

You Can Do This!

It's not going to be easy, but it is going to be worth it. I once attended an Online School convention where the presenter explained her schooling at home experience like this – “Completing an online home school program with your child is like riding a roller coaster – at first you start the climb, your car slowly moving up higher and higher, you are excited – a bit nervous not knowing exactly what to expect. You reach the summit, your car makes a brief pause and you look out over the park below it's beautiful up there! Then – WOW! YIKES! AHHH! You whip around, turn upside down and whiz this way and that. Your hands fly in the air and you scream! It's exciting, it's scary – you want to laugh you want to cry! The cart comes to an abrupt stop – it's over....PHEW..... Now that it's over you think – wow that went by fast. And guess what, even though there was a time you weren't sure if you were going to come out alive – you made it AND *you can't wait to do it again!!!*” ☺

I thought this was a cute simile. You have a big job ahead – but you also have a lot of great resources available to help you and your student(s) have a positive, academically rich school year.

So, what are the expectations?

Daily/Weekly To Do's:

Check your email daily – this is our main source of communication, so please be sure to get in a habit of logging into your email each day. And—if you are not receiving regular emails from me please call or email me right away, so I can verify that you are on my distribution list. *If you use twitter – follow UintahOnline for convenient updates right on your phone.

Students 2nd – 8th need to complete 5.5 hours of school work each day (1st grade 4.5 hours and K 2.75 hours). This school work needs to include 1 LA (2 hours each day) and 1 Math (1 hour each day) lesson daily. Science and History (both 1 hour lessons) 2-3 times per week and other elective courses or at home activities to fill in time. You will be marking lessons as complete and entering attendance on a daily basis. We ask that if a student complete a lesson in less than the default time, that you leave it at default. If your student takes longer to master the objective, please enter in the appropriate time.

Students need be completing approximately 11% of the curriculum each month (September – May). *You will notice that there will be a few LA components that will not show adequate progress the first few months – don't worry, this course work will eventually come up in your lessons but it may not be until later in the school year. Students need to master lesson assessments with an 80% or higher for the lesson to be marked as complete. If a student does not score an 80% or higher, please review the objectives with them and have them retake the assessment until mastered.

Students 3rd – 8th need to be spending time each week, working in the UtahWrite online program. This is not part of the k12 curriculum. This is an additional writing program purchased for our students by the Uintah Online Community Council. I will be emailing out directions and more information on this mid-September.

On Site Assessments done throughout the school year:

The following are the Required Assessment for the school year. I will email you about dates/times as they grow closer.

Students K-3 will complete Benchmark Reading Assessments 3 times throughout the school year. I will be sending the date/time/location via email.

8th Grade Students will complete a preparatory ACT test at the Vernal Middle School on September 18th. I will be sending the time and better directions via email.

5th and 8th grade students will participate in the Direct Writing Assessment two times throughout the school year. I will be sending out the date/time/location via email.

All students will participate in the year end assessment given spring 2014. I will be sending out the date/time/location via email.

What Else?

You will find as I email out more information, that there are many other resources and activities available to you through Uintah Online. For now, I will leave you with this required information and encourage you to spend some time navigating through your OLS, looking through the links on our school website and starting the process of learning by doing ☺ we are so excited to have you in our program and I am always happy to help!

*Please go to uonk12.org and click on “OLS Instructions and Tutorials”

