



MY EARLY HOMESCHOOL

Dear Parents,

First of all, CONGRATULATIONS on taking this step towards nurturing your child's learning! Your willingness to invest time and effort in your child's development is truly commendable.

Before you embark on this journey, I'd like to share a guide to navigating this curriculum to make the transition as smooth as possible for you and your little one.

So, let's jump right in!

I. Material List

Attached to the beginning of each thematic unit is a material list. This helps you know at a glance what you already have for the week, and what you might need to substitute or pick up from the store. The idea is that you only need to do a supply hunt ONCE for the week. If you are a plan-ahead person, I would sit by my supply closet with 5 trays (one for each day) and pull out materials needed for each day so that you are only lesson prepping once a week. Some others might prefer to do it each night before so that the activity is fresh in their minds. Personal preference :)

Regardless, I would strongly recommend snagging The Ultimate Supply Checklist resource and start building your supply closet based on that. That would save you many trips to the store. With that, you would be set for 99% of the curriculum. The few items that you might not already have can be easily picked up at the dollar store, craft store, or Amazon.



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2. Flexibility

This curriculum was designed to cater to every child's learning pace. Having said that, you will notice that the activities do not specifically tell you what number, counting sequence, sight word, or letter to prepare. As you progress through the lessons, you should quickly begin to notice the gaps in your child's learning.

For example, a child might be able to count 1-100 but has trouble identifying certain double digits or misses a number in a counting sequence. Or, she may be familiar with upper and lower case letters but confuses d with b, and s with c. On the flip side, your child might be so advanced that one-to-one correspondence counting until 20 is a piece of cake that you can move on to larger numbers, skip counting(eg:2,4,6,8,10), or basic addition!

With that in mind, each lesson standardizes the learning objective, but leaves the content open for you to fill in based on your child. Therefore, we are not putting a cap on how much a child can learn in a given week, or the pressure a child has to keep up with the pace that the curriculum 'tells' you to. This goes in hand with our philosophy that every learner is unique and should be individualized to create positive early learning experiences.

I also would like to point out that throughout the week, there is a good range of learning objectives; You will find a balance between lessons that might be come more easily to your child vs new learning curves. This is intentional. Repetition is key to a little learner. The idea behind the more basic learning concepts is for you to find (once again) the gaps in your child's learning and use that opportunity to practice it. It is much more friendly for a child to brush up on challenging areas in a shallow pool rather than work on that amongst other new



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concepts in a deep sea.

3. Attention Span

Should you expect some challenges in attention span? YES. Not to scare you, but to bring you to the reality that attention span is cultivated with **time**, **practice**, and **age**. I recommend spending about 10-15 minutes per lesson; This includes the time the adult is talking, discussion, and the actual activity.

If this is your child's first experience doing school, start on the lower end. You can always revisit the activity later in the day or week. However, do make it a point to push the time boundary as you progress through the weeks. Try a different way of delivery- asking more questions, taking turns with your child, switching it up and let your child lead, or perhaps singing a song/adding music - figure out what draws your child best. You might also want to assess whether your environment is conducive to your child's learning. I find that my toddler does not last very long when we conduct the activity in his playroom vs at the dining table.

Throughout my years of experience working with children under 5, I have seen a good range of attention spans regardless of whether the activity was "too easy" or "too hard". In most cases, I found that the delivery method was the determining factor in how invested a child was to the learning.

4. Who Is In Charge?

You need to decide from the onset who is going to be in charge of this curriculum. You or your child. Are you going to listen to your child if he/she says, "I don't want to do this" or are you going to be committed to being firm on where you stand? Eventually, they will get the rhythm of your homeschool day. In that sense, it is not too different from attending a physical preschool.



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5. Adult Engagement

Your child will only show as much enthusiasm as you put in. If you're excited and energetic, the chances are so would they. Find that thing that makes your child tick. Facial expression, tone of voice, and body language all play a role. Be the Big Kid!

6. Lingo

Sometimes the terms 'school', 'learning time', or 'lessons' might not be the most exciting words a child hears. In my house, we use the term 'learning games' and that works wonders! Over time my 2 1/2 year old has discovered that 'learning games' means it is a fun time that also requires focus on the activity. I've been doing this curriculum with him since he was 18 months. Sure we have our off days. But the beauty about being your child's personal teacher is that he gets the flexibility of adjusting the lesson to spark his interests, and one-on-one attention from the one who loves him best!

Wishing you well as you become your child's best teacher. Have fun with it!
Please reach out to us, shoot us an email, if you need anything. ❤️

Sincerely,

Lauren