

MINIMALIST HOME EDUCATION CHECKLIST



KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

- The Education Act s.21(2)(a) protects your right to educate your child at home in Ontario.
- You do not need school board permission or proof.
- A “Letter of Intent” is optional,

KEEP IT SIMPLE

- A safe, nurturing space for learning.
- Everyday resources you already own — books, games, internet access, kitchen tools.
- A few basic supplies: pencils, notebooks, paper, crayons or markers, scissors, tape.

FIND YOUR FAMILY RHYTHM

- Anchor points (meals, bedtime, family check-ins) instead of rigid schedules.
- Open conversations — questions, storytelling, planning together
- Time outdoors: walks, gardening, play, exploring nature.

LEARNING ESSENTIALS

- Curiosity and interests are the real curriculum.
- Follow their questions with the library, Google, YouTube, or mentors.
- Optional tools: a whiteboard, wall calendar, or journal to jot down ideas.

CONNECTION

- Community experiences: friends, volunteering, clubs, co-ops.
- Exploration tools: documentaries, podcasts, apps, games.
- Life skills: cooking, budgeting, pet care, building projects.

SUPPORT

- Trust yourself and your child - deschool alongside them.
- Keep just one or two guiding books or blogs (don't overload).
- Stay connected with one supportive circle: a local group, online community, or mentor.

YOU DON'T NEED:

- ✗ A curriculum for every subject.
- ✗ A classroom setup at home.
- ✗ Hour-by-hour lesson plans.
- ✗ Permission from the school board.

OTHER TASKS / NOTES

- 👉 Home education thrives on relationships, curiosity, and real-life experiences. Everything else is optional.
- 📌 This checklist is designed to reassure, not overwhelm. Home education is not about replicating school — it's about living and learning together.