



Homeschool Co-ops

Homeschool co-ops are groups of families that join together to meet shared educational, developmental, and/or spiritual goals through regular gatherings and shared teaching responsibilities. Here are 3 common models for homeschool co-ops.

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CURRICULUM-BASED CO-OPS

Curriculum-based co-ops choose a curriculum or supplemental curriculum that all the families in the co-op purchase. Lessons are then divided up with one or more families taking responsibility for teaching a lesson each week.

For example, The co-op selects Harbor & Sprout as their curriculum. Each month they select a unit study. Every week, two parents are in charge of the lesson. They complete the science and history activities for the week with the kids.



SKILL SHARING CO-OPS



In this model, parents identify skills they have and would like to share. They offer a class on that topic for 1-2 hours a week during co-op hours. Families choose which classes their kids are going to take each session. The kids take multiple classes lead by parent-volunteers during the co-op session.

For example, Joe's dad offers a semester-long carpentry class. Alex's mom offers a French class. 6 parents in total offer classes on various topics. All classes are offered from 9 - 1:00 during the co-op's weekly gathering on Fridays. Kids take 3 classes with a 1-hour break for play and lunch.

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OPEN TOPIC CO-OPS



In this model, each family takes responsibility for the projects and topics covered during their week. Every family has the freedom to decide what they want to teach during their assigned week and how they want to teach it.

For example, Week 1 at Billy's house kids learn about gardening. Week 2 at Sally's house, kids learn how to play a song on the ukulele.



MORE CO-OP IDEAS



Co-ops can take an infinite number of forms.

Other ideas include:

- Subject-Based Co-ops (e.g. math, writing)
- Project-Based Learning Co-ops
- Field Trip Co-ops
- Hiring a Teacher Co-ops
- Community Service Co-ops





Homeschool Co-ops

Homeschool co-ops are a great way to:

- Share Skills
- Meet Other Homeschoolers
- Share the Work of Teaching
- Practice Collaborative Learning
- Do Larger Projects

And Much More!

Look for our upcoming series on
how to start a co-op.



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