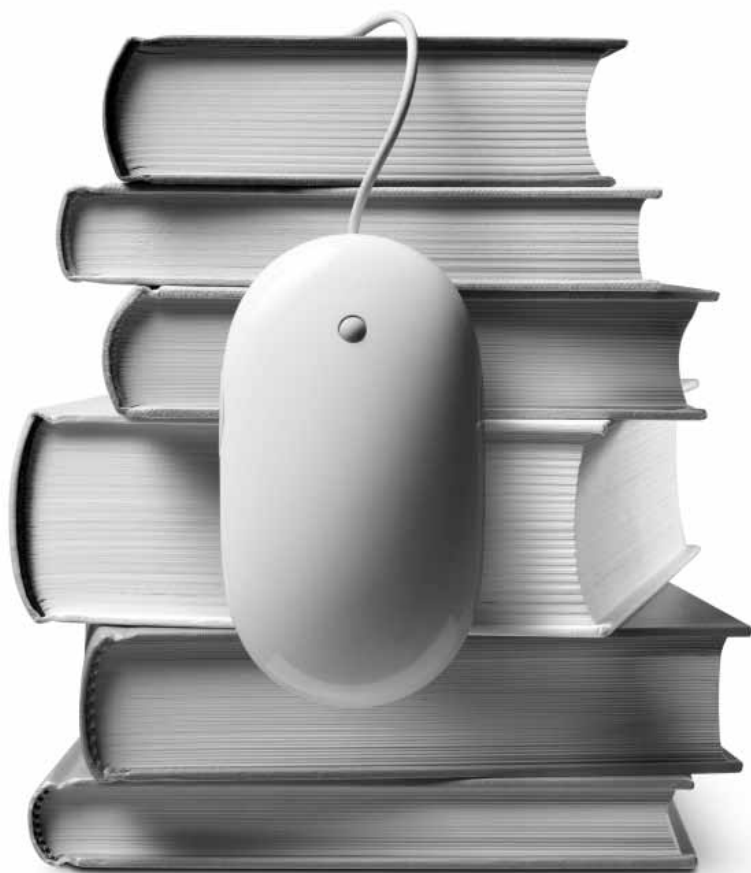


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Homeschoolers Guide



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Each course offers a PA certified teacher who will mentor them in their specific content area. Additional learning tools include Elluminate which is a live on-line session between Mentors and students.

All services including computer and printer are provided at no cost for PA residents who have school-age children. Also, parents are reimbursed for internet

Enrollments for the 2011-2012 school year will be taken starting April 18, 2011

www.cpdlf.org

866-215-5936

CPDLF
1500 4th Avenue
Altoona PA 16602



Central Pennsylvania Digital Learning Foundation

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Central Pennsylvania Digital Learning Foundation is a Pennsylvania cyber-charter school and has been in existence since 2002. The origins of CPDLF were based on the concerns of the local superintendents for students who were leaving their school district. The superintendents wanted to offer a viable alternative to the brick and mortar school that would provide an equally challenging, highly qualified education as their own schools. The administrators believed this would provide a smooth transition for students to be able to return to their districts.

Consequently, Central Pennsylvania Digital Learning Foundation has a stringent curriculum and strict requirements for graduation. CPDLF closely guards all of its policies to be in compliance to the Pennsylvania Department of Education, including the highly qualified regulations for our PA certified teachers/mentors.

The teachers/mentors work closely with the parents and students in our cyber, small-setting environment. At CPDLF, we focus on a student-centered, educational program that relies on basic educational principles while utilizing the latest information and communications technology to promote student achievement, thus fostering higher-order-thinking and problem-solving skills.

CPDLF students have the opportunity to master essential content and skills which provides them with the opportunity to build a strong foundation to compete in the workforce of today and tomorrow. The goal of the Central Pennsylvania Digital Learning Foundation is to utilize its technological resources to provide educational learning opportunities across the state of Pennsylvania.

Our office, located in Altoona, is open and friendly to all those who may inquire about our cyber school. If you favor a cyber school that has a wide scope of options but with a small personal touch, then we are the educational source that is right for you. For additional information, please visit our website at www.cpdlf.org



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Visit: www.personalizededucation.org/schools/sas



Homeschool students select online classes as a means to gain enriching electives, to gain professional and expert help with difficult subjects, to connect with other students, or even to begin transitioning from full-time homeschool to high school or college. Christa McAuliffe Academy School of Arts and Sciences, a world-wide online private school serving students K-12, is a homeschool-friendly option.

Full-Time or Part-Time

Some homeschoolers opt to just take one or two classes, while others decide to join CMASAS full-time to reap all that the school has offer. Explore CMASAS's elementary, middle school, and high school programs and select the option that works best for your current educational needs. Enrollment is open year-round.

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As students get older, chances increase that a homeschooling parent will need help with one or more subject areas, especially in advanced math and writing; online classes are one way to meet this need. Also, students will often want to explore other subjects through enriching electives such as creative writing, forensic science, digital photography, video game design, survey of religions, myths and legends, and other topics of interest.

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CMASAS is flexible in scheduling, which homeschoolers appreciate - especially those who travel or who want to incorporate other activities into their routine. However, it is the flexibility in attitude that homeschoolers find so appealing. CMASAS values homeschooling as an option, and even counts homeschoolers among its own staff, keeping homeschooling needs at the forefront of policy decisions and program design.

Accreditation

As a world-wide school, CMASAS is both regionally and internationally accredited by the International and Trans-regional Division of the Northwest Accreditation Commission, one of the six regional accreditation agencies for K-12 and recognized by the U.S. Department of Education.

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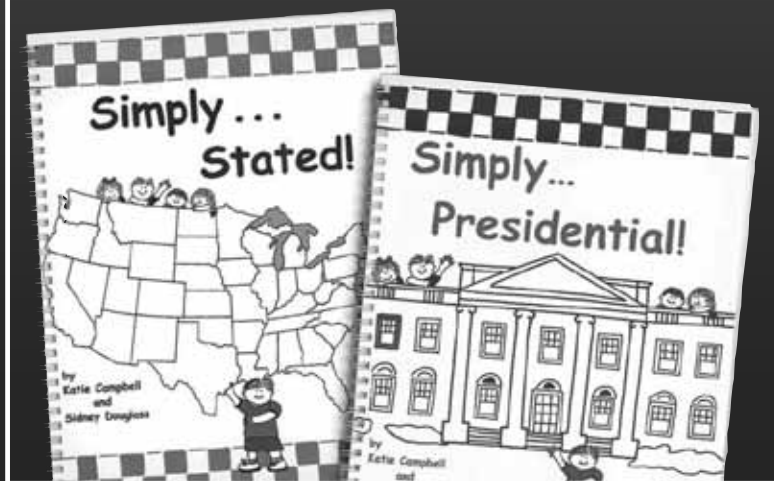
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Are you a busy home schooling mom? Do you enjoy reading to your children? Then curriculum from ***Kreative Simplicity*** is for you! Home school moms, Sidney Douglass and Katie Campbell, wanted to teach their children the geography of the United States in the best possible manner: by reading good children's literature.

They began by finding library books about each state and reading and discussing them with their own children, and ended by creating an amazing curriculum called ***Simply...Stated!***

The name says it all! This simple, yet thorough, literature-based curriculum consists of comprehensive lists of library books about each state. When searching the library card catalog for books about a particular state, the computer displays a list of fact books. These may be necessary, but are not the type of books we home school teachers desire! We need books that tell stories! Sidney and Katie have read literally hundreds of children's books, selecting the most delightful, interesting, and appropriate ones! They have done all the work for us! ***Simply...Stated!*** includes fictional, biographical, historical, and simply wonderful books. You will be introduced to amazing children's authors, delightful illustrators, and interesting U.S. history. I don't know why they call it just a geography course!

Upon completing our study, my youngest asked, "When are we going to do ***Simply...Stated!*** again? I can't wait!" Now we look forward to beginning ***Simply...Presidential!***

The authors truly desire to touch the heart as well as the mind of the child. They believe that reading living books and discussing them with their children is the key to understanding and grasping facts and ideas. I'm confident you will be blessed using this curriculum. Please check their website for more information and suggested accompanying resources.

-Review by Margarita Johnston, home school mother of four

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Our first recommendation is Rod and Staff curriculum. Rod and Staff uses a traditional approach that has proven to be academically sound while cast in a godly atmosphere. We believe that Rod and Staff has done an outstanding job in providing a curriculum that both builds a solid academic education and teaches with a realistic Christian emphasis.

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We invite elementary, middle, and high schools students to enroll in summer enrichment programs and sports camps.

Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute offers various noncredit residential summer enrichment programs to high school students.

Summer enrichment programs allow elementary, middle, and high school students the chance to participate in non credit programs that stimulate their minds and exercise their bodies. Each program will be individually priced. There are various day enrichment programs in chemistry, creative writing, robotics, smart lighting, forensic science, theater and sports camps for Elementary, Middle, and High School Students.

Residential Enrichment Programs for High School Students

- Aerospace Engineering Summer Career Exploration Program
- Architecture Career Discovery Program
- Computer Game Development Academy
- Lally School of Management & Technology - CEO Academy
- School of Engineering Summer Career Exploration Program ~ *NEW in 2011*
- School of Science Summer Career Exploration Program ~ *NEW in 2011*

Click the program listing online at <http://summer.rpi.edu> for additional information such as full program descriptions, application/registration forms, and costs.

Summer 2011 programs will be posted in January and registrations will be accepted then.



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This summer is an exciting time to be at Rensselaer, a place where enthusiasm and innovation are the very hallmarks of our programs and classes. Rensselaer is an outstanding technological university and an exceptional place to Explore and Discover. We invite elementary, middle, and high school students to enroll in summer enrichment programs and sports camps. In addition, summer credit courses are available to academically qualified and talented high school students.

Summer enrichment programs allow elementary, middle, and high school students the chance to participate in non credit programs that stimulate their minds and exercise their bodies. Each program is individually priced.

Day programs for Elementary, Middle, and High School Students

- Chemistry Summer Exploration Program
- Creative Writing Workshop for Youths
- Creative Writing Workshop for High School Students
- Rensselaer Robotics Engineering Academy Offerings
- Samaritan-Rensselaer Children's Center RPI Summer Day Camp
- The Smart Lighting ERC and the Center for Future Energy Systems - Summer Program for High School Students
- Whodunit? The Science of Crime Scenes
- Young Actors Guild (YAG)
- Rensselaer Football Camp

Residential enrichment programs for high school students

- Aerospace Engineering Summer Career Exploration Program
- Architecture Career Discovery Program
- Computer Game Development Academy
- Lally School of Management & Technology - CEO Academy
- School of Engineering Summer Career Exploration Program ~ NEW in 2011
- School of Science Summer Career Exploration Program ~ NEW in 2011

Click the program listing online at <http://summer.rpi.edu> for additional information such as full program descriptions, application/registration forms, and costs. Summer 2011 programs will be posted in January and registrations will be accepted then.

If you are interested in being added to our enrichment programs update list and receive email updates, Request Information by visiting the Summer@Rensselaer Web site or contact, Mike Gunther, Program Manager for Recruitment, **(518) 276-8351**, gunthm@rpi.edu.



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The Beginning Advantage Guided Reading Program: *A Mom's Review*

A Beginning Advantage (ABA), a Christian homeschool Curriculum Distributor based in Siloam Springs, Arkansas, offers a range of faith-based education curricula covering **A Reason For Science, Handwriting, Spelling, and Guided Reading**. I recently had the pleasure of getting a hands-on look at their new **Advantage Guided Reading** program for grades one and two.

One of the first things you will notice upon receiving this program is the well-organized and easy-to-follow Parents Resource Guide, which includes a teacher's guide and a full school-year's worth of educational activities. For your child, the **Advantage Guided Reading** program focuses on 64 colorful books of gradually increasing complexity. Accompanying lessons promote and test progress through the program. Story titles include *God Made the Animals*, *God's Promise*, and *Let the Children Come*, and each story has its basis in scripture. The program is designed around the concept of "leveled reading", providing your children with a gradual approach to enhancing and building their reading and comprehension skills.

Because my own son (and future homeschooler) is only 16 months old, I chose to try out the program with my first grade nephew, Andrew. Usually, Andrew is not very interested in reading, but he quickly took a liking to these books, and actually asked to read more of them. **A Beginning Advantage** states that one of their goals is to prevent children from becoming discouraged with reading and viewing it as drudgery. Andrew showed me first hand that the **Advantage Guided Reading** program thoroughly delivers on this promise. Instead of being bored and disinterested, he quickly became a huge fan of the books, and looked forward to completing each short, but meaningful lesson. Andrew's mother tells me that since we sampled the program, his overall interest in reading has greatly increased and, as a result, he is now reading at advanced grade levels. He has also become very fond of reading stories to my son, as well as his own 10 month old sister. Clearly, Andrew's newfound love of reading is setting the stage for the next generation of avid readers, who will surely enjoy the **Advantage Guided Reading** program in a few years as well!

After seeing for myself just how well the **Advantage Guiding Reading** program by **A Beginning Advantage** really works, I not only recommend it to other parents, but plan to use it as my own son's curriculum as soon as he reaches first grade! You can actually see and read every page of every book on their website.

Contact information:

A BEGINNING ADVANTAGE, PO Box 1001, Siloam Springs, AR 72761,
(877)481-1122, customerservice@abeginningadvantage.com.
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The story of the Pennsylvania Cyber Charter School is one of innovation and excellence born of challenge and necessity.

Like many school districts in western Pennsylvania, the Borough of Midland experienced a decline in enrollment and the erosion of its tax base throughout the waning decades of the 20th century. This trend impacted both the quality and quantity of educational opportunities for Midland students, a situation both the school district and the community refused to accept.

Responding to the need for locally based educational alternatives for its students, Midland developed a visionary concept for combining and leveraging its school district's recognized excellence with a statewide demand for improved public education accessible through online instruction.

In the 2000-2001 school year, Midland launched the Western Pennsylvania Cyber Charter School for students in grades K through 12. Utilizing a truly cutting-edge approach, WPCCS has forged an innovative union of modern technology and traditional academic excellence to deliver high-quality educational choices to students and families. WPCCS offers real choices to young people who, for reasons as unique as each student, choose not to pursue a more conventional education, and has grown to become a leader and innovator in the continuing development of Internet-based instruction.

PA Cyber currently phased out the "Western" in its name because of the services provided to all Pennsylvanians. WPCCS is now known as The Pennsylvania Cyber Charter School.

From the quality and breadth of our course offerings, to our continuing development of computer learning tools, PA Cyber has become a leader and innovator in the field of Internet-based education. Our school serves thousands of students throughout Pennsylvania and is broadening the scope of its operations to meet the needs of families typically underserved by traditional public education.

With PA Cyber the possibilities are endless, and amazingly, it all began with one small school district that refused to settle for anything less than the best for its students. PA Cyber is currently celebrating its 11th year of providing an educational choice to Pennsylvania families. Visit **www.pacyber.org** for more information.

Helping Families Homeschool through **Hard Times**

By Cherise Curby

Hit hard by the recession, homeschooling dad Paul Braun* has been unemployed for a year now. Unemployment benefits were unable to cover both family expenses and what was needed to help with their son Jason's serious medical condition. The Brauns cashed in their life insurance policy and maxed out their credit cards. But there were simply not enough funds to purchase what they needed to help their son with his special need.

Then the Brauns heard about the Home School Foundation, a charitable organization that helps families keep homeschooling when they are facing difficult times.

Donations to HSF from all across the nation helped provide a grant to allow diagnostic tests and specialized curriculum for Jason. His mother later wrote the Foundation, "Your program has enabled us to continue homeschooling and provided the means to purchase desperately needed materials for remediation. God has really blessed our family and shown us that He will provide, no matter the circumstances."

The Foundation has been helping homeschoolers for over 15 years, from homeschool groups, to widows, single parents, families with special needs children, those facing emergency situations, and even international homeschoolers.

"We all know, from shared experiences, that one of the key components of homeschooling is acts of giving—giving time, energy, money, our very selves for the sake of others," said Mike Smith, President of HSF. "The Home School Foundation is a conduit between families in need and those members of a compassionate community who want to reach out to them."

A single mom HSF helped recently said, "Words could never fully express the gratitude I have in my heart for what HSF has done for me and my children... When I received the check in the mail, I could not believe my eyes. It was so much more than I ever imagined. I kept looking at it over and over again and thanking the Lord for blessing us in this way."

This mother's daughters also wrote a thank-you saying, "Now Mamma can buy the homeschool curriculum we need!"

HSF is growing and helping more families than ever before. If you are a homeschooler in need of assistance, know someone in need of assistance, wish to donate, or simply desire more information about the Foundation, please visit their website, www.homeschoolfoundation.org.

** All names have been changed to protect privacy.*

Your support helps create a brighter picture for a homeschooler in need.

Please call **540-338-8688** or visit
www.homeschoolfoundation.org.

Proverbs 22:6

Train up a child in the
way he should go: and when
he is old, he will not depart
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