

Seven Ways Dads Affect Homeschooling

When it comes to homeschooling, do you ever wonder what a father's role is supposed to be?

As a homeschooling father, my initial response toward the responsibility of my children's education was simply to work hard at my job and be a good provider.

However, as the years went by and our family developed a routine, I began to contribute more to each day's activities at home. Although I made plenty of mistakes along the way, I learned the tremendous importance of my active involvement as a homeschool dad.

The following pages give seven wonderful ways fathers can affect their children's educational success.

Steve Tatman

Husband to Janet Tatman, author of the Daily Focus Homeschool Devotional





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1. The Wonder of Mom

The best way you can affect your family's homeschooling is by loving and supporting the teacher.

That means you'll need to help with cleaning, washing, cooking, and other household chores, too. You may be thinking, "That's my wife's job," but homeschooling is time-consuming work both emotionally and physically.

The best thing you can do if you're working full time is to relieve her of some duties each and every day. In making the simple commitment to serve your wife, your children's education will be improved for the betterment of all.



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2. *The Wonder of Motivation*

As a homeschool dad, your motivation in life will be reflected with frightening clarity in your children's lives. The reasons you do what you do will be picked up and mirrored by them with amazing accuracy.

Learning to take responsibility for your own actions (past and present) will instill accountability and reliability in your children's lives as well. Learn to love and live truthfully, openly expressing your desire to obey God and His Word.

Demonstrating other worldly motivations, such as getting rich or famous, will mar your children's future and your family. That's the way it is without exceptions.



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3. *The Wonder of Preparation*

Eighty percent of what your children learn while homeschooling is informal education. The other twenty percent provides the foundation for their formal academic education and the future possibilities of their lives' vocations.

By using a structured curriculum your children will not only acquire knowledge to get a job, but they will also learn character-building skills to organize and segment their lives. As adults, they will structure their responsibilities in the same way they handled the pressure of completing their lessons, quizzes, and projects.

Homeschooling with a mastery-based curriculum will build your children's confidence, instill a life-long love of learning, and prepare them for academic success.

Find more information about
Monarch, Switched-On Schoolhouse, LIFEPAK, or Horizons



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4. *The Wonder of Consistency*

There's an old saying that goes, "Inch by inch is a cinch, but mile by mile is a trial."

Connecting the dots of a daily routine into weekly, quarterly, and yearly academic plans starts with doing what you're supposed to do today.

Although it's nice to let creative juices flow from time to time, you'll find things work better if you consistently stay focused on your goals as a homeschooling family. As a homeschool dad, it's best to avoid the temptation to ignore your responsibilities at home. Plopping down in your easy chair to rest and relax after a hard day at work isn't going to cut it. Instead, ask God for strength and strive to go beyond what's expected of you.

Even if illness or an injury keeps you from doing your part, you can at least offer acceptance and praise for what your children and wife have accomplished that day.

A close-up photograph of a man's neck and chest. He is wearing a dark suit jacket, a white shirt, and a dark tie with small white dots. He is holding a large, white cutout of the word "SUPERHERO" in a bold, serif font. The cutout is positioned in front of his chest, and his hands are visible at the bottom corners of the cutout.

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5. The Wonder of Realizing Limits

Every dad wants to be a superhero who is respected by his family. However, being humble enough to realize your limits is best in furthering your children's educational excellence. After all, none of us is perfect in every sport and academic pursuit.

From time to time, you'll need to branch out and look for people with specialized educational skills that meet your children's needs. By doing this, you'll teach your children the important lesson that we all need help from time to time.

As a side note, it's also important to know who is best at helping when life presents roadblocks to achieving goals.

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6. *The Wonder of Acceptance*

Can you remember a time when there was someone in authority over you who showed you acceptance?

Perhaps that person was someone who knew little about you personally, but he thought well of you and accepted you. Perhaps he was a teacher, a relative, or maybe a pastor. Now, imagine for a moment the exact opposite. Picture yourself subject to criticism and outright ridicule. Which environment would you prefer? Which would you find advantageous to learning and character building?

As a homeschool dad, don't expect your children to be a smaller version of you. Accept them for who God made them to be with their own unique interests, talents, and abilities.



A man in a plaid shirt is shown from the chest up, looking down at an open book he is holding. The image is in a warm, reddish-brown color palette. The background of the right side of the page is a dark wood grain.

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7. The Wonder of Being Heaven's Helper

Homeschool dads tend to rely on past experiences to fix things broken around them. Instead of praying and seeking wisdom from the Holy Spirit within, they often rely on the flesh and pattern their lives into machines that make things, manipulate events, and manage people by their own wills.

However, when it comes to homeschooling, you can't handle everything on your own, no matter how tough you think you might be. Unfortunately, many men make a mess of the important message clearly stated in Ephesians 6:4: "And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord."

As the spiritual leader of the home, the greatest effect you can have on your family's homeschooling occurs when you pray, have devotions, and listen to the Holy Spirit, so your children will desire their own personal relationships with Jesus Christ and learn how to have a heart for God.

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About Alpha Omega Publications

Headquartered in Rock Rapids, Iowa, with offices in Chandler, Arizona, AOP has revolutionized Christian education with over 30 years of experience in offering affordable curriculum, educational books and games, support services, and family entertainment to homeschool customers worldwide.

For over 30 years, Alpha Omega Publications has listened to the needs of homeschooling parents. Designing quality homeschool curriculum that works, AOP has been recognized by the homeschooling industry with many prestigious awards.

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