



Empowering Your Children To Learn

Get started with Unschooling

COVID-19 and social distancing measures have upended the lives of parents, kids, and educators. These are anxious times, in part because we have always thought of education in a certain way. With our children now learning from home, this is also an opportunity to embrace, encourage and empower kids to take control of their own learning.

Instead of adhering to a strict, arbitrary set of lessons, self-directed education, also called unschooling, allows young people to be in charge of how and what they learn by encouraging *ownership* and *natural creativity*.

Unschooling is:

- Empowering for kids and parents
- A natural process
- Collaborative
- Based on trust

UNSCHOOLED



@_Unschoolied

Getting started:

- 1** Ask your children: **“What are you interested in learning about or doing today?”** Giving them autonomy over what they explore on any given day will lead to much richer learning experiences. And don't try to lead them in any direction — let them embrace what they're interested in, even if it seems odd to you.
- 2 Breathe and embrace the boredom.** Unstructured time allows children to get out of their usual routines, giving them space to discover what they're really passionate about.
- 3 You don't need to invest in new supplies or activities.** There's always something in the house that kids can “work” on. Whether it's a broken clock or an empty shoebox, you'll be surprised what happens when you let children lead with their own curiosity and creativity.

Unschooling in action: What do YOU want to learn today?

Learn Spanish and make paella Paint a picture of your best friend

Write a play about aliens Build a cardboard Incan pyramid Learn to code a website

Write a biology paper on whales Research the psychology of cults

Learn the science of baking Write a report on local water pollution

Make a diorama of the Civil War Go outside and climb a tree

Take apart the remote and put it back together Make a mug from clay

Benefits of unschooling:

- Promotes self-confidence, independence and tenacity
- Encourages collaboration and experimentation
- Fosters mutual respect between young people and adults
- Allows young people to pursue a much wider range of interests than traditional schooling

Learn more about unschooling and the *Unschooler* documentary [here](#).

UNSCHOOLED



@_Unschooler



What are your kids interested in learning about or doing today?

