

Daily Schedule

Elementary School Students

After families choose online school, their next step is to choose how it works for them. Students and parents figure out when they do their best work and what they'll be working on. Every student is different and needs to find the best schedule that fits his or her needs. In this way, scheduling can be flexible. Younger students, for example, might find they work better first thing in the morning on their most challenging assignments or subjects. Schedules will also vary depending on the parent's work schedule and whether they are teaching multiple children, as well as extracurricular activities. Here's what some typical days in the life of our elementary school families might look like:

SAMPLE SCHEDULE 1

This is a sample schedule for a family with a first grader and a third grader. Wherever she can, Mom saves time by combining subjects for her two children (she also has a toddler running around the house). She tries to finish school early in the day to give herself time to do some housework, cook dinner, or even have a short rest.

7:30–8:00 AM – Third grader (who gets distracted easily) works on Math while the house is still quiet

8:00–8:30 AM – Breakfast and Devotions

8:30–9:00 AM – Piano practice and Religion

9:00–10:00 AM – Math and Handwriting

10:00–11:00 AM – Language Arts/English, with an emphasis on work that requires help from Mom, including phonics lessons, spelling tests, and literature discussions

11:00–Noon – Science or History

Noon–1:30 PM – Lunch, chores, and recess (one day a week, family has a recess play date with another homeschool family)

1:30–2:30 PM – Art or Music

2:30–3:30 PM – “Quiet time” listening to music or storytelling CDs, playing with toys, etc.

SAMPLE SCHEDULE 2

This is a sample schedule for a family with a kindergartner, a first grader, and a fifth grader whose Mom also runs a daycare business in the home. Mom combines the reading time and arts and crafts for her children and the daycare children.

7:30–8:00 AM – Discuss the day's lessons, chores, and extracurricular activities during breakfast

8:00–8:30 AM – Gather materials and begin working on lessons

8:30–10:00 AM – Kindergartner's one-to-one instruction

10:00–11:00 AM – First grader's one-to-one instruction

11:00–11:30 AM – Break

11:30–Noon – Instruction

Noon–12:45 PM – Lunch

1:00–1:30 PM – Story time for kindergartner, first grader, and daycare children

Distribute instructions for Language Arts/English lessons so that questions can be asked during reading and worksheets can be completed soon after

1:00–2:30 PM – Instruction

2:30–4:30 PM – Daycare activities, including arts and crafts, coloring pages, free writing, working with modeling clay, and baking

4:30–5:30 PM – Fifth grader's one-to-one instruction

7:30–8:30 PM – Make-up time for incomplete lessons

See other side for Sample Schedule 3...

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SAMPLE SCHEDULE 3

This is a sample schedule for a family with a kindergartner, a second grader, and a fourth grader. Mom has her family (which includes an energetic three-year-old) following a strict routine. School starts exactly the same way every day, and her schedule doesn't waste any time in transitions from one child's instruction to another. Mom finds ways to count most of the children's daily activities toward their education. For example:

- After lunch, the children play outside for 15 minutes while Mom prepares for the afternoon lessons, which counts for PE hours
- Sing-a-longs at her kindergartner's bath time count as 20 minutes of Music lessons
- Bedtime reading of the story "Rechenka's Eggs" counts as History lesson time for the kindergartner
- Her second and fourth graders read for 30 minutes before bedtime, which counts as Language Arts/English lesson time

	KINDERGARTENER	SECOND GRADER	FOURTH GRADER
7:30-8:00 AM	Breakfast and handwriting exercises		
8:00 AM-12:45 PM	Phonics	Language Arts/English	Language Arts/English
	Math		
	Music	Math	Math
	Play		
	Play		
Rest of the day	History or Play	Combined History, Science, Art, or Music	
	Phonics		
30 minutes before bedtime	Reading		

These are only a few of the options when it comes to online school schedules. No matter the schedule, the key is obtaining success and completing goals. However that happens, is up to you.