

# Summer School at Home

## Parent Guide

[HeavenlyHomemakers.com](http://HeavenlyHomemakers.com)

# Summer School at Home Parent Guide

Summer break is for FUN! But who says we can't learn a thing or two **while** we're having fun?

The Summer School at Home Toolbox is overflowing with incredibly great tools for your family to use all summer long as you read, explore, learn, and have fun together!

Get ready. You're going to love making memories this way. You'll probably all forget that you're actually learning because what you'll actually be doing is...

- going on picnics
- taking walks
- having a scavenger hunt at the park
- chilling at the library
- exploring at the museum, nature center, or zoo
- making treats in the kitchen
- playing with water
- creating crafts
- writing funny stories
- serving people in the community

Wait. This is Summer School?!

Yep. This is going to be your best summer ever and by the time school starts again in the fall, your kids won't have backtracked on their learning. Instead, they'll launch into a new school year with eyes and minds wide open, ready to share all they experienced over their break.

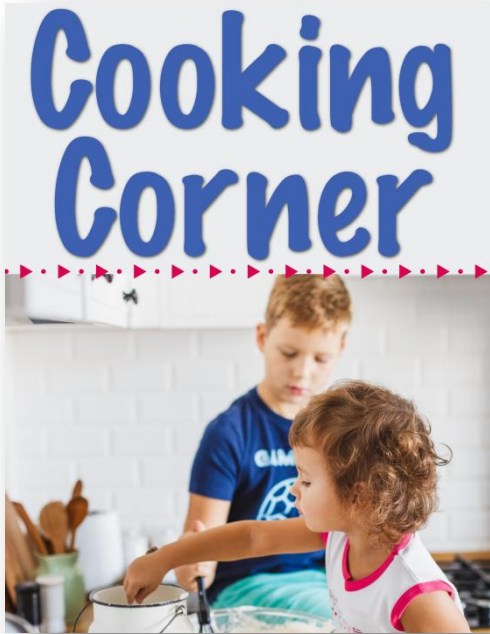
From 10-minute science experiments to 20-minute craft projects, time in the hammock reading a favorite book, and packing surprise picnics – your kids will beg for more Summer School instead of asking for time on their tablets.

Here are the packets you'll discover tucked into this Toolbox:

- Cooking Corner
- Investigation Station
- Science Center
- Craft Kit
- Reading Nook
- Writing Tools
- Math Pack

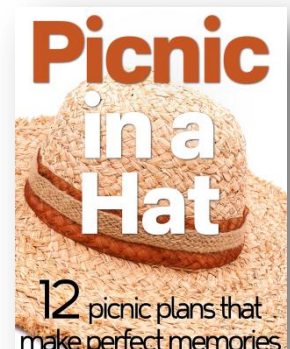
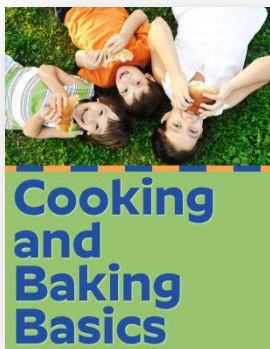
- Serving Suggestions
- Pocket Folder Printables

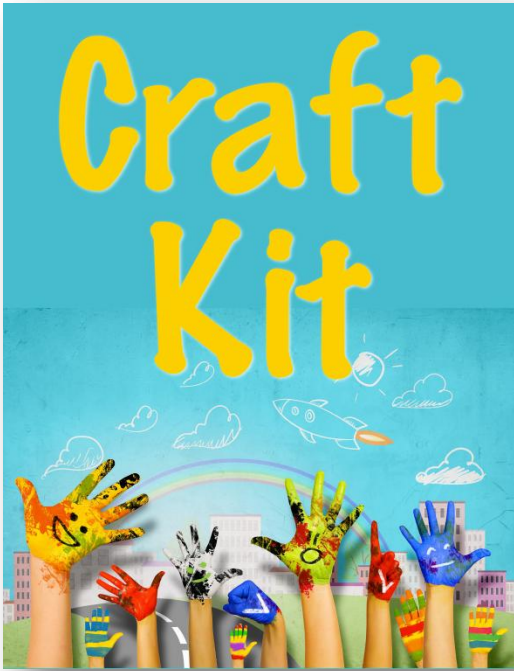
## What's in each Packet?



You'll unpack not one but FOUR amazing eBooklets in the **Cooking Corner!**

1. *Cooking and Baking Basics* guides your kids through the kitchen as they learn to read recipes, make grocery lists, make healthy choices, practice hospitality, and much more!
2. *Cookies are for Sharing* offers kids a tasty way to practice their baking skills while giving them the opportunity to share their cookies with others.
3. *Easy Summer Meals* gives you a night off as your kids learn to put together simple, tasty meals that are perfect for summer.
4. *Picnic in a Hat?* Well, you'll just have to read it and see. Think outside the box as you discover 12 super fun ways to picnic as a family all summer long!

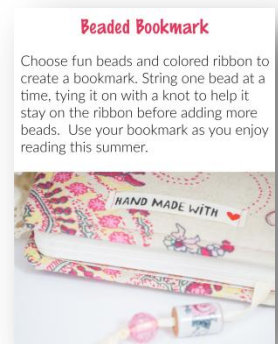




The **Craft Kit** includes delightful pages that detail easy crafts you and your family can put together, each with your own creative touch!

Make a Watermelon Wedge Craft to sync up with a Math Fractions Project. Create Clothespin Characters to depict your favorite story book characters. Put together Pipecleaner Rainbows as you simultaneously make a Rainbow in a Jar as a science experiment. And so much more... 😊

These crafts are simple and enjoyable, made with basic craft supplies you probably already have at home!





The **Investigation Station** packet offers suggestions for weekly outings and activities that help everyone explore some of their favorite subjects and discover new favorites too!

Go on some Scavenger Hunts, learn a new hobby, and learn new fun facts to share.

Everything you do can be educational – even if at first it “only” seems fun! Just when your kids thought they were heading to the zoo or museum to play, they’ll find that they’re a little bit smarter at the end of the day. Don’t tell them, though!

### Suggested Weekly Outings Calendar

**Monday Library** – Let everyone pick out a pile of books for one or two chapter books to enjoy for the week. Select something from the Family Read Aloud list to enjoy all week.

**Tuesday Park** – Choose a new park to explore. Pack a fun picnic to enjoy so that you can stay longer to play. Invite another family to join you there.

**Wednesday Walk** – Put on some comfy shoes, grab a bottle of water, and head out. Find a walking trail or simply walk around your neighborhood taking special notice of your surroundings.

**Thursday Serve Day** – Pray about what you can do to show love to someone today. Refer to the packet full of Serving Suggestions for inspiration.

**Friday Field Trip** – Choose a special place in your neck of the woods and make a day of it. Go to a zoo, a museum, a garden, your state capital, or whatever has been on your list to check out sometime. Now's the time!

### Scavenger Hunt on a walk


### Scavenger Hunt at the library

Find a book you've never read	Look up your favorite author on the computer	Find the cookbooks
Discover if your library checks out equipment besides books	Find a non-fiction book	Find a book about animals
Find audio books	Find an article in a newspaper	Look up C.S. Lewis books on the computer
Look at the numbers/letters on the book bindings to learn how they are shelved	Discover the learning toys	Find book about science experiments

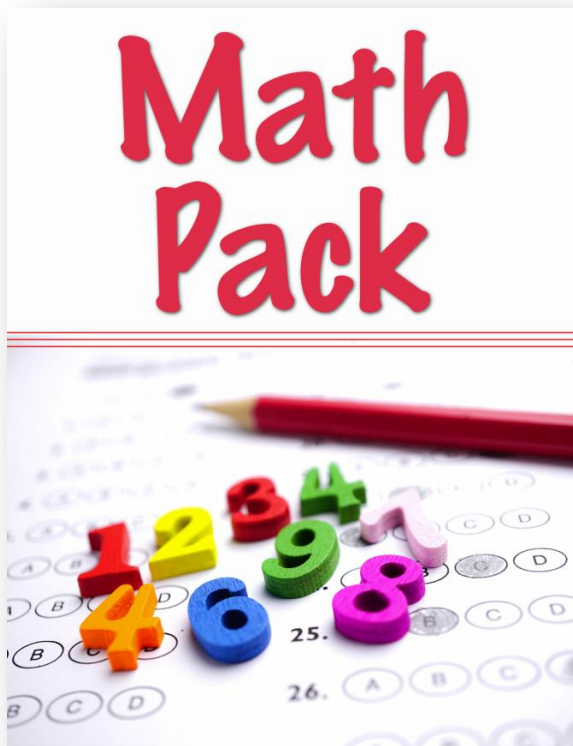
Pick out some books at the library about flowers. How many kinds of flowers can you spot as you take walks and visit parks?

Pick out some books at the library about birds. How many kinds of birds can you spot as you take walks and visit parks?

What's something you really want to learn about this summer? The weather, the stars, gardening, preserving food, animals, robots? Something else? Check out books at the library and dig in!

Want to try your hand at drawing? Grab a sketchbook and a pencil then watch "How to Draw" videos on YouTube. There are so many to pick from and they walk you through how to draw all kinds of things – step by step!

Have you visited every park in your area? Make a list and see how many you can visit this summer. Pack picnics to take along to make the outing more fun!



Seriously? A **Math Pack**? Booo.

No wait! Math during the summer is as easy as...

- Practicing fractions while cooking or baking a new recipe
- Measuring water in a pool or tub outside, hoping you all “accidentally” get wet during the math lesson
- Learning about money and budgeting when you go to the store to buy food for a picnic, treat, or to help someone in need.
- Diving up cookies for a snack. No, really!

These math lessons are too good to be true. Go get a watermelon and let the fun begin!

### Math Pack

Use the ideas in this packet to practice math skills - the summer school way. These ideas are so much fun, you'll forget you're actually learning something!

**How Does it Measure Up?**

Grab a notebook and pencil plus a ruler, measuring tape, or yard stick. Head to the yard and measure the length and height of as many items you can. Record your findings as you go. Measure large items like swing sets and grills, medium items like mail boxes and sprinklers, and small items like leaves and toys.

### Measuring with Water

Fill up a large container (like a kiddie pool) with water in the yard. Grab measuring cups and small plastic containers. Practice measuring by scooping water with measuring cups and pouring them into small containers. See how many cups,  $1/2$  cups,  $1/3$  cups, etc. that it takes to fill the plastic containers.

**Fractions in a Recipe**

Choose a recipe from the Cooking Corner books. Practice fractions by doubling the recipe - or by cutting it in half.

### Watermelon Fractions

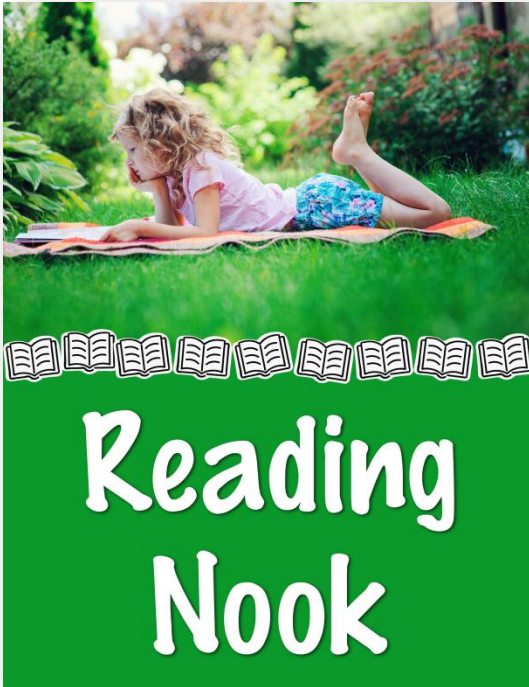
Make the Watermelon Fractions craft as described in the Craft Kit. Begin with the full set of 8 watermelon slices to learn fractions of  $1/2$ ,  $1/4$ , and  $1/8$ . Extra: Buy a watermelon at the store and refrigerate it for a few hours so it will be nice and cold. Cut it in half, then in half again, then in half again - until you have the serving sizes you need. Discuss the fractions you've created before enjoying your cold watermelon snack!

**Counting the Cost**

Combine this lesson with the Fill a Pantry Serving Suggestion. Come up with a budget for how much your family will spend for this task. Discuss ways to get the most food that you can get within your budget (look for sales, buy off brands, shop at a store that typically costs less, etc). Make a list and shop together, using a calculator to keep track of the total amount as you put items into the cart.

### Picnic on a Budget

Choose an amount of money you feel is reasonable to feed everyone in your party for a picnic meal. Work together to make a shopping plan based on this budget. (Consider looking online at your store's prices to help guide you with this.) Go shopping together to make your purchases, being sure to stay within your budget. You might need to make adjustments to your menu while you're shopping to make sure you don't spend too much!



Summers are for reading. In a hammock. At the pool. On the porch. In front of the air conditioner. All afternoon. In the evening.

Books. Everyone will enjoy the **Reading Nook** this summer!

Sometimes during the school year, students have to read what is assigned. But whatever your child's reading level – those are the books they can read during the summer. Whatever your child's interest – this is what they can enjoy during the summer!

The exciting activities included in this packet will make reading extra motivating and super fun. There might even be pizza involved.

**The Best Family Read Aloud Book List for Summer**

Explore your local library to discover new books your family will love to read over and over. Here are some of our family's favorites that we highly recommend:

- Charlotte's Web
- Fridgie
- The Boxcar Children series
- Little House on the Prairie series
- All of a Kind Family series
- Chronicles of Narnia series
- Mr. Popper's Penguins
- Ralph Moody Series
- Mrs. Piggle Wiggles
- Christian Heroes Then and Now Series by Jamey and Geoff Bengt

HeavenlyHomemakers.com

Cut apart the ice cream cone and layers. When you complete your first book of the summer, paste an ice cream cone onto a piece of construction paper. Each time you read another book, glue a layer of ice cream onto your cone. See how many ice cream cones you can build during the summer based on how many books you can read.

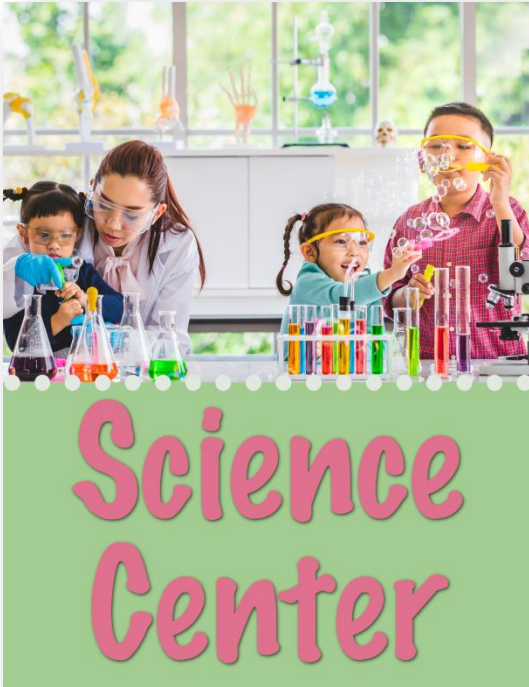
**Pile o' Book Worms**

Each time you finish reading a book, write the title on a long strip of paper. Fold it up like a tiny accordion to turn it into a Book Worm. See how big your Book Worm Farm becomes throughout the summer as you complete more books.

**Reading Log**

Color in a flower petal each time you finish reading another book. If you want, write in the title of the book you read so you can look back and remember all the great reads!

HeavenlyHomemakers.com



Ah, the **Science Center**! Get out your ice cream ingredients. Turning liquids to a solid is science, am I right? (Thank you, ice cream, for teaching us this.)

You'll also need shaving cream, food coloring, and potting soil. Vinegar, toothpicks, and hair spray. But maybe not all at the same time?! Either way, none of these experiments are complicated, and most of them involve items you already have around the house!

As an added bonus, not only will you enjoy some fun science experiments, you can connect what you learn to serving, crafting, cooking, reading, and more.

**SCIENCE CENTER**

Science can be complicated and messy. Or it can be simple and fun!

For these experiments, all you'll need is a few basic household items or craft supplies like:

- Popcorn sticks
- Clear paper
- Salt
- Toothpicks
- Food coloring
- Paper towels
- Baking soda
- Vinegar
- Pipe cleaners
- Baking soda
- Vinegar
- Hot water
- Hair spray
- Ziploc bags
- Shaving cream

Follow the following links to enjoy conducting these easy science experiments with your family. Many of these connect to different projects in our Crafts, Spring Suggestions, and Reading books so be sure to utilize those in sync with other lessons you're learning!

- **Planting Seeds** - If you planted seeds in the flower pots you practiced care with someone, enjoy watching the progress and growth of your plants!
- **Hot Water Ice Bag** - Not only will you practice your cooking and measuring skills, you'll watch liquid turn to solid with this experiment. Isn't it great when science comes this great!
- **Tomatoes in a Bag** - These Tomatoes can be easy, but this one is actually fun. Learn to do this by following the provided link.
- **Walking Water** - What a great activity on a hot summer day!
- **Color Change Milk Bag** - How can do this to your kitchen?
- **Static Electricity Experiment** - This one might make your hair stand up!
- **Static Electricity Experiment** - Fun experiments in a jar!
- **Static Electricity** - Learn all about this, then enjoy your best in the bathtub or swimming pool!
- **Balloon Volcano** - Ever tried to blow up a balloon like this?
- **Rainbow in a Jar** - It's true! You can make a rainbow in a jar!

Pick up some inexpensive clay pots, a bag of soil, and some packages of seeds (or some flowers already started to simply transplant). Spend time painting the pots, praying over the recipients while you paint. When the paint has dried, plant seeds or transplant flowers into the pots. Head out to deliver your gifts!

1. Poke rainbow colored pipecleaners into a square of Styrofoam in arches like a rainbow. (Or use strips of colored paper if you prefer.)
2. Glue cotton balls at the base of each side of the rainbow to create "clouds."
3. Reference the Rainbow in a Jar and How Clouds Make Rain experiments in the Science Zone to use along with this activity.





**Serving Suggestions** – the reason for all of this!

We can learn all the math and science in the world, but if we haven't learned to love and serve people, knowledge is nothing.

This sweet packet offers wonderful suggestions for ways to serve people while you're learning. There's no better way to spend summer hours than by using energy to show care to people around us.

Better yet, you can serve while practicing great life skills. Cook for someone, go to the nursing home to read with someone, or learn more about gardening while helping someone in their yard. It's all a win-win-win!

### Summer Serving

Decorate flower pots, plant flowers, and deliver them to neighbors or friends who need cheer.



### Summer Serving

Pick up inexpensive flower bouquets and surprise recipients.



Call ahead to see when visiting hours are. Then spend time in conversation with residents - they LOVE children. Consider referencing the Craft Kit for ideas and make something ahead for the residents to hang in their window or on their wall. This might offer you a good conversation starter if your first goal is to hand out a gift you've made. Or take a craft or puzzle to put together with your friend at the home.

If your town has any Little Free Pantry structures, consider picking up groceries with your family to fill up one or more. Or perhaps you know an organization or church that has a Food Pantry that accepts donations. If that is the case, you might call and ask what they can use the most. Then go to the store and pick up the needed items.



# Writing Tools



Writing isn't boring or difficult when you do it this way with these **Writing Tools!**

Did you have a fun summer day outing? Journal about it so you won't forget the details. Do you plan to make cards or write encouragement letters to people as prompted in the Serving Suggestions packet? Well look at that. You practiced your writing skills!

Laugh until you cry over some Summer Mad Libs – there's truly no better way to be creative as you think of adjectives.

Perhaps your kids will become authors this summer? Crazy things have happened!

## Writing Tools

Use these writing prompts and ideas to help you write creatively throughout the summer.



## Today's Outing

Today's outing was \_\_\_\_\_

My favorite part of our outing was \_\_\_\_\_

I was surprised when \_\_\_\_\_

Next time we go back I want to \_\_\_\_\_

## Summer Mad Libs

Find a book or two filled with family-friendly mad libs. These are a hilarious way to practice learning creative nouns, verbs, adjectives, and adverbs!

## Write a Book

Take time to write a fun or serious fiction story about something you are interested in. Turn your story into a book. Use YouTube "How to Draw" videos to help you illustrate your book.

## "I see you..." Ideas

Dear \_\_\_\_\_,  
I want you to know that I see how you help \_\_\_\_\_. I admire this because \_\_\_\_\_. Thank you for being a great example!

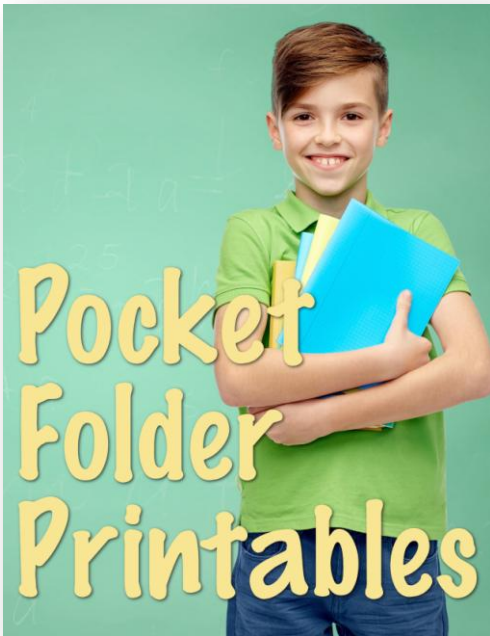
Kindly,

Dear \_\_\_\_\_,  
I want you to know that I see that you are hurting right now. I want to help you by \_\_\_\_\_. I will reach out with phone call soon.

With love,

Dear \_\_\_\_\_,  
I want you to know that I see your hard work when you \_\_\_\_\_. Thank you for all that you do. Is there a way I can help too?

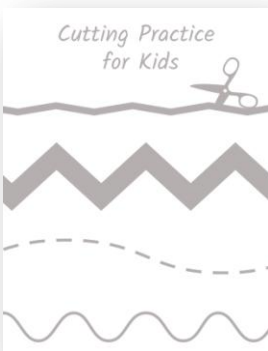
Sincerely,



**Pocket Folder Printables** is a perfect way to provide your kids with some quiet learning time. This is much more than just busy work!

We've provide hundreds of printables to slip into your kids' folders – and yep – you'll find something for all ages and abilities. There are no grade levels marked on these pages, so you can easily put appropriate-level work into folders for **your** kids that match **their** ability instead of their assigned grade level.

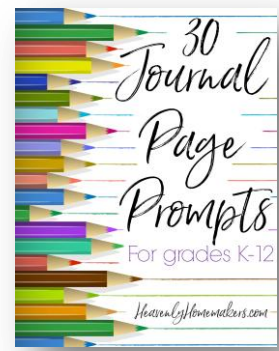

There's more where these came from – wait until you read the additional fun ideas for what you can add to the folders!



**LEARN IMPORTANT INFO ABOUT YOU!**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Street \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_  
State \_\_\_\_\_  
Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_  
Mom's Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Dad's Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Mom's Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Dad's Phone \_\_\_\_\_

**PRACTICE ADDRESSING AN ENVELOPE**



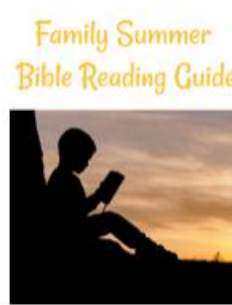
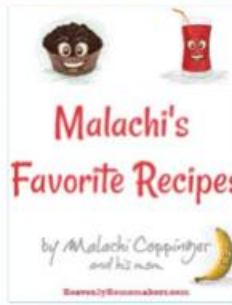
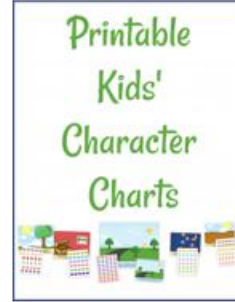
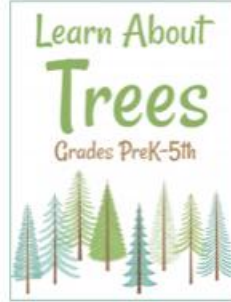
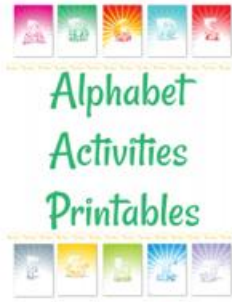
**Come get your Summer School at Home Toolbox!!**

[Become a Heavenly Homemakers Club Member](#) to gain access to this and thousands of dollars worth of additional resources. (Our goal is to bless as many as possible with our small membership fee. You won't believe [all you get for this price.](#))

Once you're a member, you can unpack your Summer School at Home Toolbox, which we believe will amaze you! Then, take a look around [our Club Membership site](#) to see all of the additional resources you just unlocked for yourself:

A sample of our eCurriculum:





Plus a peek at some of the eBooks we offer within our Club Membership:



There's so much more where that came from, but we hope that these sample screen shots show you what all you'll be able to use along with the incredible Summer School at Home eCurriculum we're providing!

It's all pretty awesome, and as simple as can be. You'll just click on whatever you're interested in – and it'll be yours to use!

[Join our Heavenly Homemakers Club now](#) and be among the first to use our *Summer School at Home Toolbox*!

