

DK12

Parent/ Teacher Guide

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Free Online Homeschool

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Overview & Philosophy

Welcome to Discovery K12!

At Discovery K12, we believe in empowering families to take control of their children's education. Our philosophy is rooted in providing a flexible, comprehensive, and high-quality curriculum that is accessible to all. We strive to create a learning environment that fosters creativity, critical thinking, and a lifelong love of learning.

Our Vision

We envision a world where every child has the opportunity to learn at their own pace, in their own way, without the constraints of traditional schooling. Our curriculum is designed to accommodate different learning styles and paces, ensuring that each student can thrive.

Why Choose Discovery K12?

Flexibility	Comprehensive Curriculum	Innovation
Independence	Supportive Community	Self-Paced Learning

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Courses

A Comprehensive Range of Subjects

At Discovery K12, we offer a diverse and robust selection of courses designed to provide students with a well-rounded education. Our courses span from Pre-K to 12th grade, covering all core subjects and more. Each course is crafted to meet the developmental needs of students at each grade level, ensuring that learning is both challenging and engaging.

Reading & Literature	Language Arts	Mathematics
History & Social Studies	Science	Physical Education
Spelling	Art	Music
Technology & Coding	Foreign Languages	Life Skills

Support for Parents and Teachers

For those using the Parent/Teacher Account, we provide additional resources, including lesson plans, answer keys, and tips for facilitating the courses. These tools help guide students through their coursework and ensure they are meeting their learning goals.

Curriculum

Curriculum Overview

Discovery K12 covers a variety of subjects to ensure a well-rounded education for your child. From foundational skills to advanced topics, the curriculum is designed to meet the academic needs of students at various grade levels. You'll find engaging lessons, interactive exercises, and educational resources aligned with state standards, enabling you to deliver a tailored education to your child.

Pre-K	Kindergarten
First Grade	Second Grade
Third Grade	Fourth Grade
Fifth Grade	Sixth Grade
Seventh Grade	Eighth Grade
Ninth Grade	Tenth Grade
Eleventh Grade	Twelfth Grade
Extra	E-Book Library

* All our curriculum is online and can be reviewed inside student accounts.

7 Main Courses Plus Extra Curriculum

The curriculum includes 7 main courses: Reading/Literature, Language Arts, Math, History/Social Studies, Science, Visual/Performing Arts, and Physical Education. Extra Curriculum includes Spanish 1, HTML Coding, Healthy Living, Personal Finance, Business 101, and Business Apps. We do not ship any materials, textbooks, or equipment. You can view curriculum outlines by grade level above for what's covered in each course/subject.

Follow Our Schedule or Go at Your Own Pace

Choose to follow our calendar schedule or start anytime and go at your own pace. Our 36-week spelling program, part of the Language Arts courses from kindergarten through twelfth grade, provides weekly word lists, worksheets, Cursive Thursdays, and digital quizzes. In addition to weekly math and spelling quizzes, tests are available after each unit in Science, History/Social Studies, and some Extra Curriculum courses.

36 Weeks of STEM & Maker Activities

Enjoy weekly STEM & Maker Activities, offering engaging, hands-on projects using affordable household and school supplies. Explore our comprehensive list of 36 STEM projects. Our Reading/Literature courses include access to an online library of over 150 classic literature titles.

Assessment Tests

Our program now includes mid-year and end-of-year assessment tests for kindergarten through twelfth grade, which can also help determine grade level placement. Learn more about these assessment tests and the complete list of free e-books available in our e-library.

Quizzes / Tests & Answer Keys

Assessing Understanding and Reinforcing Learning

Quizzes and tests are key components of the Discovery K12 curriculum, designed to assess and reinforce students' understanding of the material. These assessments are strategically placed throughout the courses to ensure that students are mastering the necessary skills at each grade level. By providing regular opportunities for evaluation, quizzes and tests help track progress and identify areas where further review may be needed.

The primary purpose of quizzes and tests is to reinforce the concepts taught in each lesson, ensuring that students have a solid grasp of the material before moving on to more advanced topics. These assessments also serve as a valuable feedback tool, giving both students and parents insight into the student's comprehension and identifying any areas that might require additional practice.

Answer keys

Answer keys are provided for all quizzes and tests, making it easy for parents and teachers to evaluate student performance. These answer keys offer immediate feedback, helping students learn from their mistakes and reinforcing correct answers. For older students, answer keys can also be used for self-assessment, promoting independence and responsibility in their learning process. Consistent and fair grading is ensured through the use of these standardized answer keys.

Parents and teachers with a Parent/Teacher Account have exclusive access to all quizzes, tests, and answer keys.

Research Center

Utilizing the DK12 Research Center

The Discovery K12 Research Center is a vital resource that equips students with the tools they need to conduct thorough research and deepen their understanding of various subjects. It provides access to an extensive digital library, which includes thousands of eBooks, articles, and multimedia content aligned with the curriculum. This makes it easy for students to find reliable and relevant information, whether they are working on a project, writing a report, or exploring a topic of personal interest. The Research Center is designed to support students at every grade level, offering resources that are searchable by topic, grade, and keyword.

Research Center



Developing Strong Research Habits

In addition to providing information, the Research Center also helps students develop strong research habits. It includes tools for organizing and presenting research, such as report templates, citation guidelines, and tips for effective note-taking. Emphasizing critical thinking, the Research Center encourages students to evaluate the credibility of their sources, consider different perspectives, and draw evidence-based conclusions. This approach fosters independent learning and helps students become confident researchers, ready to tackle more complex academic challenges as they progress.

Integrating Field Trips & The Outdoors

At Discovery K12, we emphasize the importance of learning beyond the traditional classroom setting. Field trips and outdoor activities offer students hands-on opportunities to connect theoretical knowledge with real-world experiences. Whether exploring a historical site, visiting a museum, or hiking through nature, these activities enrich the educational experience by making lessons more engaging and memorable.



Outdoor learning not only reinforces academic concepts but also promotes physical activity, teamwork, and problem-solving skills.

These experiences help students understand the relevance of what they learn in the classroom and foster a deeper appreciation for the world around them. Additionally, spending time outdoors has been shown to improve concentration, reduce stress, and boost creativity, contributing to students' overall well-being.

Frequently Asked Questions

1. What is Discovery K12? Discovery K12 is a free online homeschool platform that offers a comprehensive curriculum for students in Pre-K through 12th grade. Our curriculum covers all core subjects and includes additional resources like art, music, and physical education.

2. How much does it cost to use Discovery K12? Discovery K12 is completely free to use for students and parents. We also offer a Parent/Teacher Account with additional features for a \$99 annual fee. This account provides access to extra tools like attendance tracking, grading, and progress reports.

3. Can I use Discovery K12 as a full-time curriculum? Yes, Discovery K12 is designed to be a full-time, comprehensive curriculum that covers all subjects required for a well-rounded education. However, it can also be used as a supplement to other educational resources if desired.

4. How do I enroll my child in Discovery K12? Enrollment is easy and can be done directly through our website. Simply create an account, and your child can start accessing the curriculum right away. There's no application process or waiting period.

5. Does Discovery K12 offer support for parents and teachers? Yes, we offer various support resources, including lesson plans, instructional guides, and tips for homeschooling. Additionally, our support team is available to assist with any questions or technical issues.

6. Can I start using Discovery K12 at any time of the year? Absolutely! Our curriculum is self-paced, so you can start at any time of the year and progress at a pace that works best for your child.

Homeschool Laws

Understanding Your Responsibilities

Homeschooling is regulated by state laws in the United States, and it's important for parents to understand the legal requirements in their specific state before starting their homeschooling journey. Each state has its own set of rules and guidelines that govern homeschooling, including notification requirements, standardized testing, curriculum standards, and record-keeping.

Check out your state homeschool laws on [Discovery K12](#) here.

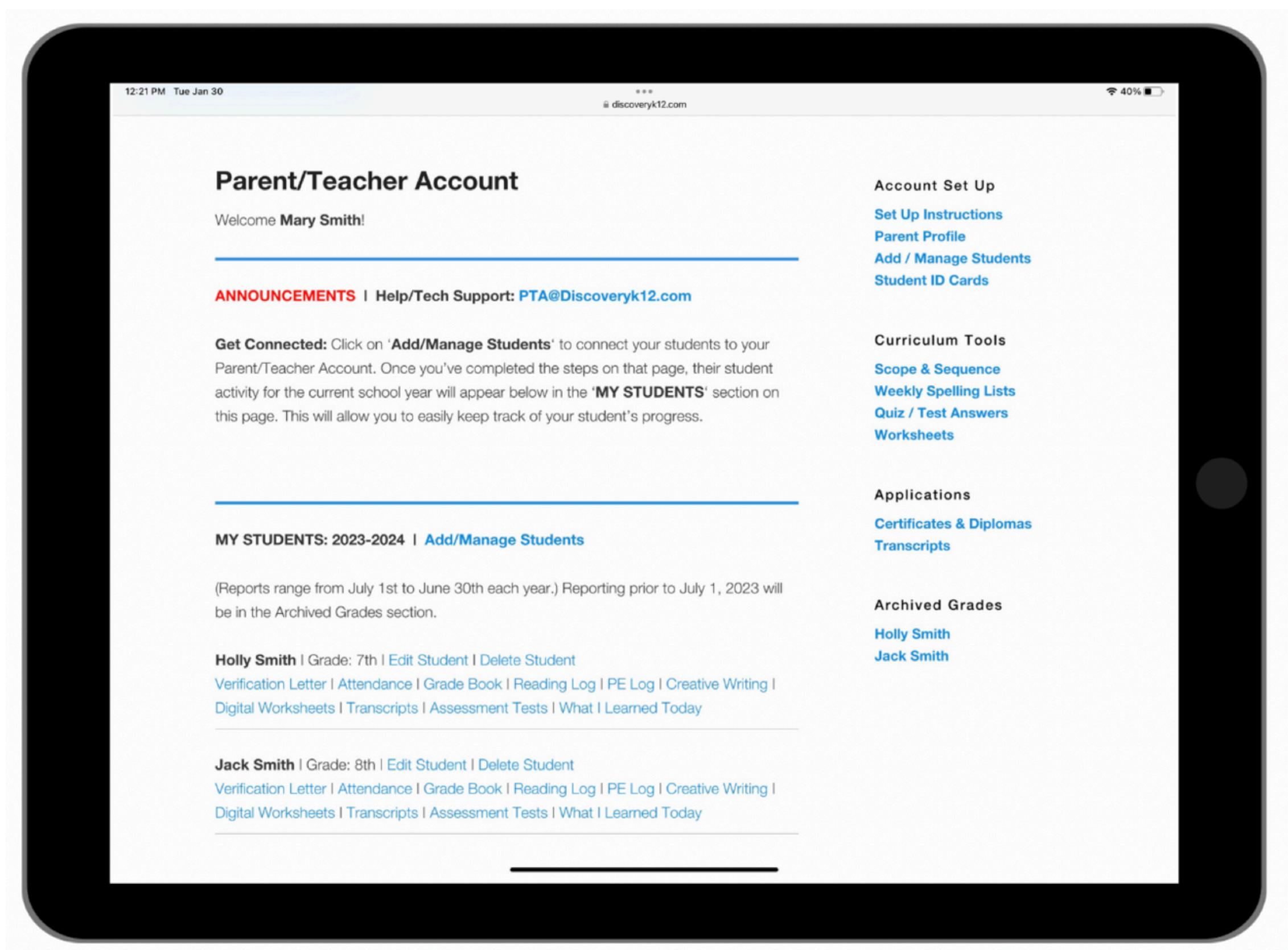


Homeschooling laws can vary significantly from state to state. Some states have minimal regulations, requiring only that parents notify the state of their intent to homeschool, while others have more extensive requirements, such as submitting lesson plans, maintaining detailed records, and participating in standardized testing. It's crucial to familiarize yourself with the specific laws in your state to ensure compliance and to create a homeschooling environment that meets legal standards.

Parent Teacher Account*

An optional upgrade to help parents and families.

The Parent Teacher Account provides student activity reports, assessment tests results, transcripts, grade book with quiz/test scores, answer keys, and more. Parent/Teacher Accounts are a premium upgrade.



Streamline Your Homeschooling

The Discovery K12 Parent/Teacher Account, available for \$99 annually, is designed to enhance and simplify homeschooling. It offers essential tools like attendance tracking, grading systems, and progress reports, helping parents maintain accurate records and monitor their child's progress. The account also includes lesson planning and customization options, allowing for a tailored learning experience that meets each student's needs.



In addition, the Parent/Teacher Account streamlines assignment management and provides access to enhanced customer support. This premium feature is ideal for parents who want to focus more on their child's education and less on administrative tasks. Upgrading is easy, and our support team is available to assist with any questions.

Parent Teacher Account Tracking

Attendance Tracking

Keep accurate records of your child's daily attendance. This feature allows you to easily log school days and ensure that your homeschool meets the required number of instructional days as mandated by your state.

Grading and Progress Reports

The grading system within the Parent/Teacher Account lets you input grades for assignments, quizzes, and tests. You can generate progress reports that provide a clear overview of your child's academic performance, making it easier to monitor progress and identify areas that may need additional attention.

Lesson Planning and Customization

Plan your homeschool days with ease using the lesson planning tools. You can customize the curriculum to fit your child's learning pace and needs, ensuring that they are challenged without being overwhelmed. This feature also allows you to schedule specific assignments and projects, making your homeschooling routine more structured.

Assignment Review and Management

Easily review and manage your child's completed assignments. This feature streamlines the process of checking work, providing feedback, and keeping everything organized in one place.

Reporting Tools

Generate detailed reports on your child's academic progress, attendance, and completed assignments. These reports can be useful for record-keeping and may be required by your state's homeschooling laws.

The Community

Remember, learning starts at home. So be on the lookout for inspiration and unleash real opportunities, foster collaboration, and help your child develop.

Allow your child to make meaningful connections between what they learn and the world around them. These hands-on experiences foster a deeper understanding and make learning more memorable. Encourage community involvement through volunteering, participating in local events, or joining community organizations. These experiences broaden your child's perspective, instill a sense of empathy, and encourage them to make a positive impact in their community.

Join a community of like-minded people.

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