



Dear friends,

One of the benefits of homeschooling is the kind of relationship one develops with one's children. There is a depth and an authenticity that comes from the sheer grind, sacrifice and hard work of homeschooling that is different from any other kind of parent-child relationship.

Now, before I go on I do want to make clear that this in no way means that parents who send their children to school are unable to nurture and cultivate very deep and meaningful relationships with their children: it is simply different.

I also want to say that there are obviously people who, for a variety of reasons, should not homeschool. But...they are the parents and the reality of their relationship with their children is what is most important. And spiritual relationships can overcome the worst of circumstances.

Our children come to us from the spiritual worlds and they are here to learn, preferably within the family, as that is the consistent, dependable, karmic cauldron of human relationships (and there are many different configurations of families). What is key here is that the child is unconscious of the lessons he brings and it is absolutely vital that he be allowed to remain so. I have seen too many well-meaning parents ask their children all sorts of inappropriate—ie premature for their stage of development—questions. This brings the child not only to consciousness not only that which he should be unconscious, but it usually puts the child center stage, bringing self-awareness which can result in self-centeredness.

So yes, our children definitely are our teachers, as the saying goes, but the real lesson they bring us is how to watch and listen to them without discussing, commenting, questioning or exclaiming, but rather accepting, in the quietness of our hearts, what we observe in them and in us.

And because we homeschool, we have time—time to develop our relationship with our children, time to let them learn about being a member of our family, time to let them be children.



There is nothing more important for children than to be allowed to actually be children. It could be that this is the single most important part of homeschooling: no matter how wonderful a school might be, the rush, the expectations, the legal requirements, the stress of juggling work and school (especially if one has several children) and the press of early academics and adult agendas—even in many if not most Waldorf schools these days—preys upon the innocence and grandeur of childhood. This is something that can be avoided or mitigated at home.

Of course many homeschoolers need to juggle jobs and the needs of the family but because the juggling happens within the family, there is ample opportunity for the children to learn the life lessons of helping out, of sacrificing, of making do, of not needing more, more, more. Such lessons are much harder to model and to live outside of the home.

Other things that homeschooling encourages:

- The learning of life lessons
- Practical work around the home
- Taking care of family members
- Sacrificing for the needs of others
- Living the family's religious/spiritual life
- Living the family values

Here's something I wrote some time ago about homeschooling called [Homeschoolers First and Foremost](#) which some people have found helpful as a pep talk and affirmation of why they value homeschooling

### Children and Angels

Relationships between members of the family are key but helping your child develop a relationship with the spiritual worlds surely is the most important gift one can give one's children. I wrote this article a few months ago so it will be familiar to some of you. Others might have missed it. It is called [Children and Angels](#) and is now to be found on my blog.



### Seventh Grade curriculum

Seventh Grade is now complete! Yes, after too many years of work, the Christopherus seventh grade curriculum [can be found here](#).

The last component, recently completed, is Human Physiology. Like language arts, we have a Student Workbook for 7th grade, and a Student Workbook for eighth as well as a Teacher's Guide which covers both grades.

### State vendors

We have recently become vendors for more states and are 'in process' with several others. So now homeschoolers in Georgia, Alaska, Alabama, Idaho, Arizona, California, Florida, New Hampshire, Utah and South Carolina (as well as possibly Wyoming, North Dakota, Oklahoma and Indiana via the Braintree Trust—[follow link for information](#)) can hopefully access funds to help pay for their Christopherus curriculum.

We sincerely hope that this means more homeschoolers with financial issues can buy our materials and homeschool in the way they wish. [Click here for the list of programs](#) (including those in process ) and to find out other ways we are trying to help those with financial challenges.

**Know anyone interested in Christopherus? Please help us grow by sending folks:**

- [A link about 'Why Christopherus'](#)
- [Our free audio downloads](#)
- [Information on financial help for homeschoolers](#)

Thank you all so much for your support!

Til April,

Blessings on your homeschool journey  
Donna