Week 2

Resource Guide: Deschooling & Reassurance

This is the reassurance list. If Week 1 was about logistics, this one's about the mental shift — the books and films that help you actually believe you can do this, pulled from what real families in our community say changed how they thought about learning.

How to use this guide: click any underlined name to open it. The 🎧 episode numbers on the right are podcast episodes where real families talk about that resource.

START HERE: THE BOOKS I RECOMMEND TO DESCHOOL YOURSELF

> *These are the seven from your workbook bookshelf. Pick the one that pulls at you most. Many are free on audio through Libby or Hoopla.*

Dumbing Us Down · John Taylor Gatto — a former Teacher of the Year on what school really teaches beyond the subjects — 🎧 Ep. 32, 56

Indoctrinating Our Children to Death · Alex Newman — the faith-based case many Christian families give for leaving public school — 🎧 Ep. 73

Free to Learn · Dr. Peter Gray — the research-based case for play and self-directed learning — 🎧 Ep. 50, 162

How Children Learn · John Holt — learn to watch, and trust, how your own child learns — 🎧 Ep. 3

The Call of the Wild + Free · Ainsley Arment — a warm picture of what homeschooling can feel like

The Brave Learner · Julie Bogart — for when homeschooling feels like a grind and you want the joy back — 🎧 Ep. 66

Taking Back My Life · Mary Wainwright — my friend Mary's memoir of her family's shift to homeschooling

BOOKS FOR ADULTS — HOMESCHOOLING, PARENTING & EDUCATIONAL PHILOSOPHY

Teaching from Rest · Sarah Mackenzie — encouragement and practical guidance for homeschooling — 🎧 Ep. 66

Awakening Wonder · Sally Clarkson — homeschooling/parenting resource — 🎧 Ep. 66

For the Children's Sake · Susan Schaeffer Macaulay — influential Charlotte Mason book — 🎧 Ep. 66

Better Together · Pam Barnhill — family learning and morning-basket resource — 🎧 Ep. 66

Your Morning Basket · Pam Barnhill — a practical framework for shared morning learning time — 🎧 Ep. 4, 66

A Pocket Full of Pinecones · Karen Andreola — nature study and Charlotte Mason-inspired learning — 🎧 Ep. 66

Know and Tell · Karen Glass — resource about narration — 🎧 Ep. 66

Honey for a Child's Heart · The imaginative use of books in family life — 🎧 Ep. 187

Educating the WholeHearted Child · Clay & Sally Clarkson — Christian homeschool guidance and curriculum ideas — 🎧 Ep. 66

The Charlotte Mason Companion · Karen Andreola — introduction to Charlotte Mason's educational philosophy — 🎧 Ep. 56

Waldorf Education: A Family Guide · Waldorf education resource — 🎧 Ep. 56

Restoring Childhood · Peter Gray

How Children Fail · John Holt — children's learning and conventional education — 🎧 Ep. 3

Anyone Can Homeschool · Available on Amazon, Kindle, and Audible

Home Sweet Homeschool · Available on Amazon and Kindle

Knowledge Keepers Bookstore · Resource for homeschool books

So You Want to Homeschool · my ebook: myths, real answers, and what I learned from 200+ families — The Homeschool How To

Being There · Erica Komisar on why a parent's presence matters in the early years — 🎧 Ep. 63

DOCUMENTARIES — FOR YOU

Homeschooled · Documentary about homeschooling — 🎧 Ep. 137

The Death of Recess · Documentary about recess and children's education — 🎧 Ep. 159, 160

The Truth About Reading · Documentary about reading instruction and literacy — 🎧 Ep. 25

Class Dismissed · Documentary about the education system and the history of schooling — 🎧 Ep. 3

DOCUMENTARIES — FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY

My Octopus Teacher · Nature documentary — Netflix

On the Way to School · Children traveling to school in different parts of the world — Prime Video / Apple TV

Dream Big · Educational documentary — Prime Video / YouTube

Caine's Arcade · Short documentary about creativity, entrepreneurship, and childhood — YouTube

The Biggest Little Farm · Farming, ecosystems, and sustainable agriculture — Prime Video

Pick of the Litter · Dogs training to become service animals — AMC

The Speed Cubers · Competitive Rubik's Cube solving — Netflix

Secrets of the Whales · Nature documentary series — Disney+

Kiss the Ground · Regenerative agriculture and soil — 🎧 Ep. 56

Common Ground · Companion to Kiss the Ground — 🎧 Ep. 56

Breaking Big Food · The American food system — 🎧 Ep. 151

LEARNING DIFFERENCES & SPECIALIZED SUPPORT

EBLI (Evidence-Based Learning Instruction) · Structured reading instruction, great for dyslexic readers, using a speech-to-print approach — 🎧 Ep. 25

The Truth About Reading · Documentary for parents exploring reading instruction and literacy — 🎧 Ep. 25

LearningRx · Cognitive learning support program mentioned by a homeschool family — 🎧 Ep. 160

Spellers · Resource/approach for children who are nonspeaking or have difficulty with traditional spelling/writing — 🎧 Ep. 56

A few notes

- You don't need to get through this whole list — pick one book and one documentary that speak to wherever you're stuck.
- The "Learning Differences" section is here for the "what if my child learns differently" fear specifically — skip it if it doesn't apply to your family.