

## Homeschool Q&A #050305

Hope you are having a great week! Weather here in Alaska has been stupendous - we've even been setting record breakers. We are all very happy to be warm outside and see the trees starting to bud and the flowers starting to bloom!

Let's get right into today's Q&A:

***"...I felt I was letting my child fall by the wayside in public school. I want only the best for all my childred [sic]. I just don't know what is enough and how long he should be working?" Shelby Bartram***

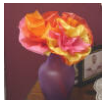
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### **ARE YOU PREPARED FOR MOTHER'S DAY?**

Mom's need something that lasts. Something with value that exceeds anything money could buy. And there nothing more valuable or precious to a mother than something handmade by her children.

It doesn't have to be expensive. It doesn't have to be time consuming. It just needs to come from the heart.

So, what are your kids going to make Mom for Mother's Day? How about a bouquet of flowers? Forget about buying ones from the florist. They're expensive and die before you know it. I'm talking about easy, handmade flowers that can quickly become the most beautiful and treasured bouquet ever.



If you're wanting to surprise Mom on Mother's day, then get this quick, instant download. It has step by step instructions with full color photos of how to make your Mom the most precious bouquet of flowers ever!

[Click Here](#) to get your [Mother's Day Bouquet Instant Download!](#)

(Instant download requires free Adobe Acrobat reader available at <http://www.adobe.com/support/downloads/main.html> )

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**L.B.:** Shelby, that is always a concern when beginning to homeschool, so you're not alone out there! New homeschool moms often feel like they are not devoting enough "time". But, let me assure you that the public school system is filled with wasted time. And, that time also tends to be convenient for working parents.

At the beginning of the year, determine what your goals are. Decide how you are going to accomplish that goal. And then do as much or as little time as your child needs. Just don't be too rigid - be flexible and sensitive. Your not wanting to copy the public schools structure or time - don't be afraid to relax and have fun!

If you need more help with getting started, [click here](#).

**"HI LAURA, I RECENTLY BEGAN WORKING WITH 18 MONTH TO 3 YEAR OLDS I AM TRYING TO COME UP WITH A CLASS INVOLVING COOKING TO INTEREST THIS WIDE AGE RANGE CAN YOU GIVE ME ANY IDEAS? ARE 18 MONTH OLDS TO YOUNG TO BEGIN BASIC COOKING? THANK YOU"  
MACKENZIE**

**L.B.:** Hi Mackenzie (I like how your name is spelled!). As I'm sure you've already discovered, those bright minds are ready for challenges; and their bodies need activities to develop their preschool motor skills.

Cooking is PERFECT for that age range-I've had my kids on the counter helping me since they were old enough to sit up. Your situation will need to be a little more controlled and planned; and the recipes you choose should be carefully chosen to fit the number of children that you have. Flour can start flying faster than you can blink! :-)

If you want easy recipes planned out for you with all supplies and ingredients done for you, visit <http://www.homeschoolcookbook.com>

Good luck and have fun!

**"Good morning. My name is Lori Smith and I work with mentally challenged adults who are mostly living independently. My plans are to start a 13 week course of cooking skills and am looking for lesson plans that would be at their level. Could you send me or fax me a copy of the syllabus you use or the table of contents to see if this would be a tool I could use."**

**L.B.** Lori, I don't think that my cooking with kids system would work for your needs. This system is designed for homeschool families to allow children to make things on their own to stimulate creativity and get practical experience in reading and following directions. I think what you're doing is great. I visited the Shepherd home in Wisconsin a couple of times and had time to get a tour and volunteer a little. They weren't living independently, but they did most of the jobs and were always so happy doing it! I was greatly touched by their outlook on life.

Well, that's enough for today - have more homeschool to do myself!!!



Laura Bankston

*Laura Bankston is author of the Cooking with Kids Curriculum: "Cooking With Kids System In a Box" and the "Homeschool Cookbook". She currently home schools her three children, maintains home school support websites, and manages their family-owned service business. For information on her curriculum and free home school support services, please visit <http://www.homeschoolcookbook.com>*

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