limited openings for this, and a monthly fee is required of \$19.95. Foreign language extra.

Contact Wendy or Chris Wenger at 206-276-6494 if you have any questions.

Registration

If you find that you need assistance with homeschooling, we can register your students 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

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 3rd 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 April

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!

Psalm 139:14 - When at a movie, would you rather laugh, cry, think, or be scared? What does this tell you about your personality?

Matthew 21:1-11 - You're in Jerusalem when Jesus comes in, riding the donkey. What happens?

Matthew 28 - Pretend you are in Jerusalem after the crucifixion. Come to the tomb of Jesus and see he's not there. What happens next?

Psalm 145:5 - If money were not an issue, what garden would you design for yourself?

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 on the website or [thru this one!](#) PreK-12th 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!

Curriculum For Sale

We have a lot of curricula that we are clearing out of the main office. Please check our website at www.familyacademy.org to see what is available.

Washington State History, a High School Curriculum Resource for Homeschoolers

This is the weekly curriculum plan of one of our teachers! If you want to teach research skills to your student, this is a great way to do that. Check out the store!

New – World Geography – Homeschool Curriculum – This unique and inventive way of inductive learning is wonderful. The author has students learn about the geography of the world on a personal level using your ancestry or my heritage DNA results. This is a pre-requisite to World History. A wonderful way to learn!

Both books are available through our store or on Amazon. Look under the title or author T.M. Goddard-Elliott.

Spanish / German Teacher Consultant

We are seeking a teacher consultant available for on site and zoom teaching for this next year. If you know of anyone who can teach Spanish or German, please have them contact us!

Outdoor School

First outdoor school will be held the first week of September. We will be learning all about the Salmon of Puget Sound. More details to come!

A writers bootcamp is being scheduled for mid-August. It is an 8-hour course to learn how to write a 5-paragraph essay. Depending on the number of students interested, we can hold this over a week's time. Please contact us.

April 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 April Fool's Day	2 Tartan Day
3 Walking Day	4 Empanada Day	5 Unicorn Day	6 Sibling Day	7 Submarine Day	8 Grilled Cheese Day	9 Scrabble Day
10 Palm Sunday	11 Gardening Day	12 Laundry Day	13 Librarian Day	14 Maundy Thursday	15 Good Friday	16 Cheese Ball Day
17 Easter Sunday	18 Animal Crackers Day	19 Garlic Day	20 National Look a Like Day	21 Tea Day	22 Earth Day	23 Day of Silence
24 Pigs in a Blanket Day	25 Telephone Day	26 Pretzel Day	27 Prime Rib Day	28 Blueberry Pie Day	29 International Dance Day	30 Raisin 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.

Here are some ideas for making these days special:

- April Fool's Day – Find a trick you can play as part of this unique day!
- Tartan Day – Learn about Tartans and have your kids design their own. If they can knit, make a blanket together.
- Walking Day – go out on a walk to a nearby park and have them explorer.
- Empanada Day – I love cooking lessons. Pillsbury Dough has some great recipes, check out their website at [Quick + Easy Empanada Recipes - Pillsbury.com](https://www.pillsbury.com/recipes/empanadas)
- Unicorn Day – Did you know that Unicorns are listed 9 times in the Bible in the King James Version? It's also the mascot for Scotland and goes back to at least 600 A.D. They were painted in the castles. Find the Bible verses and have the kid's put stickers by the verses.
- Sibling Day – do something nice for siblings.
- Submarine Day – learn about submarines and find out if anyone in your family was on one.
- Grilled Cheese Day – try various cheeses and make different sandwiches to find the best cheese.
- Scrabble Day – spend today learning new words and play Scrabble either with a board or online through your phones.
- Palm Sunday – Make palm crosses from palm leaves. Get some from your church or the local store.
- Gardening Day – get those rakes and shovels out and start the garden cleanup!

- Laundry Day – teach the kids how to gather from each room, sort, wash, dry and put away the clothes! Look up recipes to make your own laundry soap and test it out! See which one works better your current soap or the one you make!
- Librarian Day – now that libraries are open, make a card and take to your local library. Thank the librarians.
- Maundy Thursday – The day of the Lord’s last supper. Re-create at your own home, or check out a church doing the Seder Dinner!
- Good Friday – If you can, attend a service about Jesus dying on the cross.
- Cheese Ball Day – this one is yummy. Seems to be a cheese themed month! Learn to make cheese balls! Check out this site, where you can make various cheese balls in bite sized portions. Then invite friends or neighbors or other family members to come and taste your works. [Mini Cheese Balls Recipe | Food Network Kitchen | Food Network](#)
- Easter Sunday – enjoy the egg hunts, the treats, and family get togethers!
- Animal Crackers day – oh this brings up Shirley Temple movies for me where she sings Animal Crackers in My Soup! What a concept. Make soup today and put animal crackers in and see what the kids think!
- Garlic Day – This one is fun! Learn about the Garlic Plant and maybe go to the store to get seeds and plant them. They are pretty when they seed.
- National Look a Like Day – Dress your kids up to look like each other. This one is not hard in my house, as my two daughters are 7 years apart but look identical. Runs in the family!
- Tea Day – most kids do not like tea, but you can take that newly cleared garden and plant some Spearmint, Peppermint, Orange Mint, Chocolate Mint and Apple Mint in your garden. These can be dried in a dehydrator machine and used for teas.
- Earth Day – there are so many activities to do around this one. I recommend going without electricity all day, and at night play hide n seek in the dark. Its hilarious how my kids loved this one but were too afraid to go and find each other!
- Day of Silence – this is about going silent. I used to bet my kids they could not go all day without talking. One of my students made it in the door and started talking! My daughter literally used blue tape to tape her mouth shut all day! Give a trip to DQ at the end of the day for those who kept quiet. This is in remembrance of Child Trafficking and Child Abduction. They cannot speak for themselves.
- Pigs in the Blanket – this one is great. Get little roles from the refrigerator section of your supermarket and little sausages. Roll them inside the roll dough, place on a greased pan, cook until brown. Take your butter and butter the tops and add parmesan cheese to the top, but back in the oven for 2 minutes. These are so good!
- Telephone Day – kids of all ages love this one. If you don’t have an old-style phone somewhere, make one. Have your kids practice phone etiquette including NOT giving out their address to strangers. Practice 911 and what to tell them if they called them. Practice your address.
- Pretzel Day – these are wonderful. Here is a page with several different recipes. Check them out! [10 Fun Recipes With Pretzels For Pretzel Day | Cheap Is The New Classy](#)
- Prime Rib Day – this is a dad day! Have him teach the kids how to cook Prime Rib on the barbeque totally inaugurating Spring!
- Blueberry Pie Day – teach the kids the art of making pastry dough and making little mini pies. You can make them like Empanada’s too! Just a little sugar, nutmeg, butter on top of your blueberries (little lemon juice too) and close it up like the Empanada. Bake until browned. 350 degrees.
- International Dance Day – learn a dance. Watch tv shows about dancing.
- Raisin Day – this one can be a science experiment. How to make a raisin! Check this site out! [How To Make Homemade Raisins & My Grandma's Amazing Raisin Cookies \(onegoodthingbyjillee.com\)](#)

With all these ideas, you can easily make a one topic day which would include writing about what they did or learned. The project itself is either science, life skills or math. You can learn the history of most all these subjects.

Make homeschooling fun. It is not all about book work. Kids learn from hands on experiences. It takes just one activity to create the next Chef, or Scientist. Enjoy this month's activities.

Ending the Year Well

By Diana McAlister

One of the founders of the Washington State Homeschool Law and Family Academy®

Whether a veteran or a rookie homeschooler, this time of year we consider questions. Have I done it right? Have I done enough? and the floating answers terrify.

Rather than agonize, because the Lord tells us to take captive every thought (2Cor2:5) to make it obedient to Christ, lets figure out how to do that. One interpretation of taking captive every thought means to first identify, analyze, and determine truth.

Admitting I have anxiety about ruining my children is critical. After years, I still looked up occasionally watching the big yellow bus go by and moooan "Wait!" It was then I understood it was a day to "go to the beach" which is my euphemism for a day off...for all of us.

Believing we were in the home stretch, I worried. Then I began thinking, not reacting. I took a moment to recall where each child was, we began. All four were miles ahead of then. They happily took the day to play with each other and interact well. Debra even ate some green food for lunch...a small miracle.

The truth was evident: The girls were better off today than they were when we began: academically (no, we weren't likely to finish the math book), affectively (the four were happily cooperating and recreating a scene from Pippi), and physically (I had to call one down from the treetop that was bending over). Those three domains are the heart of educational evaluation.

I made some fitting plans for each child to implement whether we got everything finished. I looked at this as my 'last hurrah' for sit down academics. And set a date for the End of the School Year party.

Just planning helped me mentally prepare for annual evaluations. Having a set date eased the anxiety my thoughts had brought into the house.

The rest of the summer I devised covert curricula to review the year - math challenges in the grocery store, calculations of miles or miles per hour, a field guide to keep in the car to identify trees and critters on our way, and a joy filled song made-up to a familiar tune. We kept on adding new verses.

In Truth, the Word says our children will be like us (Luke 6:40 - Diana version). Holding anxiety was affecting my girls and that was not right. Putting my faith in God's promise to equip me to the task to which He called me was a promise. I held Him to it. We prospered.

What we didn't cover this year we would approach again next fall. Would it matter how old they were when they mastered $8 \times 7 = 56$?

There are options in homeschooling... and that Call upon my life which was I did this.

End it well.

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

Washington State Law is specific, you are required to do one annual assessment per year per child. This can be an in-person assessment, a non-test assessment or a proctor exam.

All results are to be certified by a teacher certificated in this state. So just because you take the exams online, does not mean that the teacher validating it is from Washington State.

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.

The cost for Proctoring is \$40.00 per student and once you receive the results the TC will send a certification that they witnessed the exam.

The state of Washington made it known back in September 2021 if you go this route to do your assessments, be prepared to show proof of the certification from a Washington State Certificated Teacher!

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

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://unlocklearningpotential.net>



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