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Blog Post

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Insert Clever and Witty Title Here

Homeschooling: one word that used to strike so much terror into the heart of every mother. They loved the idea—after all, who doesn't love the thought of being able to control the environment their child learns in? What with schools becoming the cesspools of den and iniquity that they are, more and more mothers are terrified about sending their child into that big, bad world with not one iota of guidance. But how were parents supposed to convert such an idea into an acceptable reality? How were they supposed to teach their child everything? How were they supposed to canvas English, art, math, history, and science – all by themselves? For 12 years? Well, thanks to the increase of information found on the internet in the last decade that worry has all but disappeared.

More and more mothers are homeschooling their kids, and they are sharing their resources online. Homeschool groups are forming so that different mothers with different skills can teach the kids and so kids can gain basic social skills along with their book learning. The system is creating a space for street smarts and book smarts, and it seems to be a perfect blend.

There is, however, still the slight concern of how to get your child to comprehend. What if, after all that you can do, your son or daughter just does not understand your teaching style? What then?

Might I suggest something? Technology.

There are so many advantages that technology can bring to education. Movies are being made every day on how to teach your child. "Bill Nye the Science Guy" is a perfect example of a show that both keeps

your child entertained and teaches a concept that maybe you can't. (Of course you should view these movies first and ensure that the information is correct. The internet is a free-for-all, and there are a lot of stupid people out there. Bill Nye is pretty safe, but YouTube has some shady 'educational' videos...) Not only do these movies have invaluable information, but the fact that they are movies makes them even better learning tools for kids.

Kids today love technology. It is bred into their system. Encoded in their DNA. They just absorb it like a sponge absorbs water. So give them the information in this format. They will be more engaged, more interested, more invested. They'll believe that it's more interesting and easier to learn, and thus it will become easier to learn. It's like magic. Really though – try it and you'll see. I've tested this theory on my nieces and nephews and they swarm to the educational movies like flies to honey. They even retain the information afterwards! I know, I know, shocking!

However, there is a word of warning to this tale (should Hercules fight, you will fail! Sorry, I couldn't resist. I told you I watch movies with my nieces and nephews...): don't do it all the time. Movies are fantastic for teaching your kids, but they shouldn't become the only way that they learn how to learn. It will just bring about laziness in you and your child. They'll rely on technology too much to learn and you'll rely on it too much to teach, and the social aspect will die. And after all, when all is said and done, time with your children and teaching them by example is the best and greatest tool. (But a little Bill Nye the Science Guy every now and then doesn't hurt ☺)