



**How to
tell your
homeschool
story**

How to
tell your
homeschool
story

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- Introduction
- 3 Reasons to Write Your Story
- Build Your Story
- Tell Your Story
- Conclusion

INTRODUCTION

At Beautiful Feet Books we have an enduring love of story. Stories tell us who we are, where we came from, why we are here, and where we're going. Stories open worlds, expand our viewpoints, and introduce us to new people, places, and ideas.

Today we want to invite you to tell *your* story. The one about your homeschooling journey.

In recalling when you first made the decision to homeschool, and the many decisions since, it's helpful digging in and discovering again how you got to where you are now. Remembering your story and going through the process again will give you such a valuable perspective in reinforcing your beliefs, intention, and goals.

In answering each question, you will get closer and closer to ultimately building a short and repeatable version of your story that you can share with family and friends. Sharing your experience invites others to participate in your story, to walk in your shoes, and offers you the opportunity for encouragement and honesty.

So jump in, be honest, and enjoy the process! And the next time someone asks why you homeschool, you'll know exactly what to say.

3 REASONS TO WRITE YOUR STORY

1. CLARITY

Clarifying your story shows you how far you've come.

2. COMPASS

Knowing your story helps your decision-making and guides you on your journey.

3. CHANGE

Telling your story is transformative. Reliving your journey provides hope and a path forward.

LET'S GET STARTED!

TO BUILD YOUR STORY, record your thoughts in the provided spaces. We've offered a few tips and example responses from parents who have shared their stories with us. These are meant to inspire and help but keep in mind, there are no wrong (or better) answers. There is not a model journey. You and your family's story is uniquely different. Embrace it!

1

Who are you and why are you
homeschooling?

2

What challenges brought you
to consider homeschooling?
How did they make you feel?

7

What is the happy
outcome you want to
experience?

3

Who did you meet or what did
you read that helped you?

**Discover
your
homeschool
story**

6

What could have been lost if
you didn't move forward?

4

What plan did you
come up with?

5

What did it feel like to move
forward with your plan?

1. Who are you and why are you homeschooling?

TIP: Describe yourself and what you really want from homeschooling.

“ Mom to 4 kids (2,5,7,7) and I am homeschooling to give my children freedom to learn outside the classroom. ”

WRITE
HERE!

2. What challenges brought you to consider homeschooling?

How did these challenges make you feel?

TIP: Think of the circumstances that brought you closer to homeschooling? Then dig deep and really describe how you felt. Honesty here is crucial!

“The school system in our area was not the best. I could not let my kids be measured by outcomes and conformity all day long. I felt scared to take them out of school and quite honestly had a lot of doubt at the time.”

FEELING STUCK?
DRAW SOMETHING!



3. Who did you meet or what did you read that helped you?

TIP: What was that one "moment" that helped you. Did you attend a conference? Read a powerful book? Have a life-changing conversation?

“My oldest was very out-of-the-box, and I knew intuitively that a typical classroom would absolutely crush her. After I read *For the Children’s Sake* I was sold. I knew homeschooling would be the best fit for our family.”

USE YOUR
FAVORITE
PEN.

4. What plan did you come up with?

TIP: After these challenges, what did you decide to do?
What or who helped you make this plan?

“After a combination of research, reading books, finding resources, and talking with trusted friends who were homeschoolers I found curriculums that I thought would best suit my family and we jumped in.”

WRITE THIS ONE
OUTSIDE IN YOUR
FAVORITE NATURE
SPOT!

5. What did it feel like to take action on the plan?

TIP: Tap into the heart on this one. What were those feelings that stuck out after you made a decision? Did you feel excited? Empowered? Hopeful?

“For the first time in a long time I felt peace. I felt like I was giving my children the best gift I could offer them as a mother! I knew things were going to change and I felt excited about the direction our children's education was headed!”

WRITE SIDWAYS IF
YOU FEEL LIKE IT.

6. What could have been lost if you didn't move forward?

TIP: What would occurred if you did not move forward with your plan?

“ I really believe my children's childhood would have been stolen away. We may have lost the adventure of learning together or even the chance to cultivate an enjoyable learning atmosphere. They might have lost the opportunity and ability to think for themselves at an early age.”



TAKE A DEEP
BREATH & SIP
THAT COFFEE!

7. What is the happy outcome you want to experience?

TIP: Think of your dream homeschool environment! What do you truly want to receive and what do you want to give to your kids through homeschooling?

“To give my kids the gift of shared memories and quality time. To teach them that all of life is learning, not just the 7 hours you are at a school. The dream would be to do less and learn more. . . together.”



**TYPE A? WRITE
THIS AS A LIST!
(A DREAM LIST!)**

TELL YOUR STORY

After you have answered each question, you'll be ready to create the short and repeatable version of your story! Don't worry, we're going to help you do that. Award-winning author of the book *Story*, Robert McKee, tells us that the goal must be a good story, well told. A well-told story not only invites others in, but also helps drive the decisions you make, the atmosphere you create, the activities you sign up for, the books you read, and so much more. It's important!

To build your short story, answer the following questions then combine them in 3 to 5 sentences:

1. Who are you?
2. What problem did you encounter?
3. What plan did you create to solve the problem?
4. How did you succeed?

Here's an example of a short story:

“ I'm Jennifer and I have 3 wonderful children. I knew my kids would not thrive in a traditional classroom setting and I felt better equipped to cater to their learning styles than a teacher responsible for teaching dozens of children. I researched various educational models and decided to homeschool them using aspects of Multiple Intelligences and Charlotte Mason. Over the past year I have watched my children really blossom, gained experience in choosing curriculum that matches our homeschool style, and have settled into a schedule that balances creative freedom with getting things done. ”

CONCLUSION

We hope you enjoy this process. While it might seem challenging to squeeze this into your schedule, it will be well worth your time. Try taking just a few minutes each day and answer one or two questions. Each question will help you unfold your story. As you do this you will quickly see the benefits of clarifying your story, providing you a compass for where you are in your journey, and in preparing you for the transformation of knowing your story and sharing it with others.

What we create for the world, what it demands of us, is story. Now and forever.

- Robert Mckee

Happy writing,



The BFB Team

P.S. We've added a special page for you! This page features additional examples from other parents to keep your creative juice flowing. You can find it on the next page.

EXAMPLES

I instantly felt accepted by mothers who had already been on the journey and I gained a whole community of people who welcomed me and my kids!

I felt like with my full-time job and sending my kids to school all day that I had nothing left to give them at the end of the day. I was challenged with quitting my job and worried we wouldn't be able to afford the new lifestyle.

A place where children feel safe, encouraged and learn at their own pace.

We went through several curriculum websites, called in, and sought advice from those who had successful homeschools and then we crafted up how my husband and I would co-homeschool!

Both of my sisters had homeschooled their children and I saw the fruit of their decision, I knew I couldn't do it any other way.

The public school system did not match our families values and I didn't want someone else raising our kids. I felt determined to do things in a new way!

I felt a mix of fear of the unknown but an overwhelming peace came as well.

I picked up a *Wild + Free* article at my friend's house and began to wonder if I had what it takes to turn my house into a homeschool.

I'm not anti-public school, I taught public school for years. However in third grade, I knew it was not for my daughter so we made the switch to homeschooling!

To think freely and for themselves, to understand how to relate to the world and find what they were created to do!

I felt like I was headed towards freedom.

I felt purpose again and like I was stepping into who I was created to be in Motherhood.

Our family growth! My daughter and I would have both missed the adventures to go on and things to experience together.

The joy in my son's learning. He could have been stuck in the anxiety he was feeling because he was so far behind due to his dyslexia.

My kids could have lost personalized learning.

I want to have deep meaningful relationships with my children and to intentionally have FUN on a regular basis, not just an afterthought or when Saturday rolls around.