

YOU KNOW YOU'RE A HOMESCHOOLER WHEN...

“Laughter does the heart good, like a medicine.”

Proverbs 17:22

Have you noticed that the homeschooling community has a culture all its own? For those of you who are new to the world of homeschooling, let me clue you in on a few telltale signs that a family is homeschooling.

You know you're homeschooling when...

- You no longer take family vacations; you take “field trips” instead.
- Your child asks for *The Journals of Lewis and Clark* for her 13th birthday.
- Your husband knows he must ask permission before consuming anything in the refrigerator, because it might be a science experiment.
- Your children spell “surely” with an “h” because that’s how Shurley Grammar is spelled.
- You rejoice when a spider lays an egg case on your window screen, because you are studying arachnids this month.
- You donate blood and bring your children along because the Red Cross doesn’t do field trips.
- If you see a mom with children out during school hours, you assume she is a homeschooler, instead of truant, especially if she’s wearing denim.
- Your library book box has wheels.
- The cost of your monthly library fines exceeds your water bill.
- You sing the books of the Bible song as you wash dishes.

Application Question

Do you have a tendency to take homeschooling too seriously and forget to laugh?

Action Step for This Week

Read the above list to your family at the dinner table and try to come up with a few “You Know You're a Homeschooler When...” statements of your own. Laugh together.

Prayer of Commitment

Lord, I know that You laugh, because we are created in Your image with the capacity to laugh. Help me not take homeschooling so seriously that I forget to have fun. Give me some fun ideas for ways to introduce more laughter into our homeschool this week.

Excerpted from *Joy in the Journey: Encouragement for Homeschool Moms* by Lori Hatcher. Used with permission.

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