

The \$0 Homeschool Start

Everything You Need Already in Your Home

Think you need thousands of dollars to start homeschooling? Think again. My mom started homeschooling us with three things: a notebook, a library card, and a backyard garden. That's it. Here's your complete starter kit using only what's already in your house.

✓ YOU ALREADY HAVE:

- A kitchen table (your workspace)
- Notebooks and pencils (your supplies)
- A library card (your curriculum—it's FREE)
- Internet access (unlimited free lessons on YouTube, PBS, and more)
- Your backyard or local park (your science lab)
- Board games and playing cards (math practice)
- Your kitchen (chemistry, fractions, budgeting lessons)
- Your neighborhood (geography, social studies, real-world skills)
- Books you already own (reading material)
- Art supplies from craft projects (creativity time)

"You most likely already have most of what you need." – Michael Ramey

■ FREE CURRICULUM RESOURCES:

- **PBS LearningMedia** – Videos, lessons, and activities
pbslearningmedia.org
- **YouTube** – Every topic imaginable (Crash Course, SciShow Kids, etc.)
youtube.com
- **Your Library** – Books, experiment kits, museum passes, free programs
Find your local library
- **Nature** – Biology, ecology, observation skills—totally free
Your backyard or park
- **Free Printables** – Worksheets, lesson plans, and activities
education.com, teacherspayteachers.com

■ THE "GUESSING GETS EXPENSIVE" RULE:

Before buying *anything* new:

1. **Watch** what your kid actually uses in Week 1
2. **Notice** what excites them vs. what sits on the shelf
3. **Invest** only in what's proven to work for YOUR family

"My mom always said, 'Guessing gets expensive' and I wish I took her word on that YEARS ago." – Michael

■ REAL BUDGET EXAMPLE:

One family started their homeschooling journey with just **three things**: a notebook (\$2), a library card (free), and a backyard garden (free). That's it. They built from there—adding curriculum only when they discovered what their kids actually needed, not what looked good in a catalog.

Total cost to start: \$2

Want the complete budget playbook?

Get "Homeschooling on a Budget (Or At Least Trying To)" for every strategy to make homeschooling work financially—without sacrificing quality.

Available on Amazon and homeschooledbutnormalish.com