

2014-2015

FREE!

Homeschoolers Guide

EDUCATIONAL

Programs, Products & Resources



2014-2015

Homeschoolers Guide

Educational Programs, Products & Resources

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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.

This year's first grade class will graduate in the year 2026. The world will be a different place than when you graduated, tomorrow's leaders will have the skills to adapt to rapidly changing environments. They will not look at the world in the same way as everyone else. Your first graders will have self discipline to find innovative solutions and become creative in their thinking.

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 12th 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.

Your child will learn to lead, not follow.

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





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It's also flexible. That makes it easy to connect art to other subjects. Are you studying insects? Choose "The Hungarian Bugs" or "Hiding Butterflies." If you have a unit on ancient Egypt, try "Draw Like an Egyptian."

Learning is easy when you celebrate the small successes. That's why we use guided drawings—so that students succeed in drawing one line at a time. It's also why our lessons often include over 100 slides. These small successes build, until students gain a sense of mastery.

We create ArtAchieve lessons from inspiration found when we are traveling. We immerse ourselves in world cultures, and combine what we have learned with the art lesson. This makes it easy for you to connect the lessons with social studies, literature, science—and even math, sometimes!

Try our free lessons—enjoy art as you explore connections from around the world!

A graphic advertisement for ArtAchieve. It features a large oval containing the text: "Insure success with guided drawings", "Encourage creative expression", and "Link art to other subjects". Below the oval, it says "YOU CAN LEARN TO DRAW". At the bottom left is the ArtAchieve logo. On the right is a photo of a smiling girl holding up a drawing of a butterfly. Below the photo is the website address "www.artachieve.com".

Insure success with guided drawings

Encourage creative expression

Link art to other subjects

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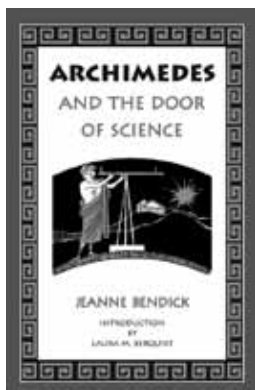
FOR THOSE of you who don't know us—
Bethlehem Books is a small, home grown
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character-building literature. We are more than
just a business. Our work springs from the heart
of the Bethlehem Community of Benedictine
Oblates, a lay group of families and single people
which began in 1971.



Years of educating our children at home had
acquainted us with libraries and second-hand stores and had shown us a wealth of
good children's literature published during the last fifty years. To our pleased surprise
this appreciation has developed into an actual "rescue mission" of reprinting a few of
these good books which rest on solid moral values of a Christian Culture.

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understand the past. Over the years, we have watched many good books disappear
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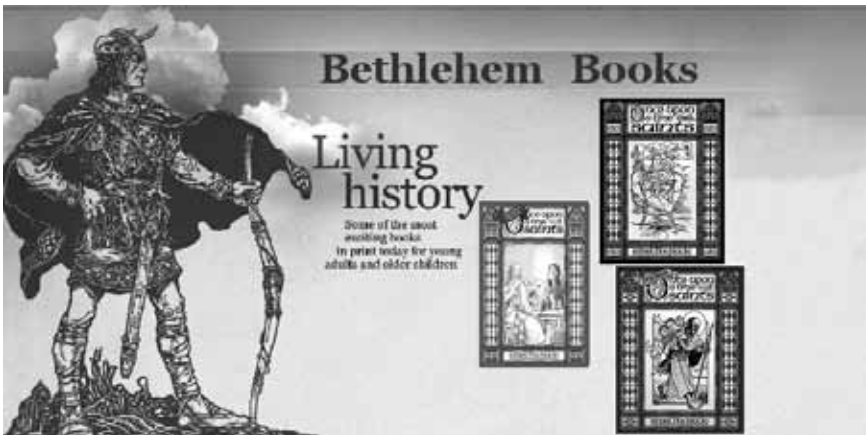
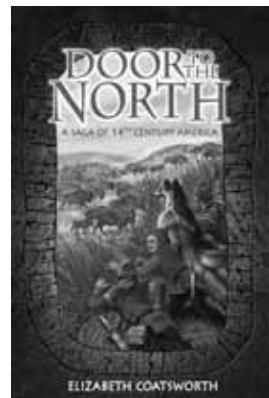
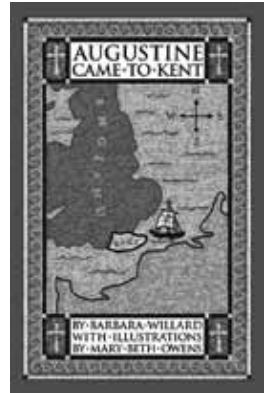
Now, more than twenty years later, amidst all the ups and downs of family and
community life, we are pleased to be yet providing good literature for children—of all
ages! These days, we frequently meet young adults who enthusiastically respond to a
display of Bethlehem Books by exclaiming, "I grew up on these books!" Some of these



folks are in the process of building a Bethlehem Books library for their own young families. Many things continue to change in the world around us, but the love of a good story—to read alone or aloud to others— thankfully endures.

Since our goal has always been to get out as much good family reading as we could afford, several years ago we began exploring the world of digital books. We worked first to bring out eVersions, electronic editions of titles we already had in print (still an ongoing process). Next, we developed a list of eStacks titles, e-books available as digital-only versions, which can be purchased, for the most part, exclusively on our website. A number of brand new eStacks stories are in the works, to be added to the collection of more than thirty currently offered. Though we ourselves like best to hold and turn the pages of a print book, we have been pleased to offer our readers—especially our international ones— more hours of reading enjoyment through the electronic format.

A few of our eStacks titles are about to change status from being digital only to becoming available as print books. Good Old Archibald by Ethelyn Parkinson and Fear in the Forest by Cateau de Leeuw will shortly be off to the printers. Judith Lankester by Marjorie Hill Allee and On the Edge of the Fjord by Alta Halverson Seymour will be next. The Cottage at Bantry Bay by Hilda van Stockum is also about to rejoin its companions (Francie on the Run and Pegeen) as a print book. These titles will all, of course, continue to be found in the electronic format, though now as Bethlehem Books eVersions.





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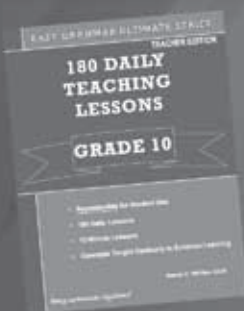
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When I'm asked why my texts are popular, my answer is that they help children learn easily. Let's briefly discuss *Easy Grammar* series, *Daily GRAMS* series, *Easy Grammar Ultimate Series*, and *Easy Grammar's Guide for Parents: Improve Your Grammar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



The Pennsylvania Cyber Charter School

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 2014-15. Visit www.pacyber.org or call 1.888.PACYBER.



Tymir Black, 2014 graduate

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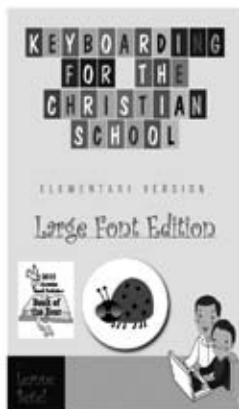
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Jots from Joan says, she "likes the brevity of the lessons each day and the clarity of the instructions."



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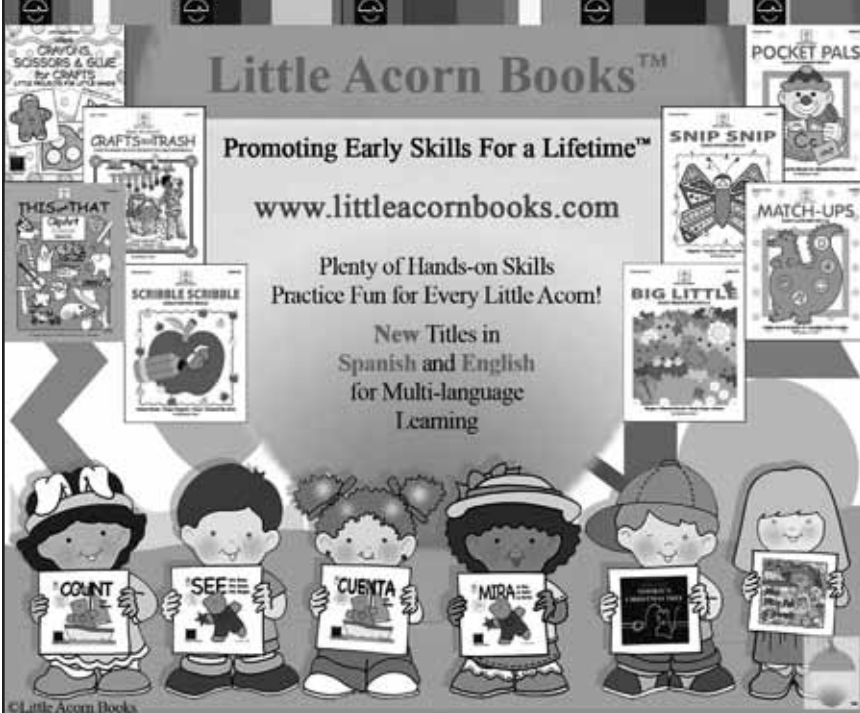
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