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DO NOT Teach Your Home school Students! by [Frederick D](#)

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As homeschooling parents, our objective is NOT to teach. Our objective is for the kids to LEARN. I could have taught my boys "at grade level" and they might have not learned a thing. Instead, I offered them curriculum at their capability level, and they had to learn something that they didn't already know.

Older teens MUST learn the way to teach on their own. When they go to college, they will be expected to learn all of the textbook content by themselves. College lectures are quite often supplemental to the textbook - not identical. If they don't go to college, they will still have to teach themselves certain computer skills, or online banking, or how to buy a car - whatever.

In high school, my kids taught themselves pre-Calculus and Calculus. They taught themselves physics. I know they understood the material because I gave them the tests. I didn't understand what the calculus symbols meant, but I knew that my kids solutions matched the responses on the key. I could have taught them Biology and Chemistry, since I'm an RN and I took plenty of those subjects in college, but they actually taught themselves that too. It just worked out better for us when they were teaching by themselves, while I just checked up on them on occasion. My younger son taught himself economics, and is now performing graduate level work in the history of economic thought, we've been told by his professor. Much to our surprise, he even taught himself psychology and business law, since he got fabulous grades on the College Level Examination Program - CLEP exams in those subject areas. It was a surprise because we didn't even realize he had read a book regarding those topics!

Here is my point: kids will teach themselves something when they are interested in it. It's fine for kids to do that, and it works out great for kids who are working on an intensely academic, college-prep curriculum and for kids who are in a relaxed homeschool atmosphere.

Quite a few parents are concerned with "getting it all done." I want to put in a plug for homeschool parents having prayer and quiet time. I discovered that when I was consistent with those things I could "get it all done" and when I wasn't consistent I got frustrated. Either I was expecting too much, or was frustrated too easily. When I spent time with God, then things went much more efficiently in our homeschool.

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