CSTHEA preschool guide 2021

Preschool considerations

The preschool years are not the ones in which to do rigorous formal schooling with a lot of seat work. Rather, it is a time in which to create a sense of wonder in your child, to read aloud worthy picture books and explore God’s world. It is also a time for the parents to read about home education, to make community connections, to find mentors and to think about what you want your homeschool to look like.

Look for games, simple activities and books that include lists of good books. When going to libraries and bookstores, it is very handy to have a list of worthy authors. Jim Trelease’s Read Aloud Handbook has a really nice list of picture books or see handout for authors in alphabetical order.

Remember, you do not have to register your student until the year they turn 6 unless you think they might go to a public or private first grade, then you will need to show the records of the K year from a church related school or other entity.

A few popular websites

Icanteachmychild.com has a nice section on each age level of pre-school to age 6

www.successful-homeschooling.com/

This website is comprehensive, well organized website that gives some good answers to the questions, “Why homeschool?”, “How do I start homeschooling?”, and “Where can I find the best homeschool resources?” She has sections on getting organized, saving money, working at home, and finding support. She also offers a free homeschool ebook

Kathy Livingston of Pineywoodshs.blogspot.com has a great blog on Kindergarten.

Preschool lesson plans and ideas

➤ Slow and Steady Get Me Ready: A Parents’ Handbook, Oberlander – This book will give appropriate skills for each developmental age with one activity per week.

➤ Before Five in a Row (pre-school) and Five in a Row (kindergarten)

www.fiveinarow.com – Curriculum based on reading a picture book for 5 days in a row. After reading the story each day, you will do an activity in math, art, or history, etc, relating to the story.

➤ Picture Book Preschool, Sherry Diane Early – A list of 7 books on one topic with some suggested activities for each week.

➤ Early Education at Home, Jean Soyke – complete course of instruction for children ages 3-5, using simple, inexpensive materials that can be found in the home

➤ Ambleside Online Year 0 — [www.amblesideonline.com](http://www.amblesideonline.com) A Charlotte Mason approach to preschool and Kindergarten

➤ Making the Most of the Preschool Years, by Valerie Bendt – This curriculum details 100 activities encouraging preschoolers to engage in independent play.

➤ Learning at Home, by Ann Ward

➤What Your Kindergartener Needs to Know (core Knowledge book)

➤ The Early Years, A Charlotte Mason Preschool Handbook, by Sonya Shafer of Simply Charlotte Mason

➤ The Three R’s, by Ruth Beechick

➤ Bright Beginnings, by Tammy Shaw

➤ Early Learning Kit in a Bag, Toddler School in a Box by Joyce Herzog (joyceherzog.com)

➤ Mommy Teach Me by Barbara Curtis

➤ Letteroftheweek.com