

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. I can't promise you that there won't be times when you wonder “what was I thinking!” “This is so hard and takes so much time!”. But – I can tell you that with dedication and commitment, you will end with a great experience and you will be amazed at the student gains that can be accomplished in just one school year. Yes, 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. Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to be one of these resources.

I have put together some Informational documents and loaded them to my class website under the tab “INFO”. Our class website address is: www.untahonline.com please visit it often. It's going to be a great school year, don't hesitate to contact me with questions, comments or concerns. I am always happy to help! -- Rebecca.

So, what are the expectations?

Daily/Weekly To Do's:

Student Login daily – Students MUST have their own student account and it must be accessed every school day. K12 sends me a student login report and this is what I am required to use to mark daily attendance for the state. We like to keep your school calendar open for you to customize, so when your student is taking a day off, email me excusing his/her absence – so I can mark it on our state side as “parent excused”. A student who accumulates 10 consecutive days of no attendance is required to be withdrawn from the school. *The report I get does not track time spent in the program, so you do not need to worry about being “logged in” the whole school day. The account simply has to be accessed.

Learning Coach 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.

Students 2nd – 8th need to complete 5.5 hours of schooling 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 through your Learning Coach (LC) k12 account or OLS. 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 on a subject area, please erase the default time and enter in the amount of time spent. We want to make sure students are getting the hourly credit for course work completed.

Students need be completing approximately 11% of the curriculum each month (September – May). 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. If a student

does not master the assessment the second time, I recommend you print off a copy of the assessment to review it with the student and go over on paper, what questions are wrong.

K-3 Waterford Early Learning – Reading: Waterford Early Learning is another online curriculum program I use for students in Kindergarten - Second grade. Waterford Early Learning will be accessed online and should be done independently each day by your student. Each daily session is automatically timed for about 15-20 minutes (depending on grade level) and will prompt your student to end the session when time is up. This is an important piece of the Uintah Online LA curriculum for Kindergarten through Second grade and daily usage is essential for adequate progress to be made.

Ice Cream Math: I have uploaded a packet of materials to be used throughout the year for Math fact practice. Please go to our class website uintahonline.com. Go to Student Resources and Games and click on the Ice Cream Math links. Print off the packets and be sure to include math fact practice in your daily instruction. I will be putting together a big Ice-Cream/Swim Party later in the year for all students who master their math facts!

1st – 8th Grade: Moby Max. Moby Max is an online curriculum program we will use for daily Math fact practice and for some Middle School students to complete their required Vocabulary course.

MobyMax Math Fact Practice: Practicing Math facts is a very important part of everyday math instruction, just as I mentioned above in the Ice Cream Math section. Students will be given a username and password to access their Moby Max Fact Practice program. This program is a short 5 minute timed session and will track what facts have been mastered. It is like an online flash card system – the student sees a problem and is given a few seconds to type in the answer. It's a great way for students to practice and this is the way I will keep track of who has passed off all the facts for our party. Please make sure you are having your student access Moby Max at least once a week.

Moby Max Vocabulary: Middle School students (6-8) have the option of using Moby Max vocabulary in place of the k12 vocabulary program. I have found the K12 Vocabulary course to be an area of frustration for many Middle School students. Your student now has the option of using Moby Max online to complete his/her Vocabulary course. This course needs to be completed 3 times per week.

What Else:

Vocabulary/Spelling City: I am creating an extra resource for K-6 grade students to practice their phonics skills and spelling. There is a spelling course assigned to you in your k12 curriculum and I am working to create these spelling lists through Vocabulary/Spelling City. This will give your student online access to games, practice tests and many more activities to do online that will correlate directly with the words they are working on. I hope you find this resource helpful. <https://www.spellingcity.com/rhalderson/>

Composition Papers: At the end of each K12 Composition Unit, your student will have a paper to submit to me.

School Socials/Events: I can't wait to meet all of you in person! This year you will be invited to attend the following school get togethers as well as participate in some fun online events. Exact dates/times are TBD. I will keep our class website updated so please check it out often to see what's going on. uintahonline.com

Fall – Bluebell Corn Maze

Winter – Ice Skating/Gingerbread Creations ; Math Fact mastery party

Spring – Movie Party and a Wasatch Front event

Online Events: Fall Progress Blitz Challenge ; Composition Submission Drawing

National, State and District Testing: Uintah Online will participate in mandated state and district testing. The ones I know of as of now will be the Easy CBM Reading assessments for K – 3rd students fall, winter and spring. The SAGE test for 3rd – 8th grade students given at the end of the school year.