

Home School User Guide

Anna M. Reinstein Public Library Resources

How to use this guide: Listed below are subjects that need to be covered according to the home school guidelines for NYS. If you have any questions please refer to your local Home School organization.

At the Anna M. Reinstein Public Library we have many free resources for your children. We have organized them according to grade and subject. Each subject then has a definition, where to look on the shelves for books, a short list of few books (there are many more), some free databases that the library provides for citizens of Erie County (websites that have free things to help your kids learn) and some ideas for activities.

| 7 th and 8 th Grade | |
|---|---|
| Patriotism and Citizenship | |
| Library Area | Non-fiction – JC 329, JF 801, JK 1758-JK 1759 |
| Books | <p>Betsy Ross: The American Flag and Life in Young America by Ryan P. Randolph</p> <p>For Spacious Skies: Katharine Lee Bates and the Inspiration for "America the Beautiful" by Nancy Churmin</p> <p>U.S. Citizenship Test by Gladys E. Alesi</p> |
| Databases and Websites | Kids.gov : https://kids.usa.gov/teens/index.html |
| Activities | <p>Most towns have a night court OR scheduled Board of Education meetings - try to go for a visit.</p> <p>Pick an issue of interest and then write an elected official with your views. You usually get a letter back.</p> <p>Watch a State of the Union address and then talk about what it was about.</p> |
| Health and Substance Abuse | |
| Library Area | Non-fiction – HQ, HV, RA, RJ |
| Books | <p>Mayo Clinic Family Health Book edited by Scott C. Litin</p> <p>Alcohol and Tobacco by Hilary W. Poole</p> <p>A Parent's Guide to Teen Addiction: Professional Advice on Signs, Symptoms, What to Say, and How to Help by Laurence Michael Westreich</p> <p>The Anxiety Survival Guide for Teens: CBT Skills to Overcome Fear, Worry, & Panic by Jennifer Shannon</p> |
| Databases and Websites | Kids Health kidshealth.org |

| | |
|---|---|
| | (NIH - National Institute on Drug Abuse) https://teens.drugabuse.gov/educators |
| Activities | There are many science experiments that showcase the negative effects of smoking – here is one: https://www.csun.edu/science/activities/pressure/breathing/Smoking%20Bottle.pdf Make an anti-smoking skit or play. Encourage your child to ask their pediatrician honest questions about drugs, alcohol, and cigarettes. |
| Highway Safety and Traffic Regulations (Including Bike Safety) | |
| Library Area | Non-fiction: GV 1041, GV 1043, GV 1049 |
| Databases and Websites | NHTSA (Kids and Bicycle Safety): http://www.nhtsa.gov/people/injury/pedbimot/bike/kidsandbikesafetyweb CDC BAM! Body and Mind: http://www.cdc.gov/bam/activity/cards/bicycling.html |
| Activities | Create a poster/video to teach younger children about bicycle safety. |
| Fire and Arson Prevention and Safety | |
| Library Area | Non-fiction HS 3313.Z95 and TH 9148 |
| Books | The Fire Station by Gail Saunders-Smith |
| Databases and Websites | (Guide to Fire Safety – Grades 6 to 8) http://kidshealth.org/classroom/6to8/personal/safety/fire_safety.pdf |
| Activities | Create a poster/video to teach younger children about fire safety. Fire episode of Bill Nye the Science Guy. |
| English | |
| Library Area | Non-fiction: P's |
| Books | Why Write?: A Master Class on the Art of Writing and Why it Matters By Mark Edmundson Art Panels, BAM! Speech Bubbles, POW!: Writing your Own Graphic Novel by Trisha Shakan The Everything Creative Writing Book: All You Need to Know to Write a Novel, Short Story, Screenplay, Poem, or Article by Carol Whiteley |
| Databases and Websites | BBC Learning English – https://www.bbc.co.uk/learningenglish/english/basic-grammar |
| Activities | Participate in a teen poetry slam. Create a small writer's circle where you exchange works and comment on each other's writing. Volunteer to read aloud to seniors at a local nursing home. Create a book club. |

| History and Geography | |
|------------------------|---|
| Library Area | E's |
| Books | <p>The United States Constitution by Mari C. Schuh</p> <p>The Bill of Rights by Kirsten Chang, Kirsten</p> <p>A History of New York by Francois Weil</p> <p>Smithsonian American History: A Visual Encyclopedia by David C. King</p> <p>How Women Won the Vote: Alice Paul, Lucy Burns, and their Big Idea by Susan Campbell Bartoletti</p> |
| Databases and Websites | NYS History http://www.history.com/topics/us-states/new-york Congress for Kids https://kids-clerk.house.gov/middle-school/ |
| Activities | <p>Pretend you are a revolutionary that just won independence and create your own constitution.</p> <p>Visit Old Fort Niagara.</p> <p>Create a time line of American history complete with drawings and pictures.</p> |
| Science | |
| Library Area | Q's (Not the QA's) |
| Books | <p>Biology and Earth Science</p> <p>Homework Helpers. Biology by Matthew Distefano, Matthew</p> <p>Biology: The Easy Way by Gabrielle I. Edwards, Gabrielle</p> <p>Chemistry</p> <p>Chemistry: The Easy Way Mark C. Kernion</p> <p>Physics</p> <p>Junk Drawer Physics: 50 Awesome Experiments that Don't Cost a Thing by Bobby Mercer</p> <p>100 Most Important Science Ideas: Key Concepts in Genetics, Physics and Mathematics by Mark Henderson</p> |
| Databases and Websites | <p>Encyclopedia of Life: https://eol.org/</p> <p>ASU School of Life Sciences: http://askabiologist.asu.edu/</p> <p>Science in Context : must be accessed through the library website</p> |
| Activities | <p>Science experiments help illustrate facts and there are millions of experiments to conduct.</p> <p>Create a chart of the scientific method.</p> <p>Take a topic specific guided tour at the science museum.</p> |
| Mathematics | |

| | |
|---------------------------|--|
| Library Area | Non-fiction: QA's |
| Books | The Math Myth: and Other STEM Delusions by Andrew Hacker Everything Parent's Guide to Common Core Math. Grades 6-8: Understand the New Math Standards to Help Your Child Learn and Succeed by Jamie L. Sirois Math Doesn't Suck: How to Survive Middle School Math without Losing your Mind or Breaking a Nail by Danica McKellar |
| Databases and Websites | PBS Math Core: https://ny.pbslearningmedia.org/collection/mathcore/ The Mint: http://www.themint.org/ |
| Activities | Go to a store having a percent off sale, and calculate the new price. Open a student checking account at the local bank and talk about different kinds of interest. Create a blue print. Design a piece of furniture and figure out the dimensions. |
| Physical Education | |
| Library Area | GV's |
| Books | Fitness Running by Richard L. Brown Ultimate Book of Sports: The Essential Collection of Rules, Stats, and Trivia for Over 250 Sports by Scott I Got This: To Gold and Beyond by Laurie Hernandez Dancing With the Stars: Jive, Samba, and Tango Your Way into the Best Shape of your Life by Guy Phillips The Visual Dictionary of Baseball by James Buckley, Jr. Football Skills & Drills by Tom Bass |
| Databases and Websites | PE Central: http://www.pecentral.org/index.html |
| Activities | (Please see website listed above for suggested games/activities.) |
| Art | |
| Library Area | N's |
| Books | The Art of Comic Book Inking by Gary Martin Art in Detail: 100 Masterpieces by Susie Hodge The Art of Colored Pencil Drawing by Pat Averill |

| | |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| | <p>Manga Art: Inspiration and Techniques from an Expert Illustrator by Mark Crilley</p> <p>Creative Origami and Beyond: Inspiring Tips, Techniques, and Projects for Transforming Paper into Folded Works of Art by Jenny W. Chan</p> |
| Databases and Websites | <p>NYS History Museum and Office- http://www.nysm.nysed.gov/research-collections/state-history</p> <p>Library of Congress: American memory http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/index.html</p> <p>Chronology of US Historical Documents https://www.ushistory.org/documents/</p> |
| Activities | <p>Visit the Buffalo History Museum.</p> <p>Visit battle reenactments.</p> <p>Create your own collage timeline with pictures of historical documents, pictures, and symbols.</p> |
| Music | |
| Library Area | M's |
| Books | <p>Music: The Definitive Visual History by Robert Ziegler (Conductor)</p> <p>The Birth of Loud: Leo Fender, Les Paul, and the Guitar- Pioneering Rivalry that Shaped Rock 'n' Roll by Ian S. Port</p> <p>Songs of America: Patriotism, Protest, and the Music that Made a Nation by Jon Meacham</p> |
| Databases and Websites | <p>Music Teachers National Association- Websites for Kids: https://www.mtna.org/MTNA/Learn/Parent_and_Student_Resources/Websites_for_Kids/MTNA/Learn/Parent_and_Student_Resources/Websites_for_Kids.aspx?hkey=bd35c299-1551-4bea-91c4-a0cc35e96e95</p> <p>This comprehensive site lists Performer-Based websites, Symphony-Based websites, and Music. Game/Theory/History/Listening websites.</p> |
| Activities | <p>Learn to play an instrument.</p> <p>Sing in a local choir.</p> <p>Visit the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra.</p> |
| Practical Arts (regular Basis) | |
| Library Area | Varied, includes topics such as personal finance, babysitting, pet care, meal planning, resume writing, and computer skills. |
| Books | <p>A Smart Girl's Guide to Babysitting: The Care and Keeping of Kids by Harriet Brown</p> <p>Bicycle Repair Manual by Chris Sidwells</p> |

| | |
|------------------------|--|
| | Scholarship Strategies: Finding and Winning the Money You Need by Jean O'Toole |
| Databases and Websites | American Red Cross Babysitter Training: http://www.redcross.org/take-a-class/course-dowbt000000000010273 National Educational Association – Resources for Teaching Financial Literacy: http://www.nea.org/tools/lessons/resources-for-teaching-financial-literacy.html Microsoft Virtual Academy: https://mva.microsoft.com/ |
| Activities | Participate in computer-related activities at your local library! Ask your child to participate in general household maintenance, such as changing a lightbulb or mowing the lawn. Create a mock resume. |
| Library Skills | |
| Library Area | PN's and Z's |
| Books | A Guide to Local History Resources in Public Libraries of Erie County : with a list of other sources of local history information in Erie County by Joseph W. Palmer How the Internet Happened : from Netscape to the iPhone By Brian McCullough Library Clerk by National Learning Corporation |
| Databases and Websites | Research Helper! : http://www3.sympatico.ca/sandra.hughes/sandra.hughes/research/default.html Misinformation Misadventures Game https://juliaboyerreinsteinlib.itch.io/misinformation-misadventures Start Your Own Research http://www.library.ucla.edu/support/research-help/start-your-own-research-guide-or-tutorial Teach Information Literacy and Critical Thinking https://sites.google.com/site/teachinfoilit/ |
| Activities | Have your child look up a topic in the library catalog and compare it to a Google search. Practice using the library catalog (eg. search for your favorite book). Come into the library for a reference interview. For this you sit down with a librarian and the librarian helps you research a topic. |

Created by Elaine Mosher, Alyssa Murcin, and Chelsey Lonberger.