

Engaging Early Learners

Nancy Bjorkman



Heppner's Legacy Homeschool Resources - www.legacyhomeschool.com
PO Box 753 / 369 Jackson Ave NW – Elk River, MN 55330 763-241-HOME (4663)



“Our goal should be to give our children the skills for learning so they can embark upon a lifetime of becoming educated.” – Mortimer Adler, 20th century educator

What's on YOUR list? Top 10!!!

Early Development –

Most important tasks:

- Develop emotional stability
- Develop language and communication skills
- Develop knowledge about things and events around them
- Develop a “disposition to learn”

How? Talk, read, **PLAY!**

Don't underestimate everyday life, conversation, activities, problem solving, life skills, **delight!**

Action – There is NO magic age when “schooling” begins.

When taught at the right time, with the right approach, learning will happen.

Academics - Better Late Than Early

Quick overview of learning to read (Language Arts) – because everyone worries about it

- Learn to talk

- Pre-reading – Goal: learn what reading and writing are for and that they are useful and enjoyable things to do.
 - Reading books aloud and talking about them develop:
 - Vocabulary
 - Sequencing
 - Problem solving
 - Knowledge
 - Thinking skills
 - Sentence structure
- Fluency Stage – Goal: Learn to read

- Information Stage – Goal: Read to Learn (4th-Jr. High)

Keeping Little Ones occupied while working or teaching elders:

- Fill their tank
- Plan their activities ahead of time
- Have special toys/games/activities and a special place
- Utilize their siblings
- Use nap time
- Use a timer
- Use a sheet as their “classroom”
- Have a bin for their “school”

Dot-to-Dots	Blocks	Play Doh
Mazes	Buttons	Fabric
Hidden pictures	Scissors/Hole punch/Paper	Measuring cups & spoons
Jigsaw puzzles	Pipe cleaners	Pattern blocks
Matching games/fabric or wall paper	Tell stories just from pictures	Silly sentences
Match the Tupperware lids	Put away silverware	Match socks
Scattered #s	Alphabet lunch	War card game

Resources:

LIFE!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!! Your curriculum could consist of teaching them the parameters around which they may play and teaching them the responsibility of putting things away and how to do it.

www.toddertoddler.com

www.preschoolexpress.com

www.filefolderfun.com

All of the following are available from Heppner’s Legacy:

[Slow and Steady, Get me Ready](#) – June Oberlander

[For the Children’s Sake](#) – Susan Schaeffer Macauley

[Language and Thinking for Young Children](#) – Ruth Beechick

[Letter of the Week](#) – Carson-Dellosa

[Mudpies to Magnets and More Mudpies to Magnets](#) – Roger Williams

[The Three R’s](#) – Ruth Beechick

[Lauri products](#)

[Green Alligators](#)