

## Where to Begin?

You don't have to throw out your curriculum or textbooks. Just try adding one or two new ideas or methods at a time. Build these into your homeschool as habits.

### 1) Narration

- ORAL only to begin with
- No corrections / no questions

### 2) Book Choice

- Living books
- Twaddle-free
- Read aloud
- Whole books

### 3) Nature Study (it's autumn now – the *perfect* time to start!)

- Nature walks (NOT talks)
- Nature notebooks
- Leaf collections
- Bird watching
  - Bird feeder
  - Bird book

### 4) Short Lessons

- Ten minutes per subject
- Alternate subject matter – heavy/light, mental/physical

### 5) Free-time in the afternoons

- Finish academics before lunch
- Go outside for a walk, or as Charlotte Mason might say, “have a scamper on the lawn”

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### **Parent Assignment:**

Read *For the Children's Sake* (MaCaulay). As you read, write out a one or two paragraph narration after each chapter. Don't look at your notes or flip back through the book while writing. Just tell what you remember. Or narrate orally what you've been reading to your spouse or to a friend.