



Services For Homeschoolers

14 South 6th Avenue, Yakima, WA 98902

509-248-6388

homelinkyakima.org



This brochure presents information on HomeLink, its staff, registration procedures, schedule and classes offered for the 2011 - 2012 school year.

About HomeLink...

HomeLink, a division of Home Education Designs, is a privately owned program in Yakima, assisting home schools locally since 1996. Today, the program is accredited to supplement home schools by offering these services:

1. *Once-a-week classes that provide guided independent learning for students grades 3-12 in all subjects. The classes can provide the full home school academic experience or may be considered enrichment classes that extend and deepen learning occurring in your home school.*
2. *High school work can be converted to high school credit through the NWAC accredited Home Education Designs program. This credit is transferable into the classroom institutions, including public schools. It also eases college admission procedures.*
3. *Students may work to overcome learning barriers through the HEDway lab located at our facility. Cognitive exercises are administered through computer programs that stimulate development of stronger learning abilities.*
4. *Homelink can provide placement testing for students and curriculum advice.*
5. *The yearly "Parent Qualifying Course" is a 10-hour course offered on-site that fulfills the state requirements parents need to home school.*

About our director...

April Thome earned her bachelor's degree in history education at the University of Washington and her fifth year at CWU. She taught five years in the Selah Public Schools and worked eleven years at Riverside Christian School, including five years as elementary principal. In 1996 she received training in Educational Therapy from the National Institute for Learning Disabilities. As founder and director of HomeLink, this will be April's fifteenth year working with homeschool students. April is offering the following classes:

Study Skills, middle school/high school, 2nd quarter

This class will teach the following skills or concepts:

- *Learning styles
- *Improving the memory
- *Note taking
- *Learning to listen
- *Organizing a notebook
- *Topic sentences, finding the main idea, how to read a book
- *Essay writing, avoiding plagiarism

Test Preparation, middle school/high school, 1st quarter

- *SAT tests for high school, test taking in general for middle school
- *Dealing with test anxiety
- *Studying for testing
- *Test writers' strategy, test taking strategy
- *Vocabulary building (Greek & Latin roots, vocab building software)

Dear Homeschooling Families,

In this day of homeschooling options, we think you have probably not seen anything quite like HomeLink. This program started right here in the Yakima Valley in 1996 with the purpose of assisting parents in quality homeschooling. Since our onset, we have grown and improved, but our vision stays the same: to design an education program that ignites students' passion for learning, to train and advise parents as they homeschool, to strengthen the family unit, and to set an example of EXCELLENT and CREATIVE education for every single student we work with.

Our aim is to provide an atmosphere where students feel welcome and comfortable. Our classes are small enough that we can connect and care for every single individual. It is our aim to be available, helpful, and timely with parental/advisor communication. We are here for you.

April Thome,

Director

Brain Health, middle school/high school, 4th quarter

- *Knowing the brain systems that run your life
- *What hurts and helps the brain
- *Nutrition for neurons
- *Brain boosting skills
- *Loving your brain for life
- *Killing automatic negative thoughts (ANTS)
- *Physical and mental exercise for the brain

Successful Teens, middle school/high school, 3rd quarter

Using the *7 Habits of Highly Effective Teens* by Sean Covey, teens will learn how to recognize and take on behaviors that cause them to be their best. Setting goals, writing them down, committing goals to memory, staying focused and developing the stamina to go the distance will help our youth step from childhood into adulthood successfully.

The 2011 - 2012 Yakima HomeLink Classes

Please refer to the HomeLink website for availability of classes and/or changes to the schedule: www.homelinkyakima.org.

You may consult the website for the books, resources, and materials fees needed for each class. Additional quarterly classes may also be added as the year progresses. Feel free to call the HomeLink office if you have any questions.

Ann Bowman

earned a B.A. in biology with a minor in history and chemistry from Linfield College. She completed one year of her master's work in history from Linfield. Growing up in a family of educators, with a father who was both a history teacher and a state legislator, Mrs. Bowman is passionate about both history and our country.

Excellent Writing, high school

This classical education approach to writing uses the Institute for Excellence in Writing curriculum. Starting with very short pieces and building to full fiction and non-fiction sources, students learn to outline information and present it in their own words. Style techniques, strong word choices, grammar and punctuation are also included.

United States History, high school (AP option)

This year long class takes students from the first settlements in North America through current times. Emphasis is given to the spiritual and political foundations of our nation, lived out in the dedication of amazing leaders. Students will strive to understand the standards and views of the eras studied, and see how actions and attitudes influenced future events. Graded assignments include essays, worksheets, and class participation.

Shakespeare Literature, high school, 3rd and 4th quarters

Students will read and study 6-8 of Shakespeare's plays, covering all the genres of his work: tragedy, comedy, and history. Emphasis will be placed on style and language, comparison of the different genres, and stories that influenced his writings. Movie versions of some of the plays will be watched in order to understand the plays more fully.

Time Traces, grades 6-8

In this year long course, small teams of students randomly choose an historical era, which remains a mystery to the other teams. The teams read historical fiction and conduct research to learn about their time periods. Teams then create clues and challenge classmates to identify the historical eras on Mystery Era Day.

Drama, all ages

This class will run in two separate semesters; fall semester focuses on a dinner theater in December, followed by fun exercises and analysis of our performance, and spring semester culminates in two performances at the end of the school year. Graded assignments include character studies, line memorization, effort, and performance skills. Spring semester in 2012 will feature two separate classes, one for younger students to perform a children's classic, and one for older students to present a dramatic classic. There is a materials fee to cover the costs of scripts and royalties.

Shannan Golladay

graduated from Azusa Pacific University with a degree in Life Science. She served as a Young Life volunteer for eight years and as the Young Life middle school coordinator in the Yakima Valley for six years.

Pre-algebra Uses Teaching Textbook

Middle School Science, grades 6-8

The HomeLink middle school science is offered in a two year rotation. This year students will be studying astronomy, earth sciences, and introduction to chemistry.

Biology, high school

This year-long Apologia course covers organism taxonomy, cellular biology, ecosystems cycles, botany, and introductory organic chemistry. Class time is spent covering main concepts and completing labs.

Physical Science, high school

This year-long Apologia course covers the topics of earth science, weather, physics, basic electronics, and nuclear forces.

Dissection Lab, high school, 1st semester

This course enhances the study of biology by dissecting and studying the physiology of several animals. (prerequisite: middle school or high school biology)

Edgy Science, high school, 2nd semester

This course is for the student who has an interest in science and new scientific discoveries and issues. Through debate and discussion, students will choose topics to further research. As part of this course, students will be expected to do a lot of public speaking and reports from their research and response to other's research. (prerequisite: either high school biology or physical science)

Susanne Harfst

graduated from Justus Liebig University in Giessen Germany, as a veterinarian in 1982 and earned her doctorate in 1985. She practiced as a veterinarian first in Germany, and along with her husband, also a veterinarian, has owned Animal Medical Services in Yakima since 1995. Susanne has been homeschooling her two sons since 2000.

Zoo Simulation, 1st semester, grades 3-5

In this interactive class students try to save the local zoo from destruction. The zoo is outdated and unsafe, so the mayor intends to sell the animals and lease the land to a frozen vegetable factory. With the help of the zoo keeper, students learn to care for zoo animals, remodel their cages and raise money by completing lessons about food, habitat, animal classifications, etc., while at the same time making sure that the city's mayor and his spies don't cause any problems for the new zoo keepers.

Pet First Aid, all ages, 2nd semester

This course will teach about pet health care, including emergencies for dogs, cats, and other companion animals. Students will learn how to examine their pet, recognize problems, and practice first aid for various conditions. Also included will be choosing the right pet, maintaining pet health, providing daily care, and traveling with a pet.

German, high school

This year-long course offers an introduction to German that makes language acquisition a natural, personalized, enjoyable, and rewarding

experience. Students will attain an acceptable level of proficiency in four basic skills: speaking, listening, reading, and writing.

Diane Hanks taught in public schools for 4 years before starting to homeschool her three children. Mrs. Hanks specializes in working with younger students, leading them in classes full of activities, projects, and guided exploration.

Basic and Advanced Steps, grades 6-high school, full year course
This composition course teaches the simple “recipe” for organizing thoughts and writing clear, basic essays. These will be covered: explanatory, contrast, problem solving, literature analysis, research, and exam. The procedure for learning these essays is so well laid out that it takes the hard work out of writing. In the advanced class, students will work through the same essays, but learn how to develop them with detail and style.

Learning Language Arts, grades 3-5, full year course
Students will begin by learning the fundamentals of grammar through interactive lessons. Next, they will learn to express themselves creatively through poetry. Students will then learn to organize and write well-structured reports and essays using the *Guided Report Writing* curriculum and *Fundamentals of Writing*, the forerunner to the *Basic and Advanced Steps* curriculum. Weekly dictation exercises will be given to make this a well-rounded language arts course.

Middle School Study Skills, grades 5-8, full year
Middle schoolers will learn to develop the skills necessary to become successful students. Topics covered include: listening and observing skills, note taking, outlining, test taking, problem solving, following directions, organizing time, study space, and materials, and more.

Science Simulation, grades 2-5, full year course
Through various activities, students will learn about nature, space, volcanoes, and weather. In the fall they will create a simulated “campground” and plan “excursions” designed to motivate them to learn about the world around them and the importance of preserving it. The winter months will be spent studying space as the students divide up into “space exploration teams.” Acting as “certified expert volcanologists” in the spring, students will “travel” to Hawaii to study Pele’s Peak. They will build model volcanoes and erupt them at the culminating “luau.” If time permits, students will finish up the year as “weather detectives,” and using the scientific method, will conduct experiments and build model weather instruments to gain knowledge about suspects in an imaginary crime case. All of the activities in this year long simulation class are designed to build critical thinking and problem solving skills.

Rebecca Whitmore grew up as a “MK” in West Africa. Her college degree is from Seattle Pacific University in Spanish, with minors in French, German, and social studies. Mrs. Whitmore taught languages at a junior college in Richland, Washington before marrying and raising her eight children. She has been homeschooling for over 20 yrs.

Spanish 1, high school
This is an extensive first year high school level course in which students will learn elementary conversation skills, vocabulary, grammar, usage, verb tenses, history, geography, and cultural tidbits from the Spanish-speaking world. Students will also learn a proverb and a Bible verse each week. (Two classes available)

Spanish 3, high school, prerequisite, Spanish 2
In this course, students will do a grammatical and structural review of the language, a lot of conversation, and literature. Students will be assigned magazine articles in Spanish which they will summarize in Spanish. Other activities include reading books in Spanish, watching

Spanish language movies, and listening to Spanish radio and watching Spanish television stations in order to increase fluency.

French 2, high school
Continuing with ABEKA Books French 2 curriculum, this year long course will give students a greater knowledge of pronunciation, vocabulary, conversation, grammar, history, and culture. In addition to the textbook, students will read *Le Petit Prince* by Antoine Saint-Exupery in the second semester.

World Geography, middle school and high school, full year course
Students will learn all the countries and capital of the world, and many of the major geographical features of the continents and regions of the world. Some cultural content will be covered.

Marti Niemann earned her degree in architecture from the University of Washington in 1997. Mrs. Niemann worked in a design office here in Yakima for several years before devoting more time to HomeLink classes. She has been homeschooling her three daughters for over ten years.

Algebra 2, high school, prerequisite: Algebra 1
This course uses *Teaching Textbooks*.

Math Tutoring, grades 5 and up
This class is designed for the student who needs to check in weekly with a math teacher while completing a textbook at home, or for a student who would like another hour during the week to ask questions or work with supervision. Students bring their own textbook to class, ask questions, work through issues, and receive assignments to complete at home each week.

Helen Solem graduated from the University of Kansas with a degree in Speech Communications. An avid runner, Mrs. Solem has finished eight marathons. She teaches aerobic fitness at CWU, and, as a military wife, has moved twelve times while homeschooling her five children.

Speech, grades 8-12
This year-long course is designed to teach basic principles of speaking through a variety of speeches and related exercises. Students will develop the necessary skills to articulate thoughts clearly, concisely, and with confidence. Through monologues, extemporaneous, impromptu, expository, persuasive, poems, debate, parliamentary procedure, and stories, students will learn to enjoy interpretive speaking while developing poise and delivery.

Mystery Literature, high school, 1st quarter
In this course, students will be reading short stories and watching the movie versions. Students will work in groups to solve “crimes,” learn about styles of detective writing, and develop an appreciation for the attention to detail good mystery writers must develop.

Science Fiction as Literature, high school, 2nd quarter
In this course, students will be informed of the predictive peculiarities of science fiction. The literature studied will include part of the 19th and 20th century, and the three narrative forms from which science fiction borrows: the myth or historical event, fantasy or science, and utopia. Students will compare and contrast novels, short stories, and movies that have developed from science fiction genre. As students explore these options, they will have the opportunity to discuss, extrapolate, and critique a variety of themes, ethics, and concepts.

Shirley Lynch

attended high school in Zimbabwe, Africa and earned a bachelor's degree in Medical Technology from the University of Louisville in Kentucky. Before moving to the Northwest, Mrs. Lynch finished what she needed for a chemistry degree. She began homeschooling her four children in 1994.

Algebra I, high school (or by permission) Uses Teaching Textbook

Physics, high school (prerequisite: algebra 1 & some geometry)
This physics course uses Apologia curriculum that covers work, energy, momentum, periodic motion, electrical currents, etc. In addition, students will be trained in the proper procedures for lab write-ups. Recommended for college-bound students.

Tricia Gilmore

degree from Northwest Missouri University with a specialization in graphic design and photography. She has been a freelance graphic designer for almost 15 years. Prior to freelance, and children, she worked in publishing, advertising, and screenprinting. Mrs. Gilmore has taught in both public and Christian schools. She and her husband homeschool their three children, ages 13, 12, and 10. To see a portion of her portfolio, go to tgCreative on facebook.

Photography and Design, Grades 3-7

Student will develop an understanding of the basics of digital photography, in addition to the elements and principles of design. This class will allow students to develop and communicate visual literacy and and formal analysis of art. Students will receive basic history of master photographers such as Dorothea Lange, Annie Liebowitz and Ansel Adams and some history of graphic design such as Piet Mondrian and Toulouse-Lautree. In addition, students will develop an understanding of type, graphics, layout, and color. Projects will focus on photography and design work. This year long class will also include media awareness through critical thinking. Digital camera is required.

Grace Clark

attended YVCC then CWU, earning a BA as a Biology Ed. major, and a BS in Home Economics. She finished up college having only one class away from a minor in art. She taught one year in Darrington, then seven at Zillah High School.

Drawing, grades 3-8, full year class

Even if you can barely draw a straight line, you will learn step by step how to draw many types of items showing perspective and dimension. The skills learned will enable the student to produce work when drawing is necessary...even science labs, posters, painting, or doodling.

Laurel Smith

earned her bachelor's degree in Liberal Studies and her masters in teaching from Oregon State University. In 2008, her passion for classical education prompted her to leave the public school and begin homeschooling her son.

Virtues Studies 2, high school, full year course

This class will use William Bennett's *Book of Virtues* as the foundational text. Each month students will focus on different virtues through literature and personal observations and then discuss assignments in class.

Becky Meinzing

received her teaching degree from Central Washington University and worked for over ten years with the Navajos in Arizona. Mrs. Meinzing specializes in hands-on classes with elementary students. Mrs. Meinzing's focus this year will primarily be with the HEDway Lab.

Students under 14 years of age must have prior approval from the HomeLink director and from the advisor of the class in order to sign up for high school level courses.