

Do you think you're failing your son?

- ❖ Never assume you've failed because your child can't do something. Teachers never assume that they have failed because they have students who can't do things, so why does it all fall on *TI*?
- ❖ Red flags that can be raised and must be identified for action:
- ❖ When children rebel, argue for work, there is crying, shouting or volatile behavior. Check if it's your way of teaching, if they miss their friends, if they have no motivation, the methodology, etc. They can talk about the reasons for the behavior (listen to listen without judging) but there are always alternatives of negotiation and can reach a middle ground.

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- ❖ Red flags that can be raised and must be identified for action:
- ❖ If a child has problems or lags (reading, writing, comprehension, math) look for tools with a multisensory approach that really helps children to work with those skills (sounds, phonemic awareness, other aspects related to reading, spelling of words, games, applications, reinforcement). You can also let him choose the books he wants to read (after he acquires the skill to understand what he is reading it should not be so important if it's Don Quixote, The Diary of Anne Frank, Captain Boxers, Harry Potter or Greg's Diary (Wimpy Kid) since he will eventually have more challenging readings throughout his academic life), seeks manipulative, rubber/stone letters to form words, encourage him to have a special notebook for writing down his favorite words, favorite parts of stories, poems. The sky is the limit and homeschoolers can have that space of creativity and freedom that often cannot be given in a school environment.

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- ❖ Red flags that can be raised and must be identified for action:
- ❖ Uncooperative family members in Homeschooling. Do not allow toxic and negative people on the topic of Homeschooling to spend time with your child talking about ideas contrary to what you want to instill, You must make it clear that you do not want to hear anything related to your child's abilities and that they think about the lasting impact their negative words can have on a child. To be matching tasks and skills to a child based solely on a number (whether grade or chronological age) is synonymous with having a narrow mind. Every child must go his or her way. We homeschoolers are not looking for measurements or comparisons with society.

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❖ Red flags that can be raised and must be identified for action:

❖ Continued stress from having to manage a full-time job and educate at home. For these families (single parents, widowers, you need the second salary or simply your career fills you so much that you don't want to leave), home education is not impossible but requires organization. As children grow, they will have more independence and less direct supervision. Sometimes we have to make adjustments to balance and juggle between work and home. Many families look for a caregiver, change study schedules or simply leave the material more difficult or requiring explanation when one of the parents is at home. And because it takes a lot fewer hours than in a traditional setting, you can find the perfect balance for your family in the long run.

If your motivations for home education are fear, pressure and hysteria from external factors (school violence, bullying, pandemics, weather events, because it has become a fad for many, you are a second generation homeschooler). This isn't about a competition, it's about the future of your children. This decision is not for everyone. Ask yourself honestly you want to homeschooling and evaluate your answers.



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Red flags that can be raised and must be identified for action:

When you get too relaxed, you end up doing nothing with the kids. They're just a tiny minority, but they exist. Remember that Homeschooling is a lifestyle that requires commitment on your part and that the right to be educated belongs to the child. You pulled it out of a system to recreate the best possible experience for your child. There are more relaxed methodologies than others, but that does not mean you will have the child every day and all hours watching TV, taking naps, using electronic games, and they make themselves insecure in the world because they realize that there are a lot of topics and skills that they do not master or have no basic knowledge. Just don't use excuses as a front to let your kids do absolutely nothing during their school years.



All of these factors can disrupt your peace and lead you to a dark place in your mind if you let this be the predominant environment in your home.



You should not feel much pressure to show the world that home education works, especially if your child has any gaps, delays or special needs. As long as you see the child rising and progressing (mastering skills, achieving goals, in short: being happy while learning), you're doing a great job! Don't let others' opinions allow you to pressure your child. We are not perfect people and, in addition to learning academic skills, children also need to understand that by learning we make mistakes and improve. During that process he is growing and his focus on this will determine how he feels about himself in the future.

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❖ Some tips:

Start your day by doing things that motivate you and then start working with the children (reading, reflection, praying, exercising, even if it's 10-15 minutes).

Don't fill the kids with homework and pretend to achieve too many goals per day. It is not necessary to have a traditional school schedule from 8 am to 3 pm, nor to offer all classes every day.

If the child doesn't understand a concept, put it aside for a while. Then he will see it differently. Assess whether the material or curriculum is the problem.

Don't have them in too many extracurricular activities. Rest and the Boredom are an essential part of promoting a creative mind.

Every child has their own learning style, making home education an individual and personal experience. Don't copy what others do.

Homeschooling is a lifestyle, not a type of school.

Make time for yourself. Moments of rest, watching a movie, a good shower, reading a good book in the corner, talking with another adult... where no one bothers you. Parents need to recharge their batteries.

Make new homeschoolers friends in a support group. They are the ones who will shake your hand during those moments when you want to throw in the towel.



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❖ Some tips:

Change the routine if something is not going well. Throw the calendar out the window for a day, a week... you will feel good, but do it without feeling guilty. Make a Pyjama Day, Movie Day, and get out of the monotony.

It's not about results but about the process . Enjoy! You'll see the fruit over the years. So don't look at the wrong fruit (comparisons with others, what is not going well in the present).

Stop putting so much weight on what others who contribute nothing to your family core will say. Do not argue because the testimony will speak without words.

Sometimes hormones, fatigue, stress, thoughts and emotions play havoc. Don't self-control and schedule short, daily goals in terms of household tasks. Example: today I wash clothes, tomorrow mud and mapping, prepare food for several days.

But the most important thing is that you remember why you are doing it, FOR YOUR CHILDREN. Learn to pause the external noise that is created and give priority and importance to what actually has it. The years pass quickly, they will grow and fly with wings of their own. That time will not return. Only the memories will remain. Save them!

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- ❖ Now that you have addressed what is wrong in the house, in the heart, in the mind, it is time to make a change. Maybe the change is reevaluating what you're doing to reload and restart with better results. There are many great options!
- ❖ Or maybe you read all of this and realized that you're just listening to your negative thoughts and the red flags and warning signs are really not present. Of course, everyone has a bad day or even a week, but if you're happy to educate your children and, despite your doubts and everyday difficulties, things are going quite well. If this person is you then, hang in there! You're doing well,
Keep up the good work!