

Page a of the CorePrepKC Educational Site
Website Information

CorePrepKC is an educational website that provides training and resources to urban homeschool families in Kansas City, Missouri. The goal of this website is to provide alternative and/or supplemental education to families who are interested in homeschooling their children but are seeking assistance with developing engaging curricula, learning teaching styles, staying current on research trends, and getting help with behavioral planning. The CorePrepKC website creates a unique homeschool experience by combining experiential learning, technology, and socialization. Homeschool families have the option to download experiential learning packages based on location. Families then download materials that will begin a hands-on adventure into learning. The website provides several products:

1. Experiential Education Packages: Based on famous landmarks and locations in the city, families will utilize technology, interact with local businesses, complete assignments, and conduct surveys.
2. Latest Trends: Articles and news stories relevant to homeschool families
3. Resource Page: Provides a list of services in the Kansas City, Mo., metro area that can be utilized by homeschool families.
4. Behavioral Guides and Interventions Page: Mental health resources for homeschool families to help them address behavioral issues. also includes links to mental health professionals in the area.
5. Community Page: A place for families to socialize, plan meet-ups, address concerns, and make comments. The community page will also provide links to CorePrepKC social media accounts and message boards, e.g., Facebook, Instagram, TikTok, and Discord.

About the Educator

I'm Jamaal Farahkhan, and I have a 20-year blended career in intelligence analysis and human services that equipped me to develop a curriculum for urban homeschool families. I conducted intelligence operations for 10 years in support of military personnel in the Mediterranean Sea, Red Sea, Arabian Gulf, Indian Ocean, Iraq, and Afghanistan. I utilized the GIS system to supply maritime, aeronautical, geographical, and geological imagery, updates, analysis, and dissemination of information to operators. I worked on a counter-terrorism database, applying a multidisciplinary approach in support of deployed military units. My degree in psychology has afforded me knowledge and experience working with urban families. I improved my own interpersonal skills by empathetically assisting individuals struggling with difficult life issues. While working in human services, I have gathered skills that translate well into developing products for homeschool families. I have successfully combined experiential learning, technology, and psychology to create an engaging supplemental education system.

Page Content: Projects/Experience OR Let's Learn(This can be two pages)

Pokemon Go in the Park: Experiential Learning that incorporates technology, physical activity, reading skills, and measurements The CorePrepKC website provides guidance and worksheets to help families enjoy playing Pokemon in their community while also developing geospatial and math skills.

Star Wars: Experiential Learning games that are fun, fast, and physical The purpose of this game is to increase communication skills.

CorePrepKC's curriculum is based on Gardening Videos: Urban Agriculture.The website will include various how-to videos on related topics.

Behavioral Worksheets: CorePrepKC will provide culturally relevant behavior guides and worksheets. This will teach parents to utilize resources that are already helping children grow and learn better self-regulation and decision-making.

Nature Identification Guides: CorePrepKC teaches a lot through nature and therefore will provide "Reccee guides" for local trees, flowers, grasses, shrubs, and birds.

E-Trainings: CorePrepKC constantly develops educational products for download. This includes educational materials made with Canva and PowerPoint.These products are targeted at urban youth and families.

My teaching style is a reflection of my early childhood years, cultural influences, and education. My earliest memories were shaped in a rural town in Alabama. My family lived in a small cottage-style house with a peach tree in the backyard. Many of our neighbors raised gardens and livestock. Weeping willows were beautiful, making a walk to my grandmother's house a delight. The highlight of this existence was going into the woods across from my grandmother's house and running through the woods as fast as I could. The times were good. During the 1980s crack epidemic, life events forced my family to relocate to an inner-city housing project. The change was drastic, as was the difference in the quality of education and student performance. But there were some excellent students, even in the worst-performing schools I've attended. I believe too often we pin socio-economic factors too broadly as the culprit. At CorePrepKC, we use an evidence-based approach to focus on the factors that can be influenced regardless of economic status.

Focus Areas

1. The presence of books and media in the home

My parents attended institutions of higher education; both were readers and invested in the media of the time. Even in elementary school, my home had fiction books, magazines, religious books, old college texts, encyclopedias, and others. I quickly realized most of my peers in the city did not have libraries at their homes. I also realized that some of the materials I would read at home were not covered in school. Depending on the subject, teachers were also clueless. There is a decent amount of research to support the impact that books in the home have on early literacy.

2. Access to Subject Matter Experts

It takes a village to raise a kid; therefore, homeschool parents cannot be expected to possess all the knowledge a child needs. I had great mentors outside of my parents growing up. There are still subject matter experts (SME) in the community who would love to pass on their knowledge and skills to homeschool families that are eager to learn. Using today's technology, CorePrepKC hopes to better connect the community to the education of its children.

3. Practical Experience

Often, students learn skills but do not continue to master them because they do not use them. By employing Montessori techniques, experiential learning, and SME-led trainings, students will have the opportunity to test their skills in a real-world environment.

4. Opportunities to employ the knowledge and skills learned.

Most of us have heard the oft-quoted phrase "When will I never use this in life?" from students, children, and ourselves during the education process. By helping students form relationships with local businesses and industry, students can tailor their tool belts towards their industry of choice.

Supporting Research

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