



Dear friends,

Thank you for the feedback and encouragement that some of you have sent in response to newsletters. It is always so helpful to me to get a sense for what our readership is thinking and feeling!

**Here is a short and wonderful bit of feedback:**

*Thank you for all the work you have done that allowed my children to experience years of wholesome living. All the best on your endeavors. Janet*

I value all the feedback I get but the people who say they still read the newsletter even though they no longer homeschool, those who tell me about how Christopherus became a guide and inspiration to their parenting and teaching and those who have been helped, really touch my heart. I am blessed to have 20+ years of people sharing their stories and expressing their gratitude. Thank you all!

The last newsletter was devoted to addressing the seemingly unrelated but in fact definitely related issues of two mothers and their children.

**In response to my response, Nicole sent in the following:**

*Thank you, Thank you, Dear Donna!*

*This is so timely for my 12 and three quarters year old girl. Homeschooling and lack of screens and a tightly sheltered friend group has put us in a similar situation with these women. The advice you offer here, resonates with me profoundly and is advise to parenting concerns I can literally receive from nowhere else!*

*I have a question regarding my unschooling situation. Until covid times I used your curriculum continually but gave it up regularly. I still do a third grade Waldorf lesson to my 12 year old when I make time for it because I like to finish what I start even if it takes me years. But I know now that I am not in line with the pedagogical time line, so it is not meeting her where she's at. BUT I don't want her to miss out on the Waldorf foundational education. Certainly, my problem is that I have not fully committed to Christopherus homeschool (which we loved when we were doing it regularly) or fully child led learning but an organic hybrid of the two paths. I would love any advise you have on my situation.*

*I'm feeling the grief and heaviness of having an only child and only having 6 or so years in my raising responsibility and of course any and every regret is showing up.*



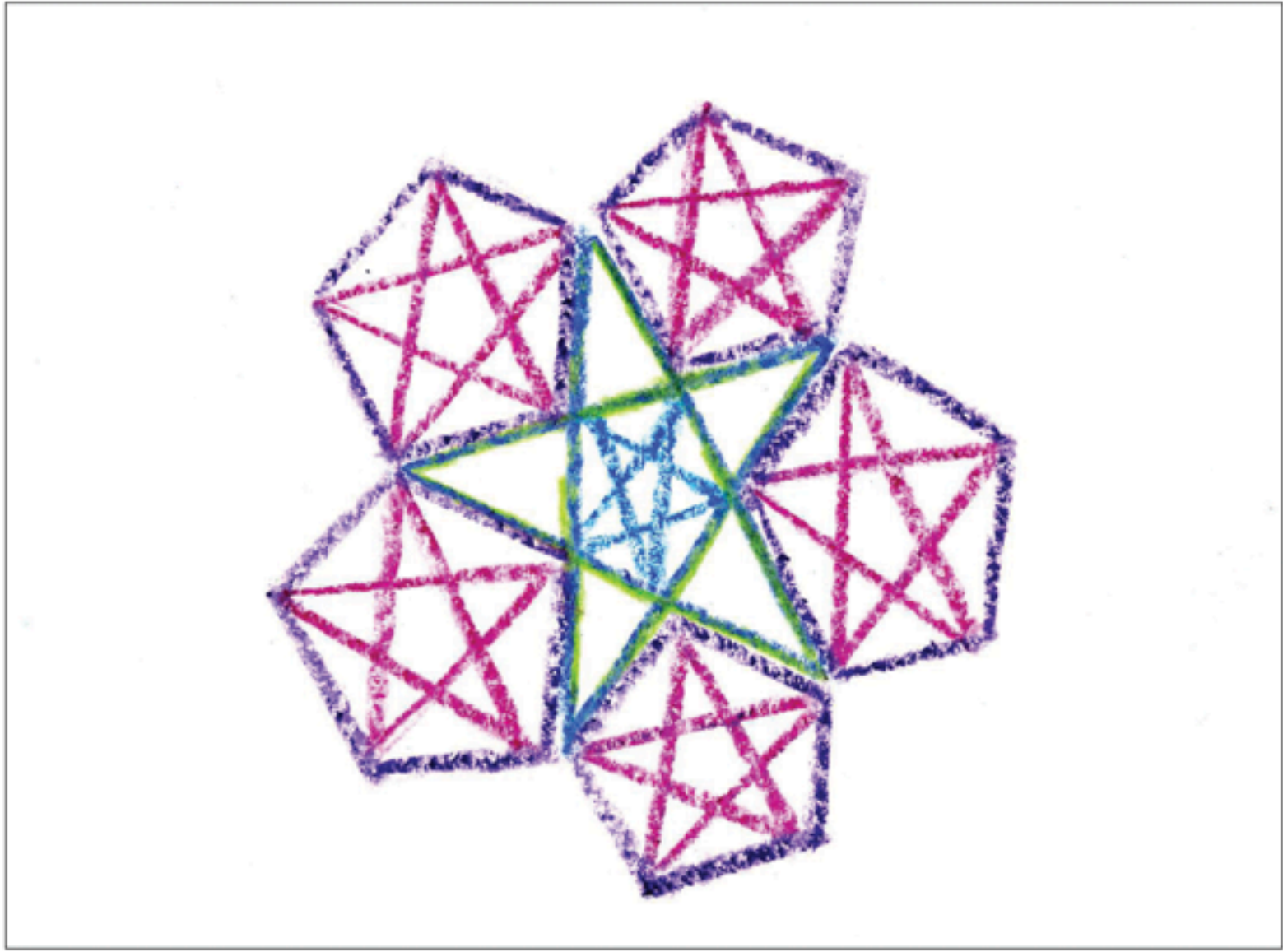
Hi Nicole, while it is vital that you prioritize material that speaks to your child's developmental needs, one can of course always weave in missed lessons from earlier years. You can read, for instance, 4th or 5th grade stories to your child or she can read some to herself. Handwork, form drawing and geometry can be condensed and then you can circle back if something needs 'shoring up' or deepening.

While I hate responding to people's enquiries by listing all the things they can purchase, it is so that I do address similar issues in depth in, for instance, this recording on [Waldorf and Unschooling](#). And this recording on [Child Development](#) is one I feel every single parent reading this who wishes to work deeply with the healing impulse of Christopherus and to understand their child's developmental needs should listen to, perhaps several times. By understanding the progression of a child's soul development, one can then be flexible in how one meets those needs, tailoring the child's education according to one's unique family situation.

If you can, do consider purchasing 5th, 6th and 7th grade materials—then you can figure out how to meaningfully be on target with your child's needs. In addition, you can then address lessons and skills and content foundational to later work. Do listen to my free recording below on how we move from form drawing to geometry in the Christopherus curriculum—that should also help.

And the fact that your child is thriving in what you describe as a tightly knit group and that she has not been exposed to screens is, actually, ultimately, what is most important. The basic need of childhood is to be allowed to be a child—and screens are utterly detrimental to that need. So hurrah to you for nurturing your child and protecting childhood.

Good luck, Nicole!



**From Form Drawing to Geometry**

As I now (summer 2025) head toward completing our Christopherus curriculum ([parts of 8th grade are available here](#)) I am in the wonderful and privileged position of being able to look back over the grades and seeing how they connect with one another, flowing as a truly holistic curriculum. One of the main reasons we sell so few of our publications separately, independent of the main curriculum for that year, is because my greatest wish for parents is to enable them to live into the healing power of a coherent, contextual and holistic path of education.

I could talk about how the story curriculum unfolds into the history curriculum or how math grows and weaves through the grades. But I think I would like to give a short account of how our form drawing lessons grow into our geometry lessons in a way that I know is unique and not necessarily how any other Waldorf educator, in a school or not, has worked with these lessons. This is a great example of the powerful healing impulse of Christopherus which I strive to offer to parents.

[Listen to me talk about this subject here](#)

**Financial Help for Homeschoolers**

From not raising our prices, to free shipping on some orders, to using print on demand so our international customers pay domestic rates, we are trying to help those of you with financial needs.

We also have been accepted as a vendor by a number of states that pay for homeschooling curriculum: [check here to see if such a program is available in your state](#). And if you see that we do not list a program you know of, please help your fellow homeschoolers and Christopherus by sending us details!

Til June,

Blessings on your homeschool journey,  
Donna