# Teaching from Home: Government Resources Can Take You from Stressed Out Parent to Best Teacher of the Year Status

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### Agenda

- Pre and Post COVID-19 Statistics on Homeschooling
- Ben's Guide to the U.S. Government
- Tips from a Homeschooling Parent
- More U.S. Government Resources for Homeschooling





#### NCES 2016-096.REVU.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

- The percentage of students ages 5–17 with a grade equivalent of kindergarten through grade 12 who are homeschooled—the homeschooling rate—has increased over time.
- The homeschooling rate increased from 1.7 percent in 1999 to 3.4 percent in 2012.
- In 2012, there were an estimated 1.8 million homeschooled students in the United States, which is an increase from 850,000 in 1999, when estimates were first reported





# Not many statistics on number of children not in school

Most of the 300 million schoolchildren currently quarantined in their homes will return to school once the epidemic fades.

Some parents may discover that learning outside of schooling benefited their children and strengthened their family.

https://www.forbes.com/sites/kerrymcdonald/2020/03/11/the-worlds-homeschooling-moment/#581d7fac550c



# Ben's Guide to the U.S. Government

https://bensguide.gpo.gov/



- Educational content reviewed by volunteers from the American Association of School Librarians (AASL) division of ALA.
- Volunteers also created 5 lesson plans based on site content.

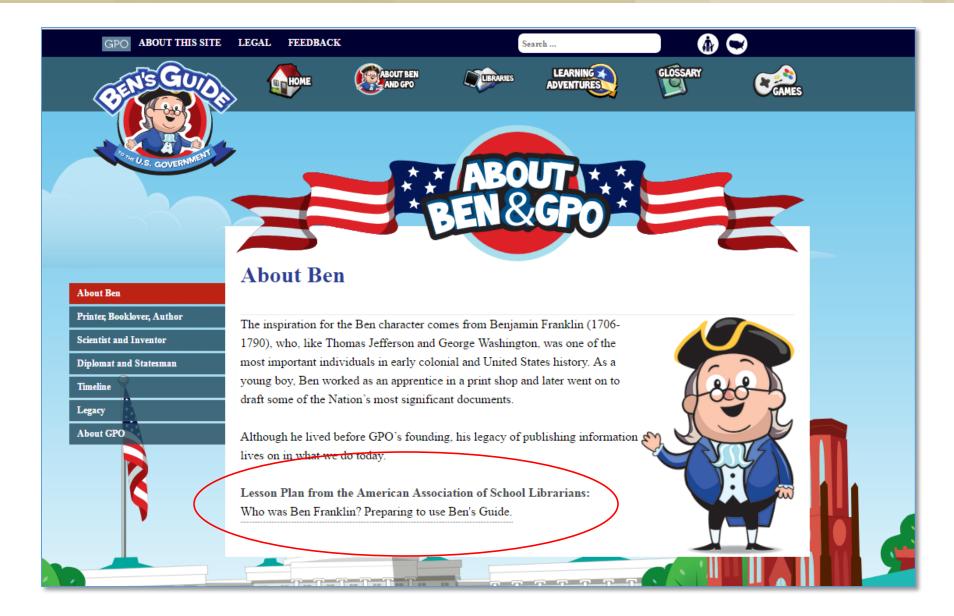




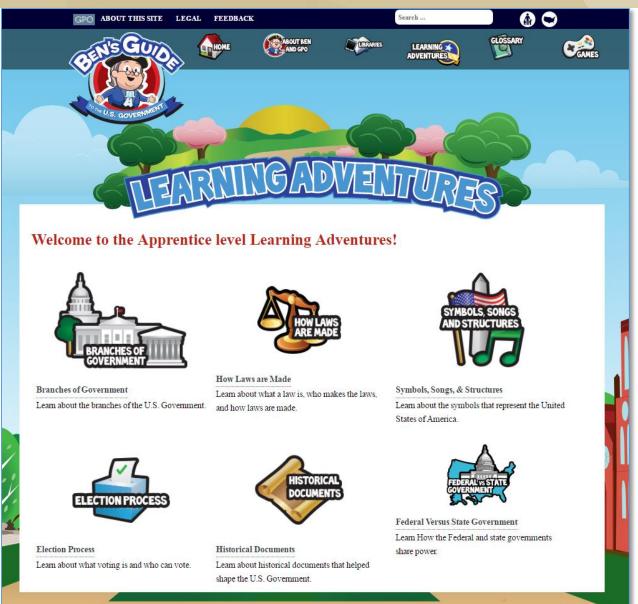
























White House: 1792 (construction

U.S. Capitol: 1793 (construction

Arlington National Cemetery:

Statue of Liberty: 1886

#### Statue of Liberty facts and figures:

- . The Statue of Liberty is 151 feet tall and stands on a pedestal that is 154 feet tall, making the height of the entire sculpture 305 feet.
- · The green color of the statue comes from copper sheets that are supported by an internal iron framework.
- The weight of the copper sheets is 62,000 pounds, or 31 tons, and the copper is about the thickness of two pennies.
- . The iron framework is 250,000 pounds, or 125 tons.
- . The torch in her right hand is no longer an actual flame. In 1986, the original flaming torch was replaced with a copper torch covered in 24 karat gold that reflects sunlight and is lit at night.

To learn more, see the National Park Service Statue of Liberty site.

To learn more statistics about the monument, see the Statue Statistics site from the National Park Service.

The Statue of Liberty is located in New York on Liberty Island. It is a statue of a woman holding a torch in her right hand and a tablet in her left hand with the date of the Declaration of Independence in Roman numerals: July 4, 1776. Her crown has seven points that represent rays of light and also the seven seas and continents; the original name for the statue is "Liberty

Enlightening the World." There are broken chains, or shackles, at her feet that also symbolize her freedom.

The statue was a gift to the United States from the people of France. Planning for the statue was started not long after slavery was abolished in the United States, but the statue was not completely assembled and dedicated until 1886. The U.S. Lighthouse Board maintained the statue from 1886 to 1902: maintenance then passed to the War Department from 1902 to 1933 Since 1933, the Statue of Liberty has been maintained by the National Park Service.

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#### **Historical Documents**

In these Learning Adventures, we will be learning about important Historical Documents that helped to shape the United States as a Nation. These documents include:

• The Declaration of Independence: 1776

• The Articles of Confederation: 1777 - 1789

• The Federalist Papers: 1787 - 1788

· The U.S. Constitution: 1789

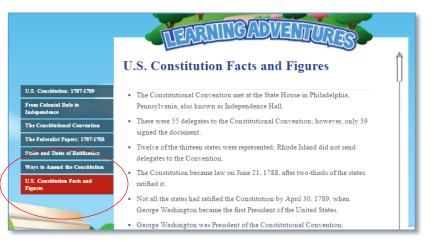
• The Bill of Rights: 1789 - 91

• The Emancipation Proclamation: 1863

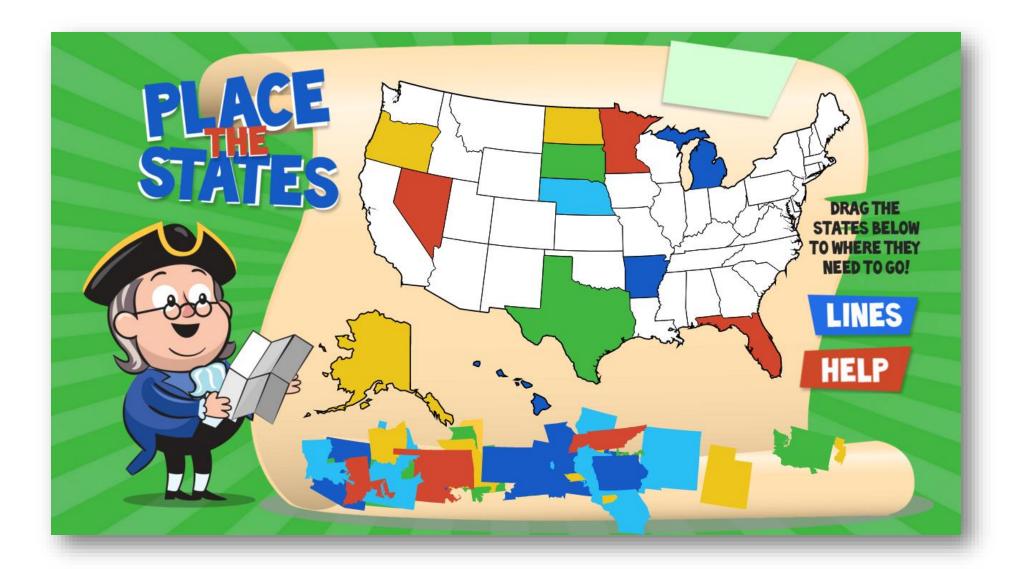
• The Gettysburg Address: 1863





















#### Federal Depository Library Program



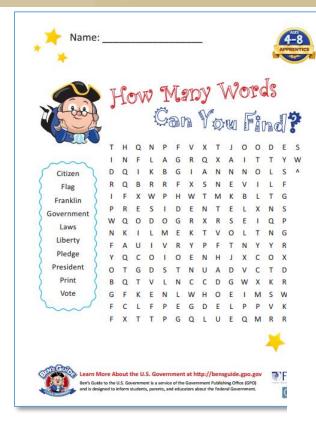




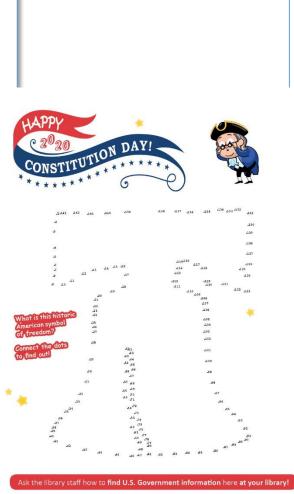


#### Federal Depository Library Program







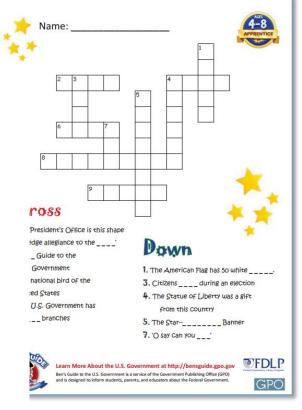


**FDLP** 

GPO

Learn More About the U.S. Government at:

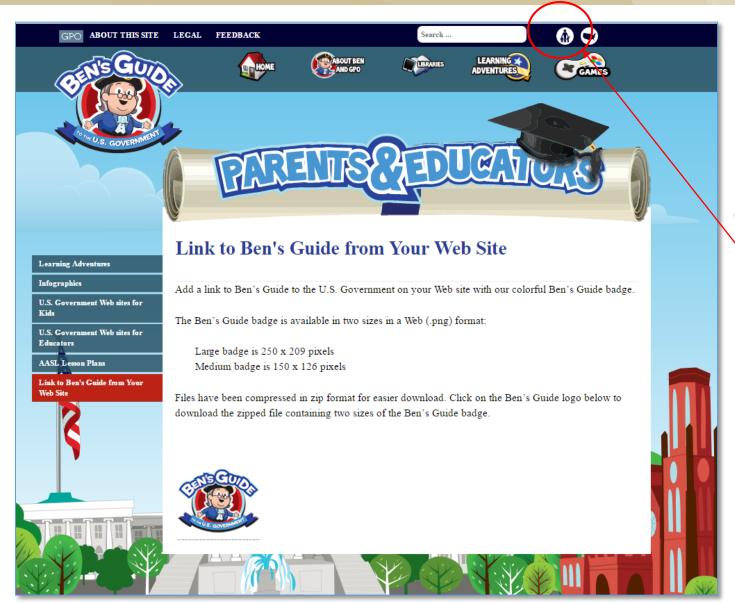
https://bensguide.gpo.gov













Under 'Parents & Educators'

Tab for 'Link to Ben's Guide from Your Web Site'



# Ben's Guide to the U.S. Government

https://bensguide.gpo.gov/







1. Set a schedule, and stick to a routine.



- 7:30-8am breakfast, the Pledge of Allegiance, "morning announcements"
- 8–10am School work with the kids
- 10am-12pm free time / creative play (coloring, play dough, board games); adult work time work time
- 12–12:30pm Lunch
- 12:30–1pm Recess (take your work outside or send the kids out for some fresh air) air)
- 1–3pm School work with the kids
- 3–5pm Movie or learning apps for the kids; adult work time
- 5–8pm Family time, dinner, get ready for bed
- 8–10pm Adult work time



- 2. Create a learning space.
  - Designate a special area just for learning.
    - Plan practically (not just Pinterest-worthy)
  - Make it comfortable.
    - Proper writing area/desk space
    - A mat to write on!
    - Blankets
    - Bean bag chairs
    - Lap desks
    - Ball seats (can be homemade)
    - Well-lit





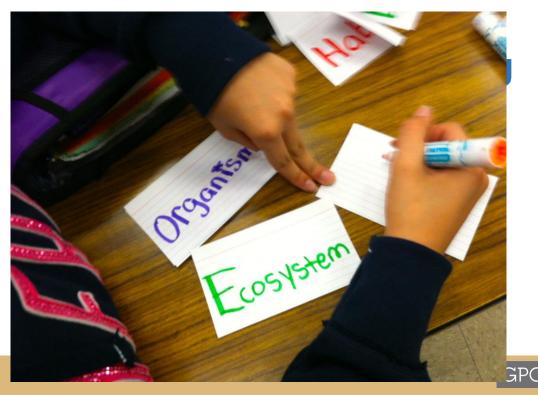
- 3. Get organized.
  - Pens/pencils
  - Erasers!
  - Wide-ruled paper/scratch paper
  - Scissors
  - Glue
  - Chargers
  - Some creative ideas:
    - Over the door shoe holders
    - Rolling drawer organizers
    - Repurposed food tins/jars
    - Shower caddies
    - Shoe boxes





4. Tailor your learning schedule to your child.

- Prioritize their greatest needs. That's the beauty of teaching at home.
- What time of day are they most able to focus?
- What's their learning style?
  - Zooming with other kids for study
  - Independent reading
  - Note taking/writing repetitively
  - Watching short videos
  - Flash cards



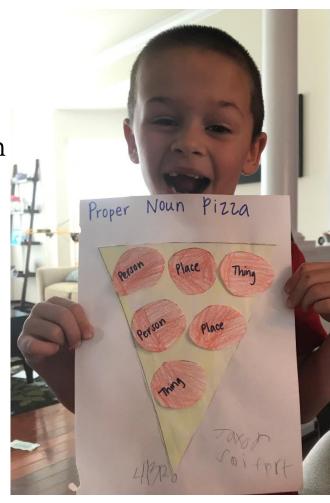


- 5. Think outside the box.
- Mystery jar of options
- Science:
  - Nature walks: plants, birds, insects
  - Virtual tours/events from libraries, museums, aquariums, and zoos (many on social media)
  - Conduct experiments and talk about why reactions happen.
  - Grow a garden.
  - Build a weather station.
- Civics & History:
  - Run a mock election.
  - Pick a historical figure, research them, draw yourself dressed as them, and write your own autobiography.
- Geography:
  - Spin a globe, close your eyes, point, research, and report.





- 5. Think outside the box.
- For the younger ones:
  - What can you count in the house? How many windows/doors? Math with goldfish.
  - Dice game for adding and subtracting.
  - Practice writing with chalk or shaving cream.
  - Let's see what melts.
  - War card game
- For the older ones:
  - Finish this story...
  - Invent something, and plan out the details.
  - Plan out a business you want to start: ideas, budget, logistics, marketing.





#### 5. Think outside the box.

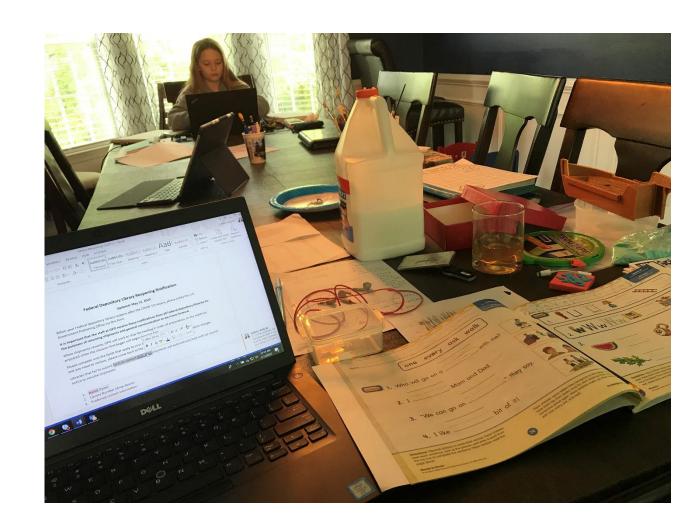
- Writing:
  - Conversation starters
    - If you had one super power...
    - If you could make a movie...
    - If you won \$1,000...
  - Reflections (journaling)
  - Research each type of poetry, and write a poem of each type.
  - Write your own autobiography.
  - Write a diary entry of you as an adult.
  - Interview a grandparent or family elder, and write their biography.
  - Create a comic strip.





6. Be forgiving of yourself and your child.

- Give yourself and your children some grace.
- Talk about your feelings.
- Adjust as needed.
- Lean on fellow homeschooling parents.



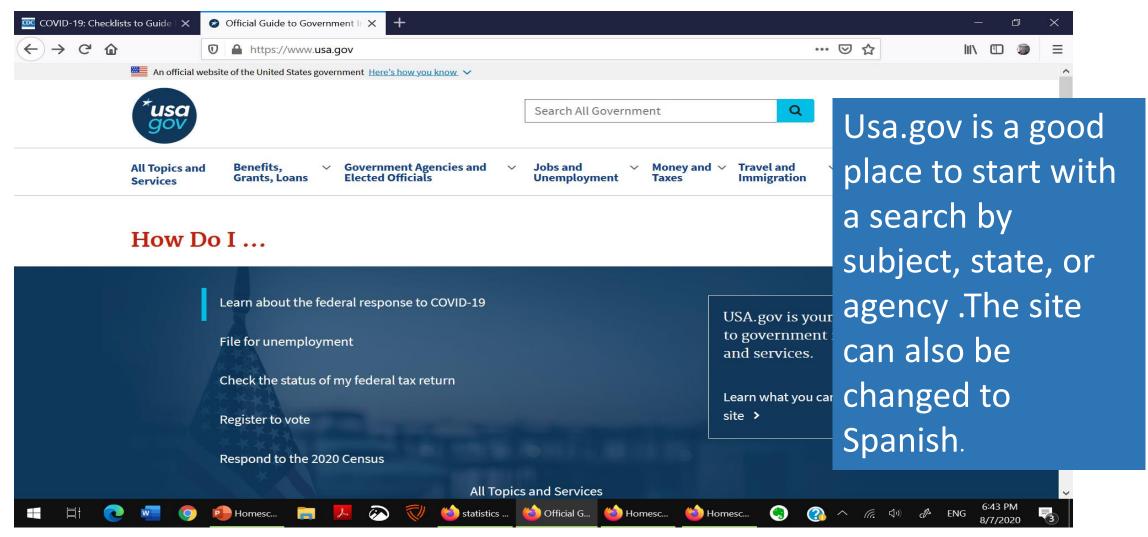
### Resources:

General Sources
Specific Agency Sources
State and Local Sources
Sources in Other Languages





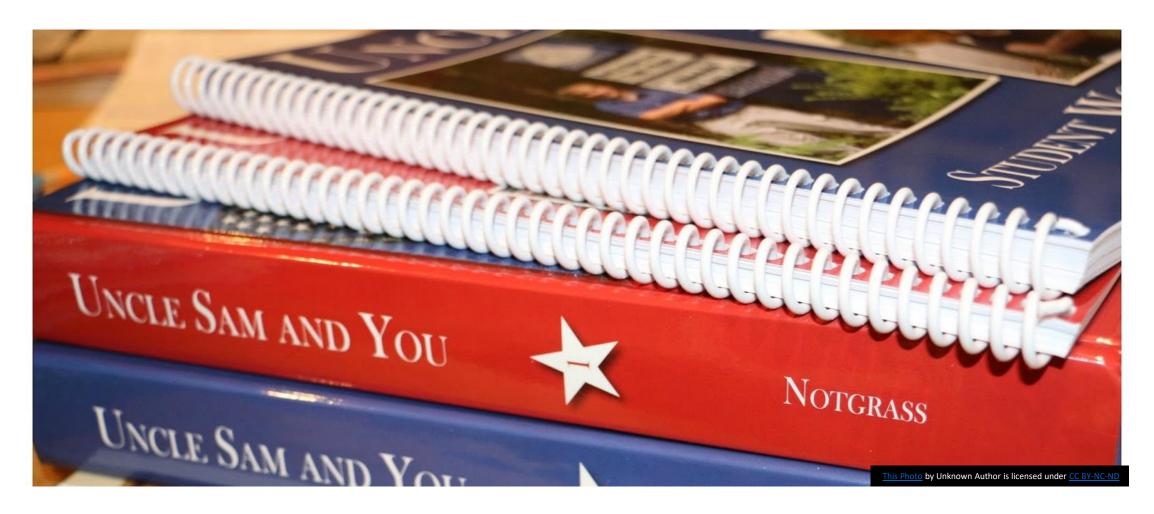
#### **General Sources to Search for Information**

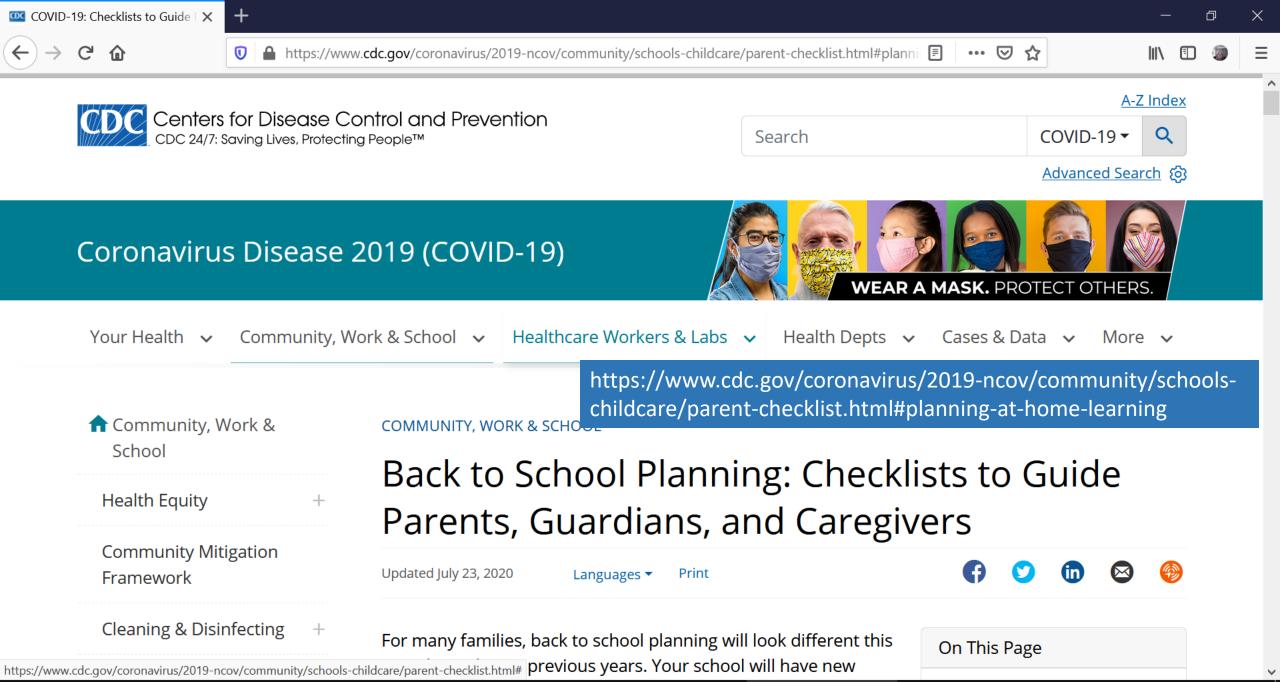






# Specific Agencies and Government Sites with Educational Resources



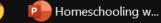










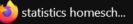


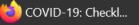














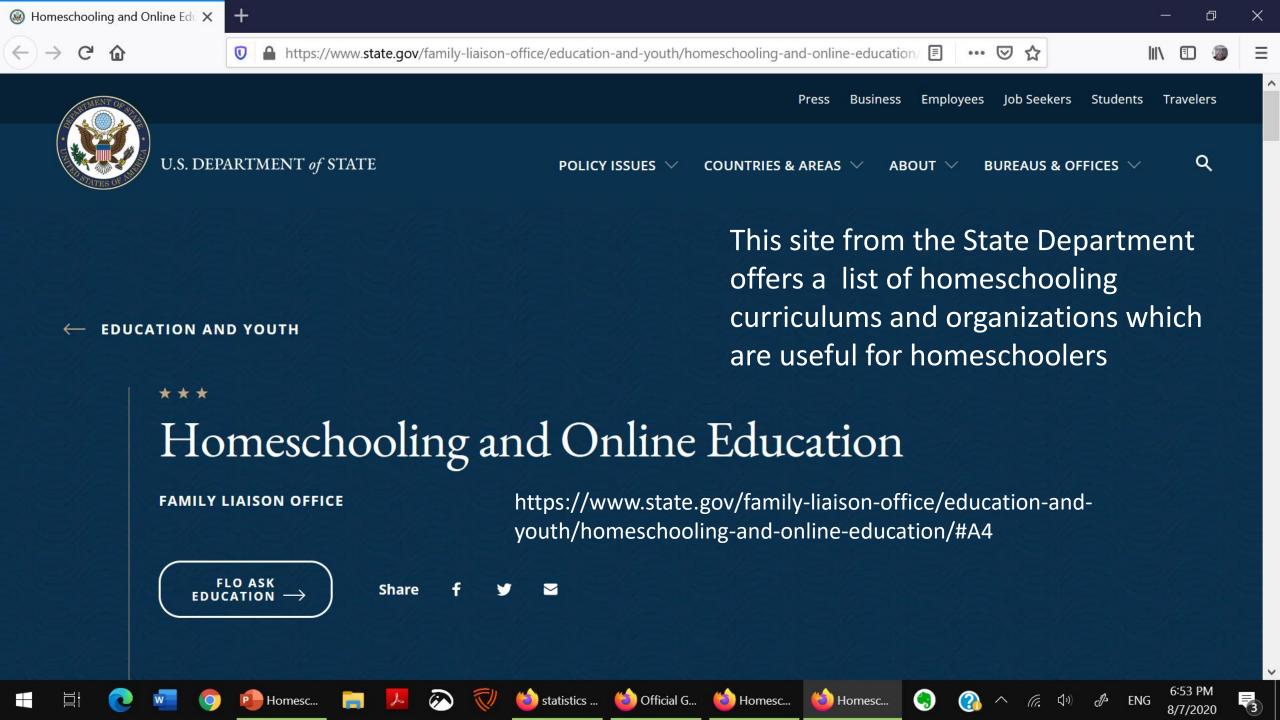


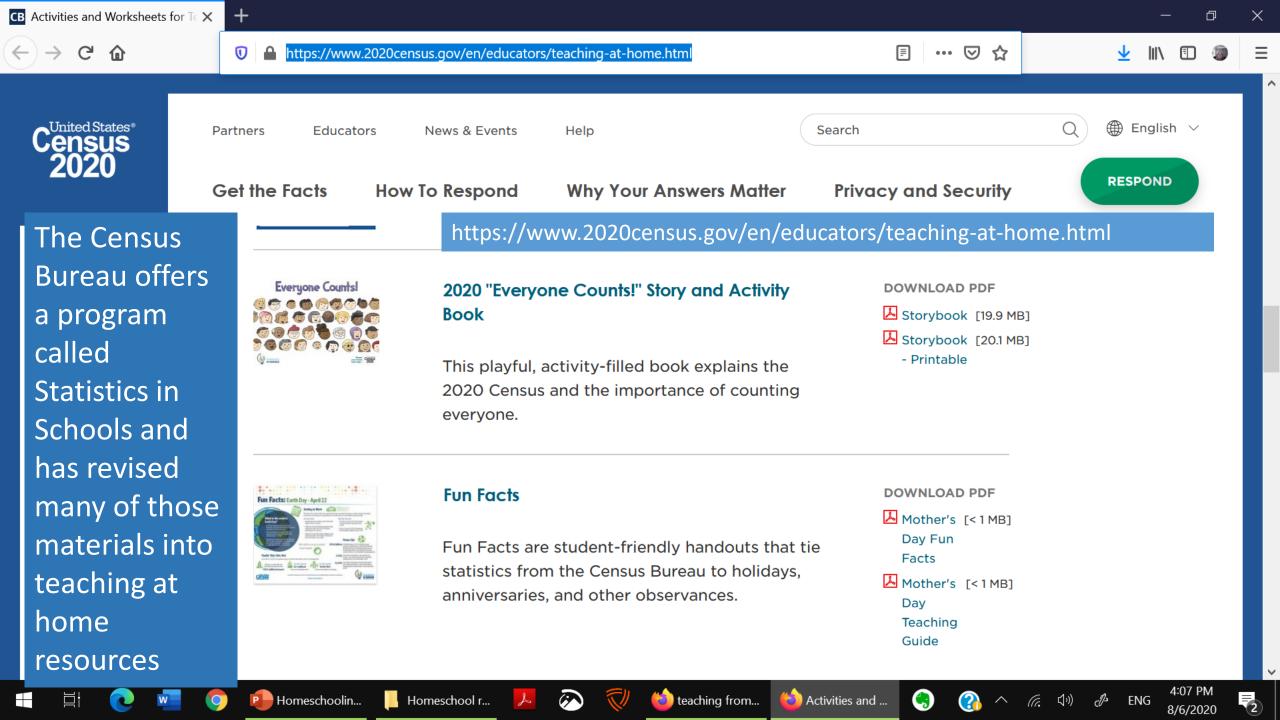








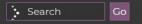






### IES: REL Regional Educational Laboratory Program





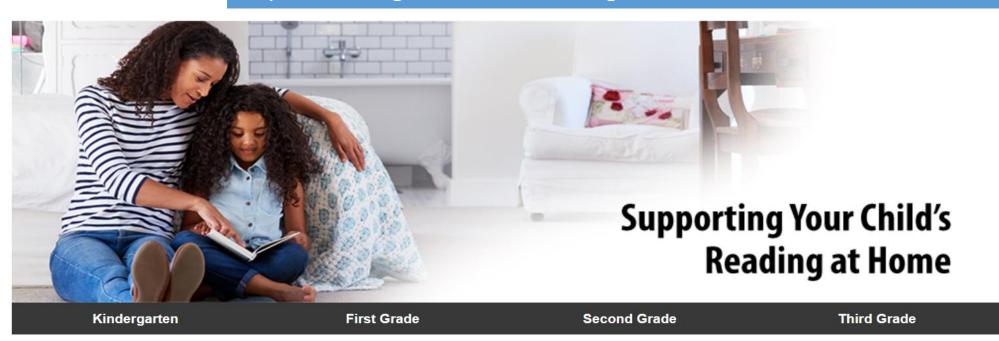








https://ies.ed.gov/ncee/edlabs/regions/southeast/foundations/index.asp



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school students at home and in school as they engage with interactive modules on contemporary issues that teach the relevance of rule of law, separation of powers, judicial independence, and jury







































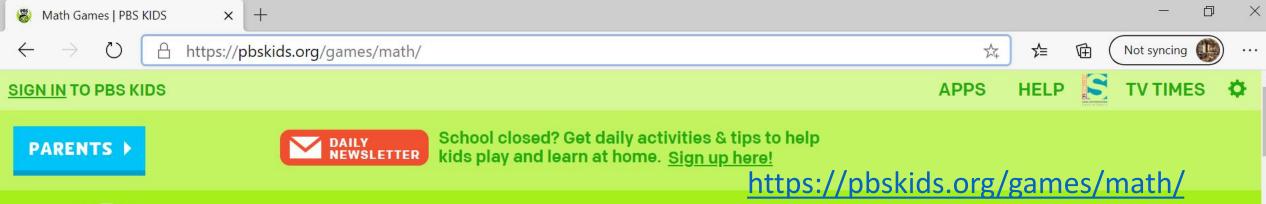














# **MATH GAMES**





**Odd Squad Agent Academy** 

Build your own Odd Squad agents!

**PLAY NOW!** 

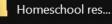










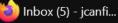


















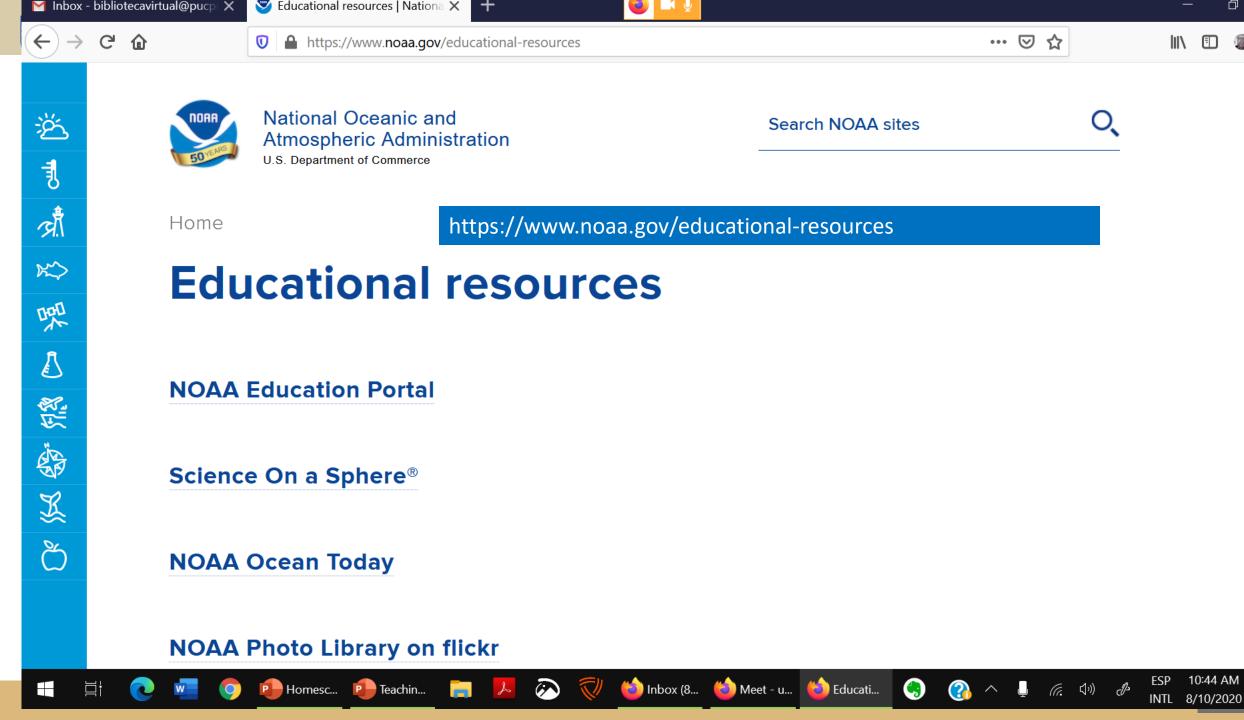


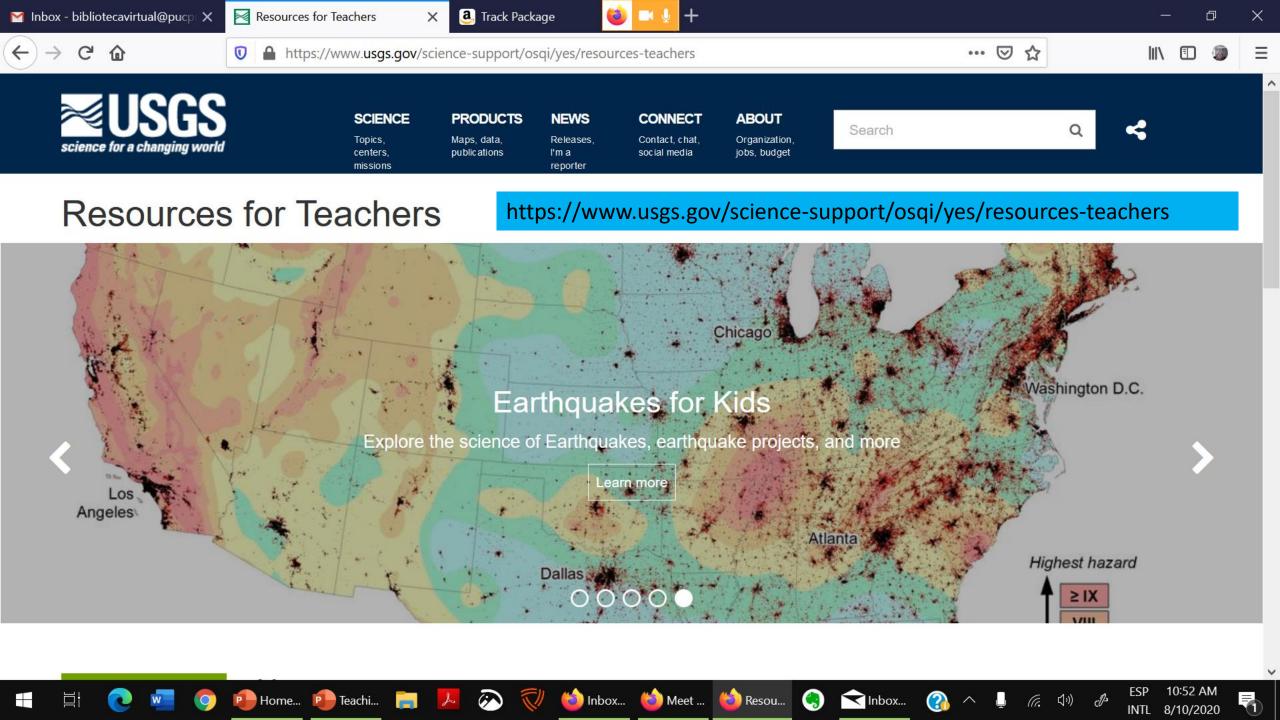


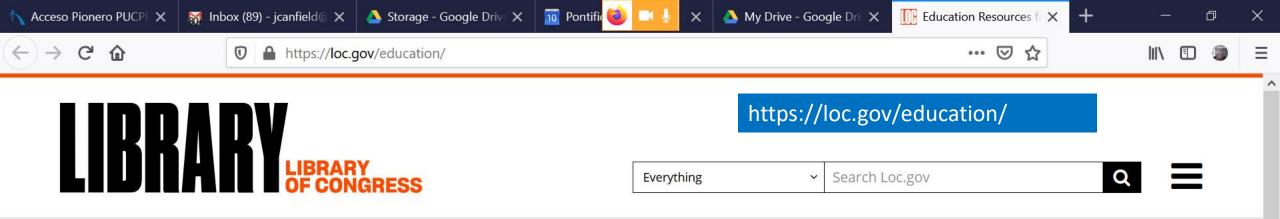












Library of Congress » Education Resources from the Library of Congress



### **Education Resources from the Library of Congress**

The Library of Congress offers classroom materials and professional development to help teachers use primary sources from the Library's vast digital collections.

#### For Students & Lifelong Learners



#### Read.gov

Resources and opportunities to celebrate the wonder of reading



#### Blog: Teaching with the Library of Congress

What the Library of Congress Has for Teachers: Primary Sources and Tools and Techniques to Use Them

Blog Round-Up: Using the Primary Source Analysis Tool

All Posts »













































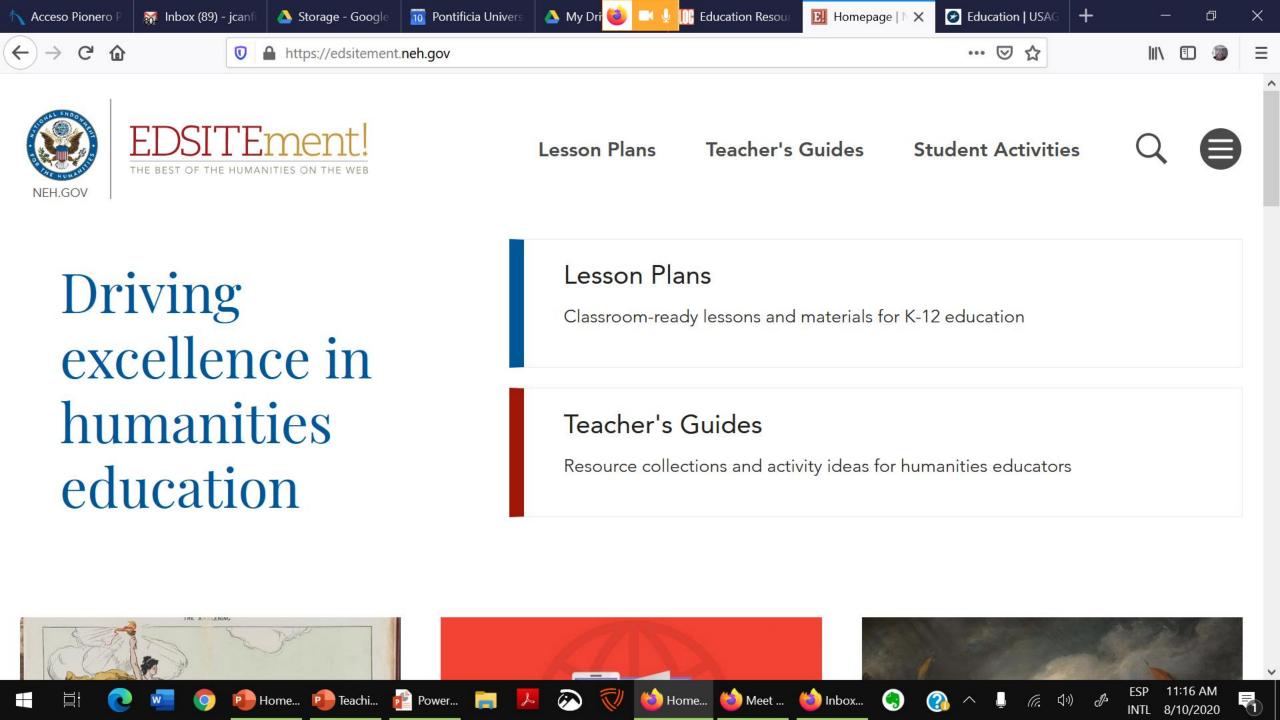


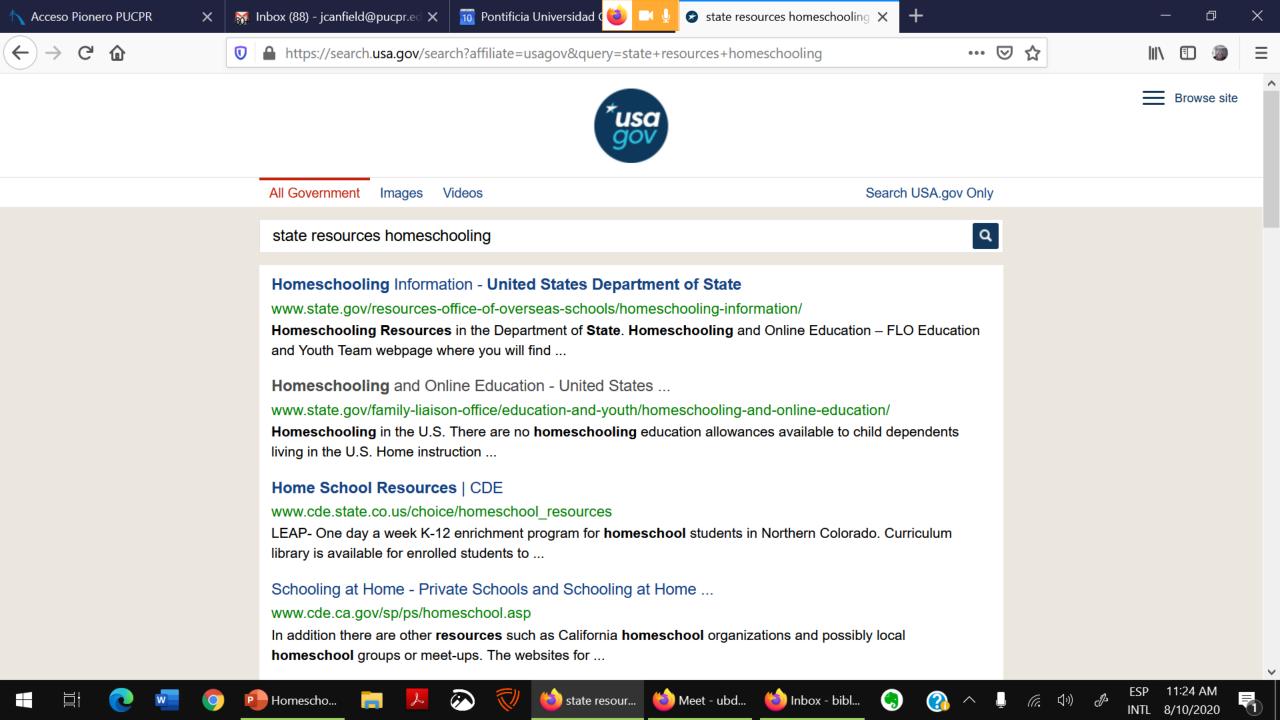


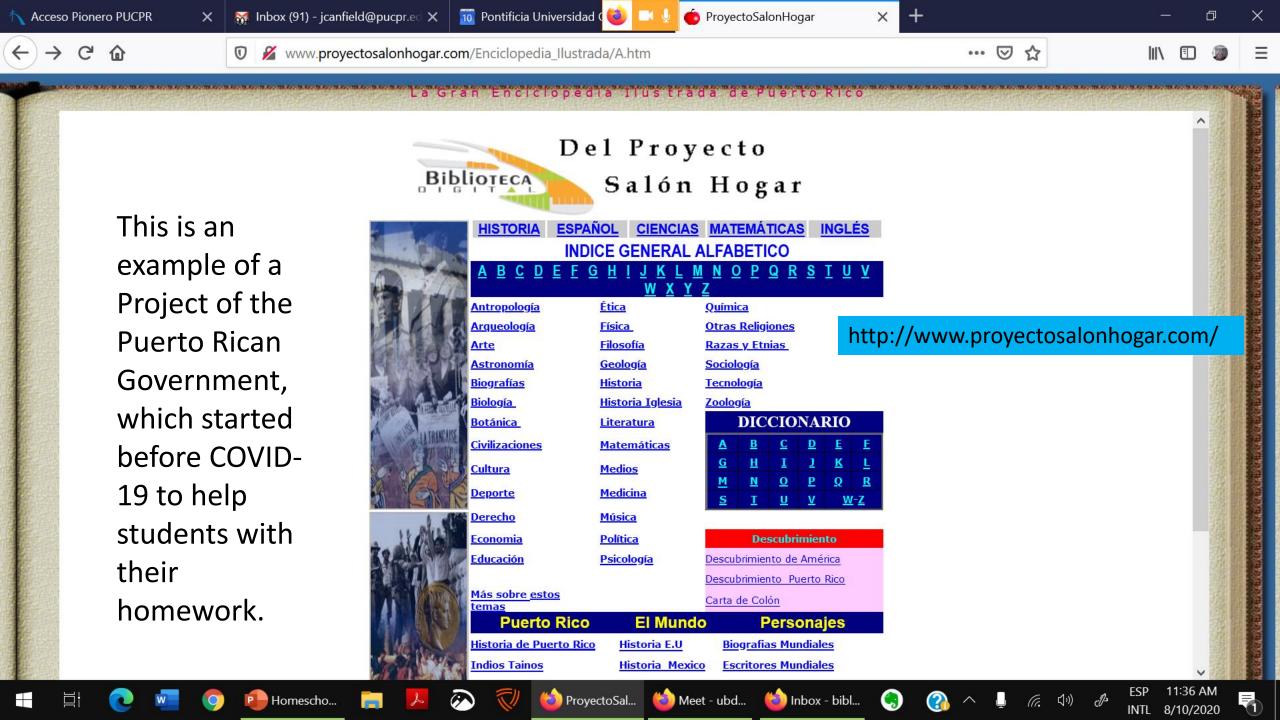














#### **Additional Resources: Honorable Mentions**

- https://climate.gov/teaching
- https://peacecorps.gov/educators/
- https://www.fbi.gov/fbi-kids
- <a href="https://www.whitehousehistory.org/classroom-resource-packets">https://www.whitehousehistory.org/classroom-resource-packets</a>
- <a href="https://www.visitthecapitol.gov/education/teachers">https://www.visitthecapitol.gov/education/teachers</a>
- http://www.abmc.gov/education
- https://www.solardecathlon.gov/education-resources.html









Thanks for listening today. We hope we have provided some help and some hope for your future teaching efforts as dedicated parents, teachers, and grandparents.