

HOMESCHOOLING 101

Supportive Groups and Community Organizations

Local Libraries

Skokie Public Library

Our events remain online at this time, and we have a variety of resources available on our website for all families. Check our [events calendar](#) for live online storytimes, [Be the Artist](#), and a teen-designed [Young Adult Book Club](#). Asynchronous options include [Activities to do at Home](#), [Fun Things to Do](#), and [BOOMbox at Home](#). Skokie residents are encouraged to use [curbside checkout](#) to borrow books, audiobooks, [STEAM kits](#), [Youth Book Discussion Kits](#), and more!

Evanston Public Library

All of Evanston Public Library's [programs](#) are virtual at this time. Homeschool educators who are Evanston residents may borrow [STEAM-To-Go Educator Kits](#).

Questions about homeschool support for students in grades K-5 can be directed to the library's Early Learning and Literacy Manager, [Jan Bojda](#). For questions about support for students in grades 6-12, please contact Teen Engagement Coordinator [Elacsha Madison](#).

Morton Grove Public Library

Brittany Drehobl, the School Services Liaison for MGPL recently penned a [blog](#) about how their library can support students and families this school year. Many of their offerings and marketing have changed to be flexible for an online format and inclusive of homeschooled and e-learning students.

Some programs that might be of particular interest include Creative Writing Crew, Family Engineering Nights, Folk & Fairy Tale Storytime, Scratch 'n' Code, Tween Survival Club, and book clubs for all ages. Check their [online calendar](#) for event hours, times, and more details.

They also release new videos called [Brain Bytes](#) featuring math puzzles and brain games on YouTube on Fridays.

Networking Groups

Evanston Home Educators

[Evanston Home Educators](#) is a group of homeschooling parents in and around Evanston who help create learning and social opportunities for their children by providing support, ideas, information, and opportunities for group classes and field trips. A member of the umbrella group H.O.U.S.E. (Home-Oriented Unique Schooling Experience), EHE is non-sectarian, and their members have many different approaches to and reasons for homeschooling.

Community Organizations

Skokie Park District

The Skokie Park District has developed programs and services specifically for homeschool families and welcomes participation from residents and nonresidents alike.

Fee assistance is available by filling out [this online form](#) and questions can be directed to [Breanne Labus](#), Superintendent of Recreation, or [Vilma Matos](#), Customer Service Accounts Supervisor.

Art History and Field Trips In-a-Box

The latest offering from the Park District is their In-a-Box programs. Art History In-a-Box provides information about a famous artist and their art style and includes supplies to create a couple of simple projects. Current options include Alma Thomas, Georgia O'Keeffe, Isamu Noguchi, or Pablo Picasso. Field Trip In-a-Box includes a video tour. Boxes can be purchased online. Questions can be directed to [Amanda Hanson-Putziger](#).

Devonshire Cultural Center

Cultural Arts Academy for Homeschoolers features a variety of classes including dance, theatre, music, circus, visual, and culinary arts. The series culminates with a showcase for family and friends. Please contact [Robin Horwitz](#) for additional information.

Emily Oaks Nature Center

[Scoutin' Around](#) includes outdoor adventures and science topics for three different age groups. [After-School Nature Club and Outdoor Skills](#) are additional options, but not specifically for homeschool students. Please contact [Cassie Schaeffer](#), School-Age Program Coordinator, with any questions you have about programs at Emily Oaks.

Skokie Heritage Museum

[Historical Adventures for Homeschoolers](#) focuses on different periods in American history through fun activities, games, and crafts, and includes take-home resource pages for more in-depth study. Please contact [Amanda Hanson-Putziger](#), Facility Manager, with any questions related to the Skokie Heritage Museum.

Weber Leisure Center

Weber Leisure Center offers [Early Childhood](#) and [Youth](#) programs that may be of interest to homeschool families, including Chess Scholars, Let's Build It, Mad Science, and Smart Start Art. Check the links for specific program dates, times, and costs, and direct any questions to [Mary Amato](#), Facility Manager.

