



Waldorf Homeschool



The **Step-by-Step Course** to Understanding
& Creating a Waldorf-Inspired Homeschool

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DONNA'S SAMPLE HOMESCHOOL SCHEDULE

Morning:

We usually begin school around 9 am, giving time for morning chores and breakfast and our morning walk. Circle time is how we start and this can last anywhere from 20-45 minutes depending on what we include. In earlier grades, circle time was much shorter and has only increased with more math & spelling practice. First grade circle time was probably 10-15 minutes at most.

We light a candle, say our morning verse etc. After we are done and ready for main lesson we blow out the candle with a verse we created: "Circle time is over, the candles all around. Blow them out with tiny breath, and start Main Lesson now."

Main Lesson:

Main lesson can last an hour or longer depending on grade and lesson block, but in earlier grades it could be 30 minutes. Try not to judge the effectiveness of the lesson based on time, but on the quality of what is being taught and how the child understands it.

This is where you tell your story, or have your child re-tell the story back to you. You draw, paint, write or work on a project that goes with the Main Lesson block.

Afternoon:

After main lesson, it is usually close to lunch time. My girls have "free play" while I get things ready. (In the earlier days, we had a snack in between circle & main lesson)

During the afternoon, we get together again around 3 or 4 for another "school" activity like handwork, painting, crafts, baking, etc.. This helps with the in and out flow of the rhythm of the day. I like to connect with them again after working or doing something by myself. When they were younger, this in and out was more frequent adding in a story time or drawing. Think short bursts of being together and then they play, back and forth.

The rest of my day and in-between consists of average homemaker and mom-preneur's tasks of working, laundry, meal prep and errands. So, you can see that it is really a lot of life with some homeschooling mixed in.

You can start this again by setting up your rhythm and working slowly to put these pieces in place. This took years for me to establish and get "right" for our family. You will need to experiment with what works best for YOU and your family. Try something different if it isn't working right. Keep tweaking.