

## Questions to Ask - Choosing the Right Curriculum for Your Family

- Why did I choose to homeschool in the first place?
- Which learning styles describe my children?
  - Auditory
  - Kinesthetic
  - Social
  - Logical
  - Musical
  - Naturalist
  - Visual
  - Reading/Writing
  - Solitary
- What is my teaching style?
  - How much time do I have to devote to each subject?
  - Do I want to lesson plan and grade work, or do I need it done for me?
    - How much prep work is involved?
  - How much do I like the subject? (What about my child(ren)?)
  - Do I want someone else to do the teaching?
    - Online Classes
    - Computer-based programs
    - Co-ops
  - What additional books, supplies, or ingredients will I need?
- What do I want my child to learn?
- What is my budget?
  - Will I need something free?
  - Will I need to purchase additional books or supplies for the program?
  - Can I purchase the program used?
  - Are there coupons, free trials, sample lessons, or blogs available to see?
  - Do I have a flexible budget?
  - Can I resell it later?
- Will I want an all-in-one program, or will I get different subjects separately?
  - Does an all-in-one program fit my needs?
  - If not, how much tweaking would I need to do to make it work?
- What homeschool method(s) are we using or do we want to use?
  - Classical
  - Eclectic
  - School-at-home
  - Computer-based
  - Charlotte Mason
  - Nature studies
  - Montessori
  - Unschooling
  - Unit Study
  - Lapbooking
- What grade level or program level will I need for my child?
  - Does this program have an assessment or placement test?
- Can more than one child be combined to complete the program?
  - Which children and for what grade levels?
- How long will the program take to complete?
  - Is it for one semester, a full school year, or a specific number of weeks?
  - How long will it take each day to complete?
    - Will it need *my* full attention?
- How flexible is the program?
- Is the program secular or Christian?
  - What is their statement of faith and does it align with mine?
- Can I get my hands on a physical copy before deciding?
  - Do friends have one I can look at?
  - Can I view it on Amazon?
  - Is it at the library?
  - Do bookstores locally have it?
- How long do I need to try it before I know it's working?
  - If it isn't working, when should I bail?
  - What would I use instead?