

Rebecca Spooner from Homeschool On Session Ideas

1. Teaching the Child you Have (not the child you want them to be)

Let's be real, we all walk into homeschooling with some sort of preconceived notion of what it will look like, and for most of us... we are in for a rude awakening. Our first year we buy books based on what we like and we plan our days based on our schedules, without taking into account the complete curveball that is our child. How do they learn? How do they process? What is their rhythm and routine? What sets them off and what fills them up and gives them life? What are their interests? Every one of these questions can have a huge impact on our little bubbles of expectation and adding more kids into the mix can make it difficult to navigate through our days and find what will work.

I'm here to help! In this session we'll talk about how we can understand our kids more fully and teach to who they are. We'll discuss how you can teach multiple different personalities and learning styles all together and find ways to tweak and adjust your curriculum to cater to each of your children's needs. You will walk out of this session inspired, refreshed, and with a new sense of purpose; armed with understanding and some practical solutions to try. Because THIS school year, my friend, is going to be different!

2. How to Let Go of Public School Expectations

Do you ever wonder if your kids are learning what they should be? Do you go to bed at night worrying that you might not be doing enough or that your child is behind? Do you feel that school should be taking a full 6 hours in order to be a "sufficient education"? Let's talk about it! Public school expectations have the potential and capacity to completely KILL our homeschool joy and success. They rob us of the ability to move at our child's pace or see the learning opportunities that happen outside of bookwork. They leave us checking off lists and fitting in lessons even if no one is enjoying them. We become trapped in a state of pressure rather than finding the homeschool freedom that so many people profess to achieve.

Oftentimes we recognize these unrealistic expectations in ourselves. We want to change but we don't know how! This session will be talking about some of the expectations that we harbor, how they effect us and how we can break free of them and start making our homeschools the unique and fun journey we always imagined it would be!

3. Create your own planning system for your homeschool (that actually works!)

I can't even tell you how many planners I have sitting on my shelf. As an all or nothing person, I love the IDEA of planning but the follow-through is where I get a little stuck. Sure, I sit down and plan out a week or so with great detail and precision, but then our week derails, the plans become null and void and I feel like I wasted my time, not to mention this overwhelming sense of being behind!

Why not create your own planner? One that has the right number of boxes for each of your children and each subject you want to teach. One that can be as simple as a list or one that can be a creative outlet. In this workshop I'll teach you some of the most efficient and easy-to-use planning systems and all you need is a notebook and a pen!

4. How to Teach Multiple Grades Together (without losing your mind)

Homeschooling one child is overwhelming, add more into the mix and you can start to feel like you are stuck on a never-ending bungee rope flinging from one child to the next. Pressure, anxiety, stress, frustration rise as you try to answer all the questions and keep everyone on track meanwhile stirring the food on the stove and keep the toddler occupied. Are you feeling overwhelmed with trying to do it all?

No mild metaphors or generalizations, we are going to be zoning in on very specific and effective techniques you can try to help you juggle the chaos and maintain the sanity that is currently hanging by a thread. Bring a notebook for this one... we're going to be getting real!

5. 5 Critical Ingredients to a Successful Homeschool day

Do you ever look at other homeschool moms and wonder how they seem to do it? What is their secret and why do you constantly feel like you are missing the mark? This homeschool day you envision seems elusive and out of your reach.

Let me help you achieve your perfect homeschool day! In this workshop we're going to tackle the top 5 critical ingredients you need to be doing to start getting into a routine and consistently sticking with it. We'll talk about things that commonly derail us, day-killing triggers and how to avoid the distractions so that we can be more effective and stop spinning our wheels.

6. Homeschooling Challenges and How to Overcome them

Whiny kids, a messy house, all your kids needing you at once, feeling disorganized, disliking your curriculum, not having support, lacking motivation... these are just SOME of the many challenges that homeschool moms face. It's time to stop talking about them and DO something about it! You are going to walk out of this room with a printed list filled with strategic plans of action for some of the top struggles we face as homeschoolers.

This session is not for the faint of heart, I'm going to be sharing some of my own horror stories both as a homeschooled child and as a homeschool mom of 5. There will be laughing, there may be crying, but there will definitely be a game plan to equip you to stop being overcome by these challenges and start rising above them! You are not a victim to your homeschool day, let's take charge!

7. How to Homeschool, Work, and Manage your Home

Whether you currently work or are considering a working opportunity, you might be wondering if it is possible to manage your home, homeschool AND your job responsibilities. For the past 3 years I've been trying to figure out the ever-elusive balance between these three full-time jobs and I have some realistic tips and tricks to help you reset your expectations and prioritize what really matters.

I'm not going to lie and tell you there is some magic formula, each of these three jobs is hard enough on it's own! Blending them together WILL be stressful, it WILL be chaotic, it WILL be challenging, but that doesn't mean it's impossible! Let me show you some hacks to make you super efficient with your time and help you navigate the chaos into some semblance of order and routine. You CAN do this and I'm going to show you how!

8. The Pros and Cons of Homeschooling

Have you ever wondered if your children are going to be “messed up,” weird, or socially awkward? Maybe you are worried about what will happen when they try to go to college. There are many pros and cons to this whole homeschool journey and while we all want to validate our decision with glowing accolades, sometimes we need to just take a step back and see the reality of the life we have chosen. Home Education comes with challenges, but so does school!

In this session I am going to share what it was like being a homeschooled child for ten years of my life, and the perspective that it gave me towards not just education, but the world in general. If you have a skeptic in your life or if you are skeptical or concerned about the path of homeschooling... you don't want to miss this one!