



Home Education South West Newsletter

Winter 2012

Hi All,

Welcome to the Winter 2012 edition of the HESW Newsletter. In these tough economic times with food and fuel prices continuing to rise, HESW is trying to do its bit to help by focusing on what deals, discounts and free stuff is available to home educators in the area.

[Education discounts](#)
[What's on](#)
[Local HE news](#)
[Product review](#)
[Website resources](#)

 Educational discounts

A lot of HE families are confident with the education they are providing for their children and the only kind of 'support' that they feel would be really useful from LAs would be help with acquiring resources and learning experiences. Families are often on low incomes as the decision to HE may mean that there is only one income coming in or in the case of one parent families little or no income. School children have funds allocated for their education (from our taxes) but unfortunately this money does not follow the child into home education, not even in part.

Any kind of funding/resources from LAs is virtually non-existent for home education. However, the positive outcome we can draw from this, is that it has made home educators very good at finding resources for themselves and sharing their findings with others.

HE families can quite often get education/school discounts at museums, galleries, parks and the like. The discounts are often only applicable Mondays to Fridays during term-time and you do need to ask.

Below are a few examples of where discounts are available to home educators in the area. If you have recently visited a venue that has given you an educational discount, please [contact us](#) at HESW and let us know, so that we may pass it on to other EHE families in order that they can also benefit.

[At-Bristol](#) runs a series of Home Educators' Days, full of interactive science activities, workshops and shows exclusively for Home Educating Families! Each paying child is entitled to bring a free accompanying adult. They also offer educational rates to HE families at all other times.

Visit their website for more information: <http://www.at-bristol.org.uk/homeeducators>

The [Bridport Arts Centre](#) extends its 'schools' discounted ticket prices to HE

One of their next performances where a discount is available is The Secret Garden on Friday 24th Feb with a ticket price of £5.

For more info and to book visit: <http://www.bridport-arts.com/whats-on/event-details?id=683>



[The Eden Project](#) offers a discounted ticket for home educators. This ticket is only purchasable on site when you actually enter Eden and they will need to see proof that you are home educators (i.e. some kind HE membership/group card). The price of each ticket is £3.70 per person (both Children and Adults).

Home educators can sometimes also get educational discounts with online courses or resources:

[Conquer maths](#) currently offer a 40% discount to home educators if you use the voucher code 'HOMEED' when you sign up.

If you are a member of Education Otherwise, HEAS or ThenUK you can get a discount for [Education City](#).

 Competition

[Fanfare competition for 11 - 16 year olds](#)

Create a piece of music that is catchy, powerful, attention-grabbing and 30 seconds long. R.O.H. are looking for 10 new fanfares to be played before performances at the Royal Opera House to let the audience know it is time to take their seats. No matter what experience you have, from singing in your bedroom to playing in an orchestra, from beat boxing to jazz improvisation, they want to hear your ideas!



 Product review

[Magic Cauldron](#)

We have a copy of this game at our home education group. Although we have many games to choose from, the Magic Cauldron is a firm favourite with the children and has been regularly played by many children over the years.

 What's on

[back to top](#)

East Devon Countryside Services are now taking bookings for their '[John Muir Award](#)' courses which are running this summer near Seaton. Early booking is advised, so if you are interested [click here](#) to download more info and a booking form.

[Royal Albert Memorial Museum & Art Gallery](#) in Exeter has many FREE events throughout the year. Some of those coming up soon include: Victorian photographer, Animated RAMM, meet the artist, gallery soap-box sessions, gripping yarns, the Romans have arrived!

[Pearl of Dorset Parade through the Town](#) of Lyme Regis, Sun 26th Feb.

Celebrating the end of *Pearl of Dorset's* 14 years service the boat, on its trailer, is to be paraded through the town as a special 'thank you' to the people whose contributions paid for it to be built. With an escort supplied by police and the coastguards, the *Pearl of Dorset* will set off from the lifeboat station at 12 noon.



[National Science & Engineering Week](#): 9 - 18 March 2012

Get inspired with the wonders of science and engineering by [attending an event](#) near you, many are free.

The British science association website also has some "try this at home" activities to have a look at.

[Frome Potato day and seed swap](#) - Bring your surplus seeds to swap at this annual event, purchase seed potatoes, onion sets, shallots, fruit trees, bushes and heritage seeds. Other stalls selling plants, books, food, plus local community groups. Sun 26th Feb.

11.00am - 3.00pm at the Cheese & Grain. Admission £1. Ample free parking.

Local HE news

The [Home Education Centre](#) is pleased to announce that they are now running sessions 3 days per week on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

This has meant that they have been able to invite many more families to join their group and much to their delight clear their waiting list.

There are in fact currently still a few places left for families to join the Monday sessions; for any families interested please contact HEC.



Home Education Centre

There is now a new [Yahoo group for HE families in Okehampton](#) and the surrounding areas.

Website resources

[back to top](#)

[Kahn Academy](#) - 'Watch. Practice. Learn almost anything for free'

[Parliament Education service](#) - play games and access resources to better understand Parliament and democracy in the UK.

[Art Project](#) - Explore museums from around the world, discover and view hundreds of artworks at incredible zoom levels, and even create and share your own collection of masterpieces.

[Newsletter Winter 2012]