

# Ready to Homeschool — Six Month Countdown

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## WEEK 21: CHOOSING RESOURCES

Grocery store analogy — without planning = frustration

Homeschool curriculum market is FLOODED with choices. You must discern what is needed — shoulder the peer pressure to DO IT ALL (don't put that on your kids), and filter what is necessary for the immediate future.

Questions to help you make informed choices....see the next page

This is why we had so many other considerations BEFORE choosing curriculum or books, or co-op classes, etc. You have to do your own homework to know what the needs of your children are, the values of your family as a whole, and the resources that exist in your community at this time. AFTER you have a handle on those issues, you can make informed decisions (or ask curriculum specialists to help you!) based on that information.

Look back at Homeschool Approaches in Week 16. Which approach seemed to fit best with your children's needs, goals and interests? Which approach lined up well with your family's philosophy and your time and energy commitments?

Your goal is to search for the resources that match up with all of that AND with your proposed outline of study (see Week 20). You might use the same book/video resource for the whole year.... But you might not.

Don't be afraid to call curriculum sales representatives for help. They will probably have even more questions for you to help you determine what they can sell you that will meet your needs.

- Rainbow Resource (1-888-841-3456) has eight experts on staff who can help you sort through the overwhelming options to discover something worth trying.  
<https://www.rainbowresource.com/category/999999929/Consultants.html>
- ChristianBook offers an online resource called [HomeschoolCompass.com](http://HomeschoolCompass.com) but you can also call them (1-800-788-1221) for additional details about homeschool resources that they sell.

Look back at the PDF "Homeschool Resource List with Links" between Weeks 10 and 11 on my blog... Look at all that is offered (the list is just a start) and then be selective!  
<https://hilarioushomeschooling.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/Homeschool-Resource-List-with-links-1.pdf>

Don't be afraid to use what is at hand instead of buying pre-packaged curriculum. It might be more work for you, but you don't have to spend a fortune to homeschool.

For Week 24, we will be discussing *Teaching from Rest* by Sarah Mackenzie. This is a more recent release that helps homeschool moms come to grips with the fact that they cannot do it all, and gives advice on how to get rid of worry and anxiety. Use this link to purchase the book, and I will benefit as an Amazon affiliate: <https://amzn.to/3BKTFkk>

As you consider curriculum options to get a good fit, try to answer these questions for yourself, as YOU truly know your child best!! The goal is to consider EVERYTHING, and then NARROW your focus. You cannot teach everything to your child in one year. That would be torture, the equivalent of educational water-boarding. Keep their love of learning ALIVE throughout their school years. Choose carefully, with a full understanding of who your child is, and where they are headed.

1. Do I prefer to be very involved or hands-off in their learning?
2. How much time do I want my child online?
3. How much control do I want over his or her learning?
4. Is my child reading fluently?
5. Has my child developed any serious (or not-so-serious) interests to consider?
6. Which subject area do I really want to emphasize next year?
7. Which subjects can we do together as a family?
8. What is my teaching style?
9. What is my child's learning style?
10. What are my child's academic strengths and weaknesses? (Plan for BOTH!)
11. Do I want to teach year-round? 4-days or 5-days? Big chunks of time or small??
12. What life skills is my child ready for?
13. Who could help me teach \_\_\_\_\_? (Enthusiastic people have contagious interests)
14. Is it time to add in a regular music, sport, or art lessons? (Will we become "car-schoolers" then?)
15. What is available at the public school?
16. Is there a placement test that could help determine a starting point in the skills? (google "free Placement Test Homeschool" and the name of the subject you are curious about)

WWII resources			
General:			
timeline cards			
Hakim book			
The World at War			DVD set with many episodes
Lest They Be Forgotten			DVD set interviews with veterans
Great Events of the 20th century	textbook		pgs. 288-367
Great World War II Projects	Bell-Rehwooldt		
An Album of Memories	Brokaw		stories
Specific			
Torpedoed	Heiligman		children on ship from England
The Nazi Hunters	Bascomb		spying/capturing a Nazi
Greatest Treasure Hunt in History	Edsel		Monuments Men
Like a Haystack	Smolik		European refugees
Going Solo	Roald Dahl		pilot for RAF
The Berlin Candy Bomber	Havlorson		Berlin airlift
Blueberries for the Queen	Paterson		Queen Wilhelmina of the Netherlands in MA
One Soldier's Story	Dole		injured in Italy
Lily's Crossing	Giff		American side of war
Baseball Saved Us	Mochizuki		Japanese internment camps
One Thousand Tracings	Judge		post-war relief
Faithful Elephants	Tsuchiya		devastating effects of war
Evidence Not Seen	Rose		New Guinea
In Harm's Way	Martin		JFK, Pacific
Smithsonian			pg 52-60 Remembering the End of the War
Smithsonian			pg 88-96 Building the Bomb
Holocaust/Jewish escape			
The Hiding Place	TenBoom		helping the Jews
Winged Watchman	Van Stockum		helping Jews
Twenty and Ten	Bishop		helping Jews
Number the Stars	Lowry		helping Jews
Snow Treasure	McSwigan		helping Jews
We Remember the Holocaust	Adler		Jews in concentration camps
WWI			
Poppies/In Flanders Field			
Korean War			
Sergeant Reckless			

1	Intro on pages 286-287	1933	The Fuehrer Takes Command	pg. 232-237	1.1		
2		1938	Appeasement at Munich	pg. 272-277	1.2		
3		1939	Blitzkrieg!	pg. 288-295	1.3		
4	Holocaust						
5		1940	Dreams of a New Order: The Axis Alliance	pg 300-305	2.1		
6	Chart with Leader Names, Titles, Countries on the Map, Allegiances, Flags, etc.						
7		1941	The War in the Pacific	pg. 314-321	2.3		
8	Project Day						
9					2.4	4.4	
10		1942	Hitler Marches East: The Battle of Stalingrad	pg. 328-335	2.2		
11	picture book presentation				3.2		
12		1943	The Allies Fight Back	pg. 336-343	2.4		
13					3.1	4.2	
14		1944	D-Day: The Road to Victory	pg. 344-353	LTBF, 5		
15					5.2	5.4	
16		1945	Hiroshima: "A New and Most Cruel Bomb"	pg. 360-367	6.2		