

# Summary of Books in WWHEAT Library for New Homeschoolers

The following books are available for check-out from the WWHEAT Library.

**Andreola, Karen. Charlotte Mason Companion** – This book provides insight and practical advice about the “Charlotte Mason” way of educating children. The author teaches you how to recognize “living books,” how to use narration, teach reading and spelling, appreciate great art, keep a nature notebook, establish helpful habits, and create a loving home atmosphere. Other good Charlotte Mason books include: For the Children’s Sake by Susan Schaeffer Macaulay, A Charlotte Mason Primer by Cindy Rushton, and The Original Homeschooling Series by Charlotte Mason.

**Bell, Debra. The Ultimate Guide to Homeschooling** – Written by a former school teacher, this book touches on many subjects: why you should consider homeschooling, determining the learning style of the student, choosing a curriculum, fitting homeschooling in with family life, preventing burnout, and surviving a curriculum fair. The writing style is chatty and informal with lots of personal anecdotes about family and friends, all from a Christian perspective.

**Beechick, Ruth. Teaching Kindergartners: How to Understand and Instruct Fours & Fives** – This book is written by one of the nation’s leading authorities in children’s education. In this book, Dr. Beechick shows you how to teach basic truths about God and Jesus, right and wrong, salvation and other Biblical concepts. She also explains the kindergartner’s unique mental, physical and emotional characteristics. This book provides effective storytelling techniques, teaching tips for art, music, movement and games, as well as how to develop a creative learning environment. Other helpful books by Dr. Beechick include Teaching Primaries (in the WWHEAT Library), as well as The Three R’s Series, You CAN Teach Your Child Successfully and Dr. Beechick’s Homeschool Answer Book.

**Downs, Laurajean. You’re Going to Do What?** – Just because you have decided to homeschool doesn’t mean that your mother or your best friend will see that it’s the best decision for your family. They will have the same doubts and questions you had, but they are not going to do all the work you did to find the answers. This book will help them understand why you have decided to homeschool. It covers how kids learned 50 years ago, the rich resources available to homeschoolers, different approaches to homeschooling, the law and homeschooling, socialization, and the Biblical mandate that holds parents responsible for the education of their children.

**Duffy, Cathy. Christian Home Educators' Curriculum Manual: Elementary Grades (1997-98)** – Although I did not find an updated version of this book in the WWheat Library, it is still helpful for reviewing curriculum that you may be considering. This book explains how to choose curriculum, how to match the curriculum to the child, how to plan, organize and schedule your school, and finally, curriculum recommendations by subject.

**Elijah Company Catalog** -- Renee Driver, president of WWheat, recommends that new homeschoolers get a copy of the latest Elijah Company catalog. This catalog not only provides great resources, but also contains many how-to articles.

**Gatto, John Taylor. Dumbing Us Down** – This book was written by a man who resigned from 26 years of award-winning teaching in Manhattan's public schools. Gatto found that independent study, community service, large doses of solitude and apprenticeships with adults of all walks of life are the keys to helping children succeed. Between schooling and television, he says, our children have precious little time to learn for themselves about the community they live in, or the lives they might lead.

**Moore, Dr. Raymond & Dorothy. The Successful Homeschool Family Handbook** – If you are struggling with a homeschool curriculum that is difficult to use, you may want to read this book. Dr. Raymond and Dorothy Moore show you how to make homeschooling "an easy-to-live-with family adventure." This low-stress, low-cost program shows you how to build a curriculum around your child's needs and interests, as well as around a realistic family schedule. Other subjects include: how to avoid student resentment and parent burnout; how to target your child's interests and motivation to make learning fun; how to help your child excel in educational goals, including standardized tests; and how to see the big picture of family and society in the learning process.

**Moore, Dr. Raymond & Dorothy. Home-spun Schools** – In this 1982 book, parents write about their homeschool experiences. Other books by the Moores include Home-Grown Kids, Better Late Than Early, School Can Wait, and Minding Your Own Business.

*Summary provided by Angela Wilson  
For WWHEAT Workshop  
October 13, 2001*