



2015-2016

# Homeschoolers Guide

Educational Programs, Products & Resources

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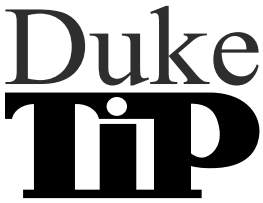
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## How Duke TIP Can Supplement Your Homeschooling Efforts

The Duke University Talent Identification Program, a nonprofit organization dedicated to serving academically talented youth, will work with you to help identify, recognize, and engage your gifted learner.

We offer opportunities for gifted elementary to high school students through TIP's nationally recognized programs:

- Talent searches to identify, recognize, and support gifted youth
- Dynamic educational experiences on the Duke University campus, throughout the United States, and abroad
- Independent and distance learning opportunities
- Educational resources for parents

Learn more at [www.tip.duke.edu](http://www.tip.duke.edu)

# How Duke TIP Can Supplement Your Homeschooling Efforts



If you are homeschooling a child with exceptional academic potential, Duke TIP can provide you with access to above-level testing, educational resources, special academic programs developed for gifted students, and research-based advice.

For 35 years, the Duke University Talent Identification Program has been supporting academically talented students and advising their parents and teachers on how to meet their unique academic, social, and emotional needs. Here's how you can make the most out of Duke TIP as a homeschooler:

Enroll your student in a Duke TIP academic talent search. Duke TIP offers a talent search for 4th-6th graders, and another for 7th graders. Enrolling in a TIP talent search allows your student to take an above-grade level test, giving you a better idea of how academically gifted your student is. Younger talent search participants in grades 4-6 can take the EXPLORE test designed for 8<sup>th</sup> graders, while 7th grade talent search participants take the ACT or SAT. The highest scorers are honored at recognition ceremonies, while all talent search participants receive special publications, access to

on-line academic resources, and other benefits. Visit [www.tip.duke.edu](http://www.tip.duke.edu) for more on TIP's talent searches, then call (919) 668-9100 for information on qualification procedures for homeschooled students.

Supplement your teaching efforts with TIP's Independent Learning courses, available in formats ranging from workbooks to CDs and computer-based courses. Some are designed to be taken with the help of a mentor (which could be you). All allow students to pursue enrichment learning at their own pace. TIP also offers a special student version



of Rosetta Stone© in 25 languages. Talent search participants get a discount on all courses. Visit [www.tip.duke.edu/independent](http://www.tip.duke.edu/independent) for more information.

Enroll your student in a TIP educational program. TIP's summer studies programs are known globally for the high quality of instruction and the strong peer friendships they inspire. These programs are offered on college campuses across the Southeast as well as on-line. Students must be a member of a TIP talent search and achieve specific qualifying scores to attend TIP's summer programs for 7th to 10th graders. Students in 9th grade and above can attend a portfolio-based field studies program, and there is also a program called CRISIS for 5th and 6th grade talent search participants. Financial aid is available to defray the cost of attending. Learn more at [www.tip.duke.edu/summer](http://www.tip.duke.edu/summer). TIP also offers high level academic-year programs called Academic Adventures (for 5th and 6th graders) and Scholar Weekends (grades 8-11) at various locations around the Southeast.

Take advantage of TIP's research-based for parents and teachers via TIP's well-respected Digest of Gifted Research, Educational Opportunity Guide, and opportunities to consult with TIP staff. Duke TIP has been active in gifted education since 1980. Its research studies into the various academic, social, and emotional needs of gifted students are known and used worldwide. This information can be invaluable when you are seeking to motivate and nurture a student with exceptional academic potential.

Duke TIP has enrollment options for homeschoolers and welcomes the opportunity to work with both families and homeschooling networks. Visit [www.tip.duke.edu](http://www.tip.duke.edu) or call (919) 668-9100 to learn more.



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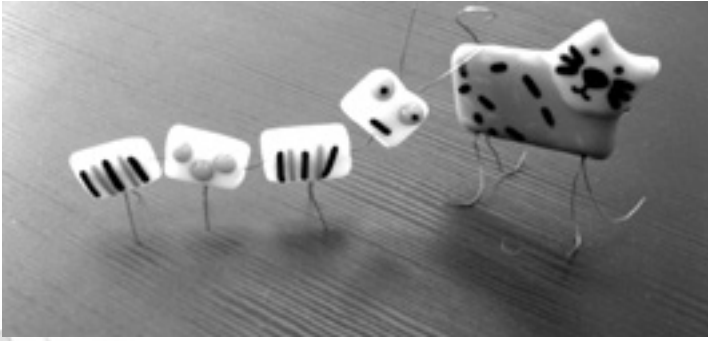
## FOR HOMESCHOOLERS



The Prancing Pig Paint Your Own Pottery located in York, Pennsylvania, will be offering two great creative learning experiences for homeschoolers and their families. At our studio projects can be made with painted pottery, mosaics, fused glass and hand built clay.

Feel like a family night or an afternoon out? Just come in and we'll help you make something wonderful. Interested in classes? Starting Thursday, September 24th the Prancing Pig will be offering one hour classes for homeschoolers.

Educational classes will be held between 1PM and 2PM every Thursday (except Thanksgiving, of course!) through December 17th and will resume again in January. Classes cost \$18 per child and include instruction, all materials and firing. A sibling discount is available.



Each class will include a brief didactic about the medium being used i.e. clay, glass, etc. Classes are for ages five and up, except glass classes, which are for ages seven and up.

Examples of projects offered are: fused glass sun catchers, glass bugs, glass ornaments for Christmas, clay pinch pot

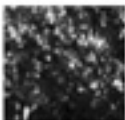


creatures,  
clay wall  
pockets and

special pottery painting techniques using lace, bubbles or silk screens. Most projects will be ready for pickup in one week.

Whatever your choice; either walk-in or a scheduled class, we are sure you will love your finished piece. Call us at 244-8000 and plan your special educational outing with us.





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This program for high school students is a wonderful affordable opportunity that has helped me excel in my education and given me a sneak peek of what college life is really like. LAUNCH! has allowed me to knock out two birds with one stone, as I take college credits that also count towards my high school career. - Ashley Strong

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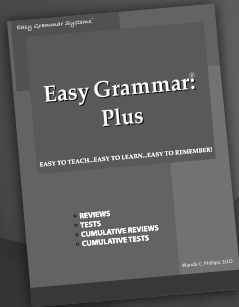
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Easy Grammar Systems



## EASY GRAMMAR

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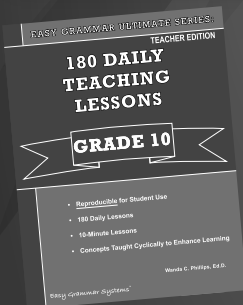
- Prepositional Approach
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- Mastery Enhanced by Building-Block Learning



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# Easy Grammar Systems

When I'm asked why my texts are popular, my answer is that they help children learn easily. Let's briefly discuss Easy Grammar series, Daily GRAMS series, Easy Grammar Ultimate Series, and Easy Grammar's Guide for Parents: Improve Your Grammar in Minutes.

My texts for students are known for a prepositional approach, an "expanded building-block" method, and cyclical learning. These help children understand their language easily and promote mastery learning.

Easy Grammar teaching texts (Grades 2-6 and Plus) introduce common prepositions. Then, students learn to delete prepositional phrases and easily determine subject, verb, agreement, etc. Concepts are introduced at a basic level and build for understanding. Easy Grammar Plus and Grades 3-6 include unit reviews/tests and cumulative reviews/tests, all enhancing mastery learning. (Students usually complete two or three lessons per day; however, our goal is mastery, not speed.)

I designed Daily GRAMS texts (Grades 3-7) as daily, 5-10 minute reviews (180 lessons). The format is capitalization (#1), punctuation (#2), grammar and other concepts (#3/4), and sentence combining (#5) for improved quality of writing. Concepts are reviewed cyclically (rotational) to increase mastery learning. I recommend starting each class period with a lesson and, then, moving to Easy Grammar.

Easy Grammar Ultimate Series (Grades 8-12) are teaching texts that have the same format as Daily GRAMS. The 180 lessons provide students with continued learning and application in only 10 minutes a day, allowing ample time for literature and writing. Lessons are set up for cyclical learning. EGUS texts are ideal!

Children imitate their parents' language. If you, unknowingly, are using incorrect grammar, it sounds correct to you and to them. In Easy Grammar's Guide for Parents, you do 2 quick exercises that help you determine any mistakes. Then, you complete only lessons that help you to improve your usage. You and your children benefit!

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# Orion Online Learning

Orion Online Learning has three 100% online schools: Orion High School, Orion Middle School, and Orion Elementary School. The high school was created by Dr. Joseph Gallegos, who is in his 23rd year in education, having served the public school system as a teacher, principal, and superintendent of schools.

Orion High School was created as a viable option for parents who wanted something different and high quality for their children. Orion High School and Middle School were fully accredited in 2010 and the opening of Orion Elementary occurred in 2012.

Orion serves families from all over the United States and all over the world, including missionary families who are working in countries abroad; families who choose private schooling for their children; and families who choose to home school their children, but use Orion's curriculum to do so. Since its creation, Orion High School has expanded to offer the wide range of Advanced Placement Courses; offers over 20 languages through Rosetta Stone; offers online drivers ed; and has partnered with schools across the country to assist with offering our wide range of services. Orion's policy is to offer the highest quality education at the lowest cost possible to the parent. Orion's tuition is among the lowest of all legitimately accredited private schools in the world. Orion's tuition averages at \$200.00 per month for missionary and home schooling families, as well as for military families.

While Orion is a partner for home schooling parents, Orion operates as a fully operational online school. Orion's headquarters office is located in Midland, Texas, and houses operational staff for admissions and record keeping (transcripts). Orion has recently added Hawaii, Alaska, Oklahoma, and Arizona Virtual Schools to our umbrella – all under 'one roof', Orion High School. Visit us at [www.OrionHS.org](http://www.OrionHS.org).



The Pennsylvania Cyber Charter School

[www.pacyber.org](http://www.pacyber.org)

## Homeschool or cyber?

Many Pennsylvania families have found PA Cyber Charter School to be the best of both worlds, with the child safe at home, peace of mind from a structured educational program taught by state-certified teachers, and parents involved at their need and comfort level.

Katie Korbich of New Tripoli, PA, had homeschooled their daughter Evelyn since kindergarten.

"As she got closer to high school and the SAT, I wanted a little more structure. You do tend to start worrying," said Katie. Friends recommended PA Cyber.

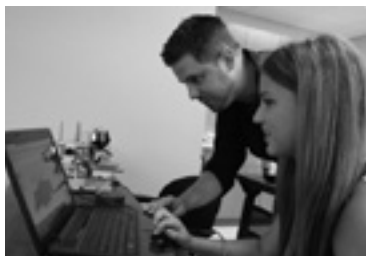
Evelyn prospered, so younger sisters Chelsea and, eventually, Sarah, were enrolled. Sarah didn't want to be homeschooled by mom. "She did traditional classroom school three years, but in fourth grade she wanted to give cyber school a try. Now, she loves it," Katie said.

Jill Buffalini of Pittsburgh said, "Our family consisted of three biological children - Tony, Anna, and Julia - whom I began homeschooling when it was time to start school. Then we were blessed through adoption with two more children, Christina and Maria.

"I was concerned about how I was going to continue on with adding two more children to the schooling routine. Then PA Cyber came into our life. What a blessing to have all the materials with the added support and resources of the cyber school."



*One thing homeschoolers miss out on is high school commencement. PA Cyber stages graduation ceremonies in Pittsburgh, Harrisburg and Philadelphia for the 1,500 seniors who graduate each year.*



*Student Casey Phelan and GATE R&D coordinator Joel Cilli at PA Cyber 3D printer camp last summer.*



*The Snedekers from Erie*



*The Turner family from Pittsburgh*

Karyn Benner of Elverson, PA, said PA Cyber “takes a lot of pressure off the mom. I am here if they need me, but I don’t have to sit down and teach them. When you are homeschooling, you are the teacher AND the mom. I feel like I can fill the mom role for them.”

Gary and Karyn Benner started their three young children in cyber school, then put them in private school for three years. Micah, Sarah and Rebekah “told us they wanted to come back home and do cyber school again,” said Karyn. They chose PA Cyber this time because of its excellent curriculum and reputation.

Benjamin Tinney, now a graduate of Drexel University and a software engineer in Philadelphia, was homeschooled before his parents turned to PA Cyber for a voice more authoritative than mom’s.

“Our son came to a point in his educational career where he needed an outside source to tell him what assignments to do,” his mother Dawn recalls.

“As a homeschool parent, I would give him an assignment, and I found that Benjamin was losing the motivation to complete his work. Your staff stepped up to the bat and did a great job of directing and encouraging our son.”

The Pennsylvania Cyber Charter School enjoyed a close working relationship with homeschool families when it opened 14 years ago, and still does today.

Now enrolling for 2015-16. Visit [www.pacyber.org](http://www.pacyber.org) or call 1.888.PACYBER.



*Tymir Black, 2014 graduate*

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PA Leadership Charter School opened its doors in 2004. Since then we have served thousands of children and families seeking a different model of education.

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PA Leadership Charter School prepares its entire student body for tomorrow's world. With our online education model, flexible scheduling and a fully certified teacher your child can succeed.

In addition, PA Leadership Charter offers two partial on site programs. Our Center for Performing and Fine Arts program allows students to express themselves through dance, song, art, drama and so much more. Our University Scholars Program allows students who are exceptionally gifted to excel and meet like-minded students.

From Kindergarten to 12<sup>th</sup> grade, your child deserves to be exceptional, why would you choose an ordinary school?

Our online model of education allows for creativity, self expression and flexibility, in addition to stability, discipline and accountability.

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PA Leadership Charter invites you to attend an Open House or an information session. More details can be found at [www.palcs.org](http://www.palcs.org), or please call 610.701.3333 ext. 1212 for more information.





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