

Resources for Homeschooling a Teen with Asperger's

Social, Educational, and Support Groups

- **Echidnas2006**
 - Yahoo Group and Local meetings (my son, Daniel, is a member)
 - Provides social activity and support for 8th—12th grade teens and parent education and support
 - About 25% are home schoolers
 - Meetings held in Richardson and there is a waiting list
- **DallasAAHS—Dallas Autism Asperger Home Schoolers**
 - Yahoo Group and Local activities
 - contact is Connie at consielynne@yahoo.com
 - a group for middle and high school teens
 - provides social activities and support
- **HomeschoolingAspies Yahoo Group**
 - Dallas origin and very active
 - Online advice and support on education and other issues
- **DANISH—Dallas Asperger's Network for Information, Support, and Help**
 - Meetings are in Richardson
 - Probably the oldest DFW support group
 - Provides support, parent education, and opportunities to make friends
- **DallasPATH2009 Yahoo Group**
 - PATH is an official project of the Texas education establishment
 - It provides advocacy, information, education, and links to social groups and activities.
 - Examples are a notice for a course on transitioning that is open to parents and a notice of a Yugioh card playing gathering for middle schoolers.
- **Official education sites (Texas Education Agency)—professional and parent education**
 - Education Service Center Region 10 (Dallas area)—www.region10.org
 - Education Service Center Region 11 (Ft. Worth area)—www.esc11.net
 - Some courses are open to parents. This is a good way to keep up on the latest research
- **Private or University run professional education**
 - New England Research Institute—some are open to parents

Curriculum Resources

- Online courses are offered by some ISDs and universities. Texas Tech has one of the oldest high school programs in the state. You can officially enroll and be treated like a public school student complete with TAKS (or whatever) requirements or you can just enroll privately. This is called Distance Learning.
- Home Educators Resource (H.E.R.) is a store and an online supplier of many types of curriculum. You can get Christian-based or regular textbooks used in schools. There are many aids, games, and supplies available, including lab supplies. Regular textbook suppliers may not offer a solution manual.
- Regular textbook publishing companies often have a home school online catalog section. Again, you may not be able to get some answer books. However, there are some who will sell it to you.
- [Rainbow Resource Center](#)—print and online catalog with short reviews of the materials.
- There are many other print and online catalogs, just Google homeschooling.
- Local home school curriculum fairs such as the NTHEN one in Plano. More oriented towards elementary, but you can meet Texas Tech and Bob Jones University representatives.

Ask the home school people you meet for resources

Thanks to Becky Mueck for providing these Asperger's resources.

Resources for the Autism Spectrum

Internet Sites

- www.lovaas.com
- www.researchautism.org
- www.ubhs.net
- www.tonyattwood.com
- www.thegraycenter.org
- www.fhautism.com

Renown people in the field of autism spectrum disorder

- Dr. Peter Gerhardt
- Dr. Tony Attwood
- Dr. Vincent Carbone
- Dr. Temple Grandin
- Dr. Carol Gray
- Rebecca Moyes
- Dr. Ivar Lovaas
- Joanne Grenser Eden

Thanks to Peggy Day for providing these autism spectrum resources.

Peggy is an educational diagnostician and can be reached at:

Peggy Day and Associates • 972-612-5909 • 713-206-0551

Resources for Homeschooling a Teen with Bipolar Disorder

Public library

Homeschool support groups

CABF—Child & Adolescent Bipolar Foundation

<http://www.bpkids.org/>

<http://www.bpkids.org/connect/support-groups>

A national organization providing up-to-date information and support, as well as connections to local resources. Includes a discussion forum specifically for those homeschooling or considering homeschooling.

National Alliance on Mental Illness

NAMI Dallas—<http://www.nami.org/MSTEMPLATE.cfm?micrositeid=180>

Thanks to Vickie Gruben for providing the Bipolar Disorder resources.

Vickie's email, for those with additional questions, is schlfree@yahoo.com

Links to Information for and about Gifted Kids

Davidson Institute for Talent Development—www.davidsongifted.org

Discover a treasure trove under the “**Database**” tab on the home page, with a searchable article library and resource listing. This site is great for information about all levels of gifted, and one of the few that specifically addresses issues related to the profoundly gifted. The **Davidson Young Scholars** program offers guidance to the families of profoundly gifted kids (ages 5 – 18) and connections to other families across the country. **Davidson Fellows** receive large scholarships (\$10K - \$50K) for significant work in areas from musical performance to science research. **THINK Summer Institute** offers students ages 13 – 16 an opportunity to take intensive college classes during a 3-week residential summer session and earn 6 college credits.

Jan Davidson developed the Math Blaster software many years ago and left teaching to create an educational software company. Eventually her husband came in as the CEO. When they ultimately sold the company for a considerable sum, they used part of the money to fund this organization .

Hoagies’ Gifted Education Page—www.hoagiesgifted.org

The self-proclaimed “‘all things gifted’ page” that lives up to its name! You can find everything from articles about gifted identification to reviews of games to online classes and summer camps for gifted kids. Sections for parents, educators, and kids. Help support them by placing your next order for Amazon, Think Geek, etc through their affiliate links. No extra cost to you, but great support for a deserving cause!

TAMS – Texas Academy of Mathematics and Science—<http://www.tams.unt.edu/>

Residential program at University of North Texas in Denton where students spend their junior and senior years of high school taking college classes. At the end they receive a high school diploma as well as 2 years of college credit. This is a public school program, so there is no charge for tuition or books, just room and board. TAMS students (“tamsters”) live in their own dorm with more supervision than a regular college dorm. Every fall UNT offers several preview weekends for prospective students and their families. Prospective students can even sign up to follow a TAMS student for a day of classes.

Prometheus Academy—www.theprometheusacademy.com

Offers classes for home schooled kids. Great place for kids who are working ahead of grade level to get a good challenge. Science classes offer lots of hands-on lab work.

Metroplex Math Circle—<http://metroplexmathcircle.wordpress.com/>

Meets every Saturday afternoon from 2:00 to 4:00, and best of all, it’s FREE. Sponsored by UT-Dallas, Math Circle brings in speakers in areas of math problem solving. Great for anyone interested in math. Go beyond regular old math and into the wonderful world of discrete mathematics with subjects like Fibonacci numbers, Pascal’s Triangle, Counting and Probability, Game Theory, and more. Most attendees are at middle school level and above.

Mid-Cities Math Circle—<http://midcitiesmathcircle.wordpress.com/>

This math circle meets at UT-Arlington meets on a weekday night. Send an email through their website if you would like more information about the meeting schedule.

Art of Problems Solving (AoPS)—www.artofproblemsolving.com

Offers in-depth online math classes, math books, and FREE math resources. AoPS classes go further in depth than regular math classes. Alcumus is a free learning system with problems and videos that automatically provides more challenging material or more practice as needed. Students can track their performance with detailed progress reports. Alcumus is currently free. In the “Community” area of the AoPS site you will find user forums and Math Jams. Another free area is the “For the Win” where students can play against other players in problem solving “speed rounds.” The problems are based on the Countdown Round from the MATHCOUNTS competitions.

MATHCOUNTS—www.mathcounts.org

MATHCOUNTS is a national competition for 6th – 8th grade students. Their website includes Problem of the Week and Problems of the Month (both archived), instructional short videos, and lots of problems from past competitions. Of course, there’s also information about the competition itself. Be sure your middle school offers participation in one of the Dallas area chapter competitions!

American Math Competitions (AMC8, AMC10, & AMC12)—<http://www.unl.edu/amc/>

Cells Alive Biology—<http://www.cellsalive.com/>

Do you know a kid who loves microbiology? Be sure he or she checks this interactive site for microbiology, cell biology, and immunology. What’s your favorite organelle?

Discovering Music—http://www.discoveringmusic.net/course_info.htm

In the late 70s, James Burke brought us the Connections series on PBS. He wove a tapestry of threads that connected ideas that bridged different disciplines and time periods. Professor Carol Reynolds does the same thing for music with her Discovering Music—300 Years on Interaction in Western Music, Arts, History and Culture DVD series. Her energy is mind-boggling, and her enthusiasm is infectious. She gives a context to music history in the western world. This one is not a free resource, but you can see a brief demo on the site. The full program is much better than the preview, which gives a little taste but seems a bit disjointed.

Cogito—www.cogito.org “Connecting Young Thinkers from Around the World”

From Johns Hopkins Center for Talented Youth. Articles, essays, websites and webcasts on subjects from creative writing to chemistry. A great site for kids to explore.

Thanks to **Liza Hendricks** for providing the Gifted Kids resources.

Resources for Homeschooling a Teen with ADD/ADHD

- Homeschooling the ADD Child The website is www.addvance.com
- **Ed Hallowell, MD**, is my favorite! <http://www.drhallowell.com/add-adhd/>
- Book by Ed Hallowell's Delivered from Distraction: Getting the Most out of Life with Attention Deficit Disorder, **ISBN-13**: 978-0-345-44231-4

Dr. Mary Ann Block <http://www.blockcenter.com/> - (Hurst, TX) tests for ADHD symptoms related to food allergies, tests for one food allergy at a time (more effective testing), controlling ADHD without drugs.

Thanks to **Tracy Wallace** for providing the ADD/ADHD resources.

Other Books for Special Needs Teens

- Homeschooling for Excellence—David and Micki Colfax, **ISBN-13**: 978-0-446-38986-0
- Learning All the Time—John Holt, **ISBN-13**: 978-0-201-55091-7
- How Children Learn—John Holt, **ISBN-13**: 978-0-201-48404-5
- The Homeschooling Handbook—Mary Griffith, **ISBN-13**: 978-0-761-51727-6
- The Homeschooling Book of Answers—Linda Dobson, **ISBN-13**: 978-0-761-53570-6