

CONNECT & LEARN TOGETHER: CREATE A HUB FOR YOUR HOMESCHOOLERS

Deborah Ward, MSLS - Elementary Services Senior Librarian

Cory Bland - Youth & Family Services Library Coordinator

Natalie Sifuentes - Youth & Family Services Library Coordinator

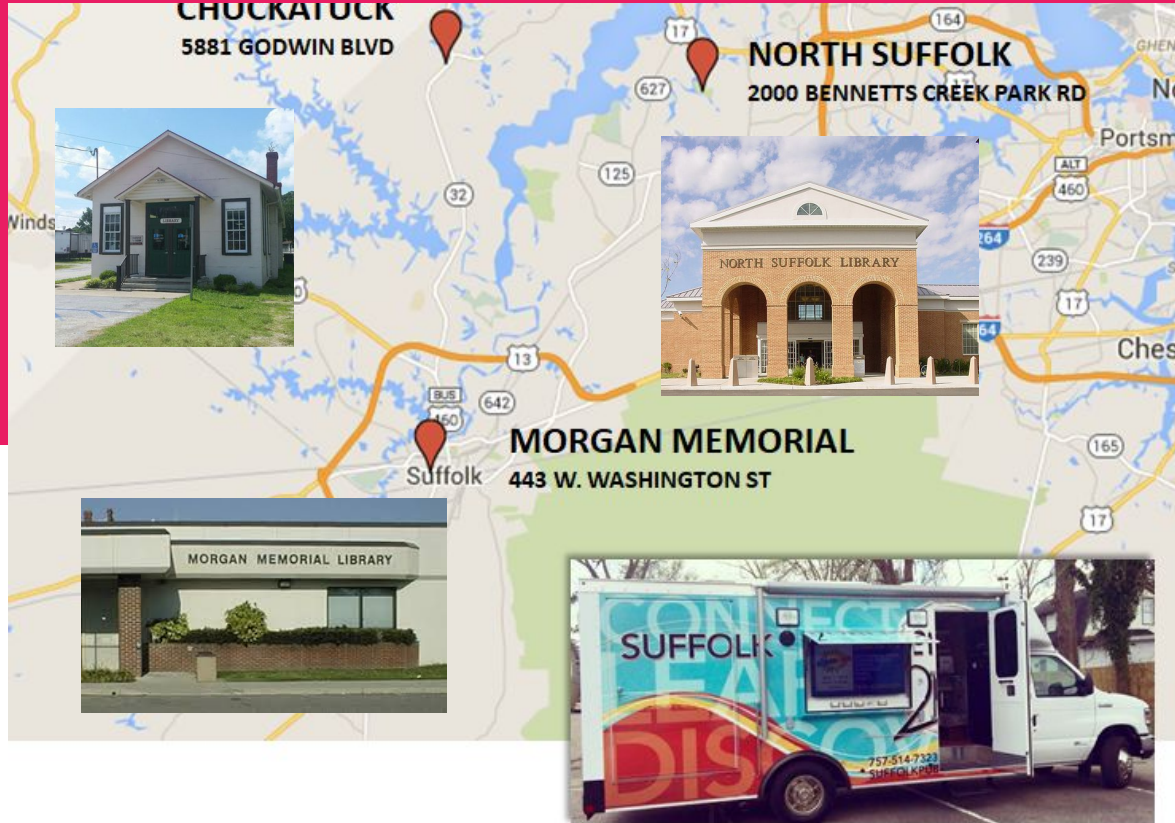
Mary Elizabeth Baesler, BA Ed., - Homeschooling Parent

Sarah Gary, BS Family & Child Development, - Homeschooling Parent



SUFFOLK
PUBLIC LIBRARY

HAVE YOU MET SUFFOLK?





John Crist ✓

@johnbcrist

Follow

Find someone who loves you as much as
homeschool kids love the library.

Connect & Learn Together

- **Experiential Homeschooling Programming**
- **Family Learning**
- **Community Partners - Experts & City Departments**

HOMESCHOOL HUB

- Wide age range - PK-12th
- Family learning
- Experiential learning
- Timing: mid-day, 10 to 2



WHAT WE LEARNED



- **Worked with our strengths**
 - Bringing the people in
 - Having the facilities
 - Resources for connecting
 - Reaching out
- **Know our limits**
 - We not teachers, beyond the scope of program to expect that of ourselves
 - Wide age range can provide growth opportunities
- **Sought experts**

Community Partnerships

- Connections
- Communication
- Coaching the Experts
 - Multitape presentations



FIELD TRIPS/TOPICS



- Family learning
- Experiential learning
- Community connections

#allthelearning

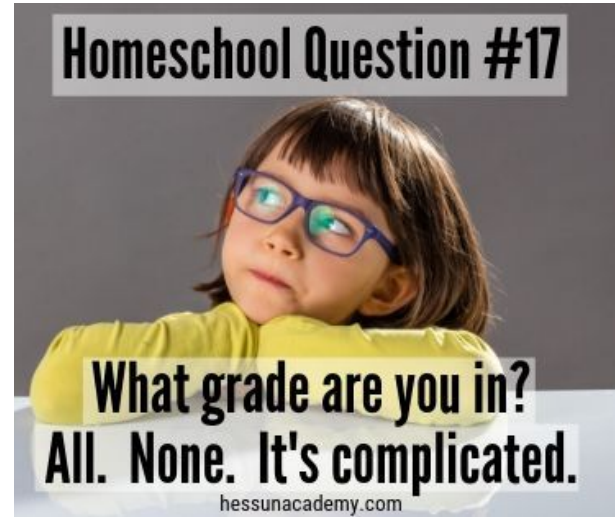
- Same goals
 - Lifelong learners
 - Passion for learning
 - Give back to society/strong community service
 - Enhance learning
- Integrating of purpose
- Community resource partnership

WHEN YOUR HOMESCHOOL KID ASKS A QUESTION AND YOU DON'T KNOW THE ANSWER



PARENT PERSPECTIVES

- First came to library because of early children's programming



- Deciding to homeschool

LIBRARIES THEN & NOW



- No food
- Quiet

- “Living room” feel
- Comfortable
- Welcoming



NO LONGER HAVE TO CHOOSE



➤ **Cool library programs vs. afterschool activities**



CHESS CLUB



“HOME”

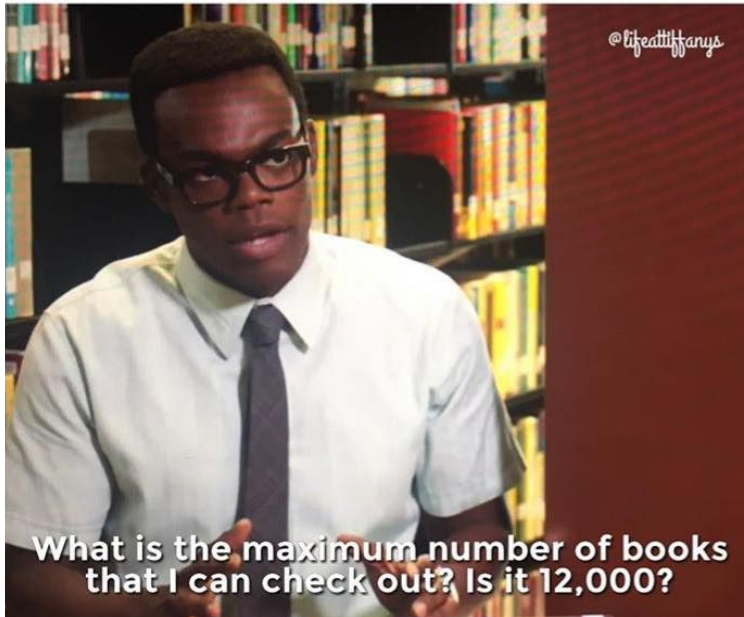


Develop a passion for learning. If you do, you will never cease to grow.

Anthony J. D'Angelo

COMMUNICATION

When homeschoolers visit the library:



Your Turn!

How does this relate to your library?

How can you get started at your branch/system for your community?



RESEARCH ~ LOGISTICS ~ RELATIONSHIPS
GETTING STARTED ~ MARKETING ~ RESOURCES

RESEARCH



RESEARCH



- Reach out
- Ask all the questions
- Styles of Learning

LOGISTICS *Think outside the box*

- Homeschool mindset
- Flexibility is key



LOGISTICS *Think outside the box*

- Age-specialized programming
- Use of space
- Budget

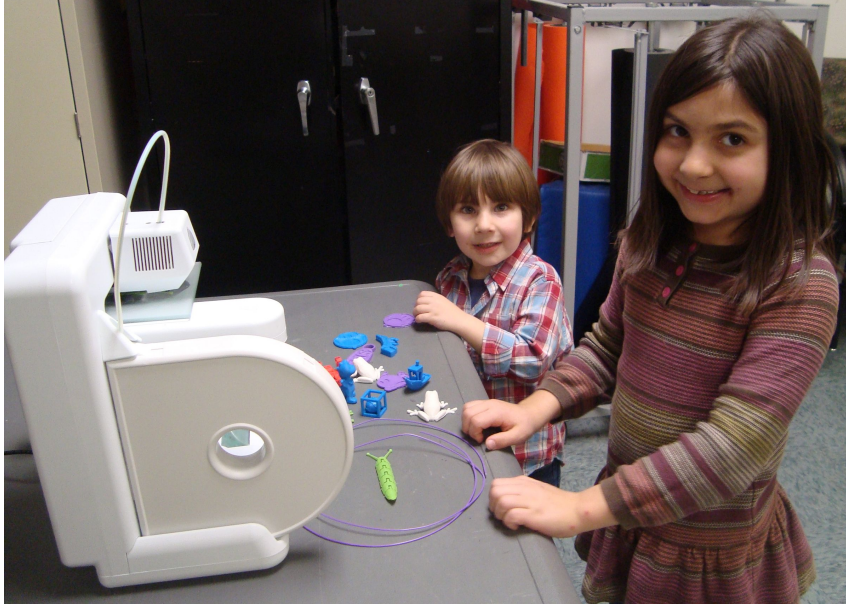


RELATIONSHIPS



- Building relationships
- Networking

RELATIONSHIPS



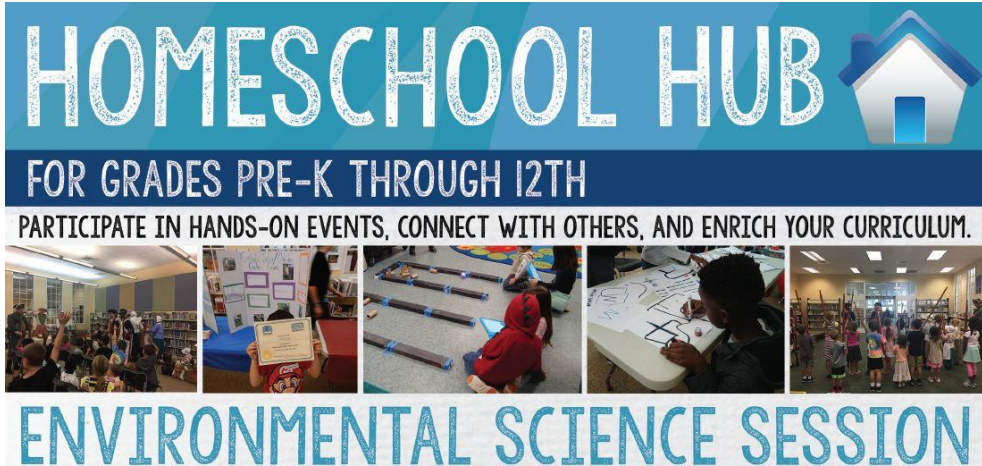
- Communication
- Listen & Observe
- Diversity & Inclusion


GETTING STARTED

- Homeschool Meetup
 - How We Started
 - What We Changed
 - How It Became Better
- Communication Key to Improvement




MARKETING



HOMESCHOOL HUB 

FOR GRADES PRE-K THROUGH 12TH

PARTICIPATE IN HANDS-ON EVENTS, CONNECT WITH OTHERS, AND ENRICH YOUR CURRICULUM.



ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE SESSION

- Verbiage
- Family Programming
- Timing
- Stay in Contact

Date: Tuesday, October 29, 2019
Time: 2:00pm - 3:00pm
Location: City Hall: 442 W Washington St, Suffolk
Site: Offsite
Categories: [Elementary](#) [Family](#) [Teen](#)

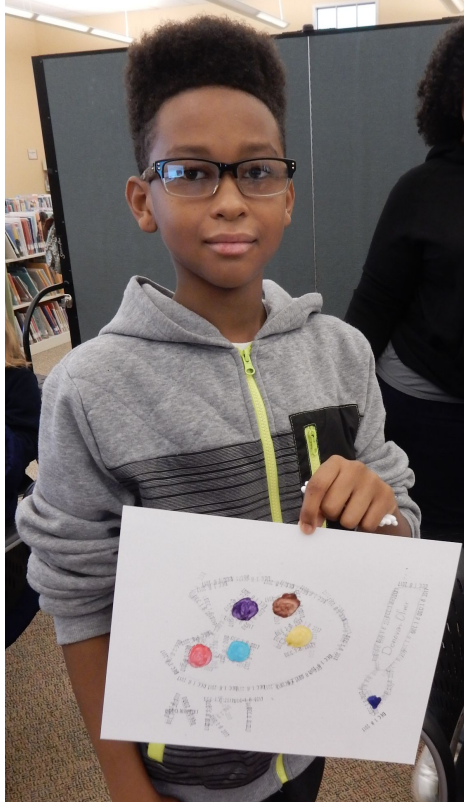


RESOURCES

- Home Educators Association of Virginia (HEAV)
- The Organization of Virginia Homeschoolers (VAH)
 - Local homeschool groups (support, co-ops)
- Virginia Department of Education
 - Guidelines for Home Instruction
- Local Facebook groups



FUTURE



- Still Changing and Growing
- Connecting with Community Partners
- Collaborative Learning
- What's Next? Art!

IMPACTS



- Family Programming
- Field Trips
 - ESL
 - Summer - Mess Hall
 - On Saturdays
- Other success stories



Deborah Ward - dward@suffolkva.us

Cory Bland - cbland@suffolkva.us

Natalie Sifuentes - nsifuentes@suffolkva.us

Contact Us

#SPLchallengesYOU

