

# Easy Tips

by Lorraine Curry



Copyright © 2004, 2005 Lorraine Curry

Excerpted from  
Easy Homeschooling Techniques and Easy Homeschooling Companion  
<http://www.easyhomeschooling.com>

# Parenting

- 1) Love, love, love. (Overcome evil with good.)
- 2) Do not judge.
- 3) Believe and speak only good about that child.
- 4) Never use the “R” words (rebel, rebellion, rebellious) referring to that child, especially in his hearing.
- 5) Praise much.
- 6) Teach the Bible. Require a number of verses from Proverbs to be read each day. It is a good idea to have your children copy what they read into a notebook, until a sure habit is formed. Make sure they date each day’s entry. Check daily at first and then weekly.
- 7) Cut off or limit contact with certain friends, situations and locations. These will be easy to recognize, as your child’s behavior will be different after these encounters. The child is always being taught, either good or bad. It is always easier to lose than gain ground.
- 8) Increase time with parents and other godly adults. Young men should spend much time with their fathers.
- 9) Believe God. Speak the Word in prayer out loud. Speak God’s wonderful promises such as Ps. 138:8, 55:22; Eph. 6:12-13; Matt. 16:19; Luke 10:19 and 2 Cor. 10:4.

# Writing

- 1) Tell your students to write a rough draft composition (about one or two pages long). Emphasize that their work will be rewritten after they learn a new writing technique. This composition can be about a book read, an experience or trip. It could even be an original story.
- 2) Next—perhaps the next day—have your children circle, highlight, underline or bold, if using a word processor, the sentences that are most important. These are the topic sentences. In a handwritten one-page essay, there should be approximately two to five.
- 3) All the supporting sentences need to be gathered together with each topic sentence. A different colored highlighter or pencil could be used for each paragraph. The student highlights or circles the supporting sentences and draws arrows to the circled or highlighted topic sentence.
- 4) Rewrite into paragraphs, placing each topic sentence with its supporting sentences.
- 5) Organize the paragraphs by thinking what topic should come first, second and so on.



# Study

- 1) *Learn the facts.* Read thoughtfully and carefully, attempting to discover the leading thought. Write it down if you need to. Do not memorize, but know.
- 2) *Reflect.* Seek to know what the main fact means and teaches. Think about the topic. Look for similarities or differences, subdivisions and other relationships. Now, the portion studied is ready to be outlined, as the student unifies closely related truths into groups. They must scrutinize principles, statements, definitions and other elements until they are understood. Knowing the leading thought will help the memory, knowing what it means will build understanding and knowledge, while the entire process of learning changes character.
- 3) *Verify.* Double-check the facts. Examine maps and charts. Go to other books and source documents. Although this sounds difficult, it is the enjoyable pursuit of knowledge because it is inspired by curiosity. Verifying establishes the fact as truth, gives the mind a clearer view of the subject, fixes the fact more firmly, makes the mind stronger and more cautious, gives self-reliance, and makes truth and reason the standards of judgment.
- 4) *Repeat.* In the oral recitation or the written report, the student makes the knowledge permanent.

# Poetry

- 1) Make poetry a part of each day.
- 2) Start with a shorter poem.
- 3) Read aloud several times.
- 4) Do not pause at end of line, but at punctuation.
- 5) Memorize an entire poem or a stanza.
- 6) Use poetry and the Psalms for copywork and dictation.
- 7) Have your child write his own poem.



# Dictation

- 1) Let your students spend some time studying the passage.
- 2) Read the piece as slowly as necessary for them to get it down.
- 3) Older children now check (proofread) and edit, marking any errors they think they might have.
- 4) Teacher checks for grammar, punctuation and spelling mistakes.
- 5) Make a separate list of misspelled words to look up and correct. (If your children are younger, write the correct spelling for them to learn.)
- 6) Have your student write each misspelled word about ten times each or speak the spelling aloud.
- 7) Finally, give an oral or written test.



# Memorizing

- 1) Read the complete work together several times.
- 2) Recite the first sentence together several times.
- 3) Add another sentence as soon as the first is committed to memory—always reciting all that is known, from the beginning.
- 4) When you are able to say the entire piece together from memory, start testing your children individually.
- 5) Once learned, practice often (overlearn), lest it be forgotten.





Easy Tips Text and Illustrations  
Copyright © 2004, 2005 Lorraine Curry

See many, many more tips and lists in  
*Easy Homeschooling Techniques*  
*Easy Homeschooling Companion*

Illustrations in this ebook are from  
*Easy Homeschooling Techniques*

**<http://www.easyhomeschooling.com>**