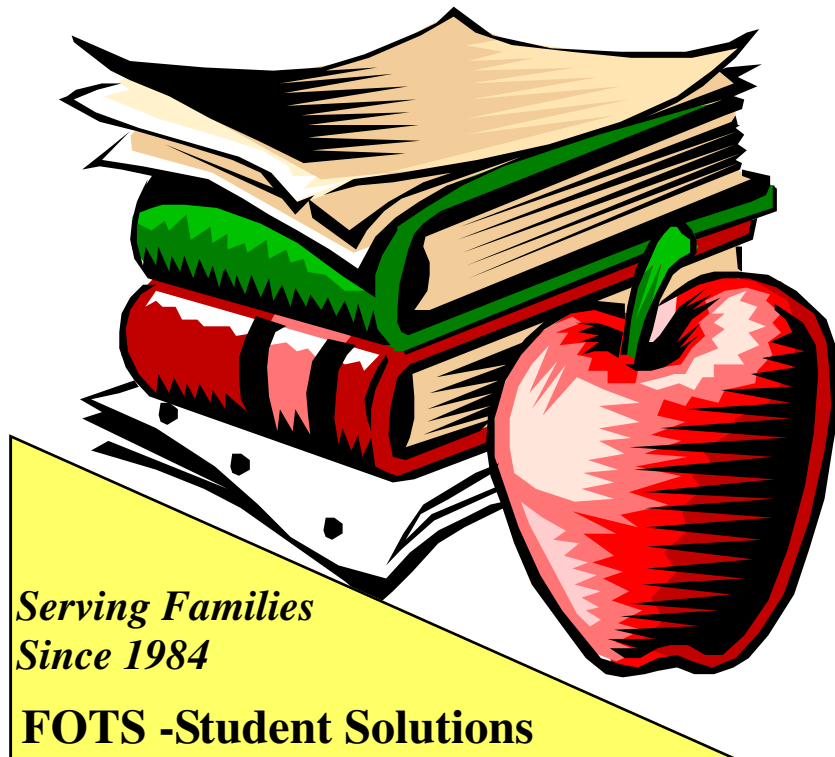


FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT MINISTRIES
HOME SCHOOL SUPPORT PROGRAM
&
Student Solutions Educational Products

2009 - 2010



*Serving Families
Since 1984*

FOTS -Student Solutions

INFORMATION PAK

FOTS-Student Solutions

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“HOMESCHOOLING” WHERE TO BEGIN

What with all the different curriculums available today and with all the differing philosophies on when and how to teach children it is no wonder that parents who are new to Homeschooling are so confused. Adding to the confusion are the so called Homeschool experts who claim that their way is the only right way.

We at Fruit of the Spirit Ministries have found after 25 years of working with Homeschoolers that there are certainly many common objectives for Homeschooling children. We believe that since God has given the responsibility for a child's development to the family, that home is the best place for his education. Deut 6:5-9, Gen. 18:19, Prov. 22:6 and Eph. 6:4.

We believe that we must keep our children from the “worlds educational system”: where humanism and materialism are taught, and develop in our children Godliness, Morality and Self confidence away from detrimental peer influence. Matt. 18:6, 1st Cor. 15:33, Prov. 13:20.

We believe that children are to be taught a proper respect for authority and that this must first be learned at home.

We believe that children are to be taught by example and that we must include our children in the pattern of life we hope that they will one day imitate. Prov. 22:6.

Children are not soldiers to be thrown into battle unarmed and untrained against an enemy they do not know. We as parents must prepare, train and arm our children with the knowledge of truth discernment of spirit, understanding and wisdom required to live Godly, moral and fruitful lives. 2nd Tim. 3:16

FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT MINISTRIES HOMESCHOOL PROGRAM

Based on 25 years of home school experience we have developed a program that will allow families the flexibility to incorporate home education into their life-styles. First of all, children new to home schooling are tested for placement. This accomplishes two important tasks.

1. It allows students to be placed at their proper level of achievement.

When students begin home education without being properly placement tested they run the risk of beginning their achievement level too low which can cause boredom and can detrimentally influence a child's motivation level. Students can also be placed too high which can result in anxiety, stress and an overwhelming sense of inadequacy. Early placement testing assures the the student will be placed at a level that will challenge, motivate and encourage instead of frustrate and stress.

2. When students are properly tested for placement it allows for customizing of student curriculum.

What works for one family may not work for another so consider the following factors when choosing, adopting or designing your curriculum.

- **Your beliefs (Doctrinal & Educational)**
- **Time you have available**
- **Finances available**
- **Number of children in family**
- **Ages of children**
- **Children's stages of development**
- **Children's levels and styles of learning**
- **Personal preferences**

When we test your children at F.O.T.S. we will provide some start-up materials to help you begin your program. This start-up material may include Reading, Math, Spelling and either Science, Civics, History or an elective. These start-up materials will be specifically geared to your student. Not all subjects and texts are always available. Start-up texts are just that...intended to be used for a period of time so that you may have ample opportunity to investigate all of the curricula available and make suitable substitutions. In many cases the start-up texts are quite appropriate and may be used for the whole year of study.

Using Your Materials

As you consider how to obtain your materials and which ones to use, remember, materials do not teach: they are like limp gloves, which cannot do their job apart from your hands. Books are your servants; you are not their slaves. Do not be intimidated by them and their apparent demands. You are the master, the teacher, the one who decides what parts of the books you want or need to use, and when and how you will use them to reach your students' educational goals.

We at Fruit of the Spirit Ministries will help you to get started with a program that will fit into your life-style, a program that your family can live with. We will provide start up forms that will help you organize your first year and we will provide one on one help as you begin your Home School adventure.

“Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it” Proverbs 22:6

Required Subjects

The following subjects are required courses of study as mandated by the State of Texas Penal Code and in accordance with the Leeper decision of 1991.

- ◆ **English (4)***- including, reading, spelling, vocabulary and language skills.
- ◆ **Math (4)**
- ◆ **Citizenship or Civics (1)**

Science, History, Government and other electives are not required by state law, but you will want to include them in your student's course of study to guarantee a well rounded curricula.

The following are courses of study that you may want to include for your student.

- ◆ **History (1)**
- ◆ **Science (3)**
- ◆ **Geography (1)**
- ◆ **Social Studies (1)**
- ◆ **Government (1)**
- ◆ **Health (1)**
- ◆ **Work Experience**
- ◆ **Physical Education / Sports (4)**
- ◆ **Electives (4) including such subjects as, Art, Choir, Computer Science, Foreign Language, Homemaking, Music, Typing, Work Experience, etc.**
- ◆ **Physical Education (4)**

** Numbers in parentheses indicate number of credits required in each subject for graduation from F.O.T.S. Program. Test scores indicating 12th grade mastery on the Wide Range Achievement test are also a requirement for graduation.*

F.O.T.S. FORMS

The Following forms will be issued upon receipt of registration application and first monthly fee.

- ◆ **Quarterly Report form**-4 per student (or enough forms to finish out current year)
- ◆ **Curricula List**- 1 per student
- ◆ **Book Report Form** - 2 per student (or enough forms to finish out current year)

Tentative start dates for the new school term:

- ◆ **August 1st** - Registration begins
- ◆ **September 1st** - Books and materials issued upon receipt of registration application
- ◆ **September** - School starts

ACHIEVEMENT TESTING

Achievement testing is a requirement of F.O.T.S. membership and is administered beginning in April of each year. Testing fee is \$40.00 per student and results are compared with all previous test scores.

REPORTING INSTRUCTIONS

- ◆
- ◆ **REPORT CARDS** - Report cards will not be sent out quarterly. Instead a yearly transcript will be sent out at the end of the year. (If for some reason you need a report card - one can be prepared and sent, if advance notice is given.)
- ◆ **QUARTERLY REPORTS**- The look of the quarterly report form has been changed to conform to the yearly transcript.
- ◆ **GRADE SCALE**- The grading scale is as follows:
90-100 = A 80-89 = B 75-79 = C 70-74 = D Below 69 = F Inc = Incomplete
- ◆ **POSTING GRADES** - Please remember that students in High School must have grades posted numerically. Prior to 9th grade grades may still be posted as A, B, C, D, F, E, G, S, or NI for needs improvement.
- ◆ **SOCIAL SECURITY #'s and BIRTHDATES** - Are required on each report.

IN ADDITION:

Fruit of the Spirit Ministries is not liable for any injury to any child or member family, due to participation in any F.O.T.S. related or sponsored activity.

Fruit Of The Spirit Academy & Outreach
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Fruit of the Spirit Member Services:

Fruit of the Spirit Ministries will provide the following services to those families who enroll in the total F.O.T.S. Home School Program. The fee for this membership is \$35.00 per month per family (Regardless of number of children in the family). Initial start-up payment is \$150.00, which includes Initial registration fee, testing for 1st student , start-up materials for 1st student and 1st month’s family fee. Additional students may be added for a fee of \$65.00 per student which would cover testing and start-up materials.

Service List	Member	Non-Member Fee
• Placement testing	included in Membership.....	\$45.00
• Transcript Service.....	included in Membership.....	\$45.00
• Curricula Consultation & Start-up materials.....	included in Membership.....	\$50.00
• Records Request Service.....	included in Membership.....	\$10.00
• Student Report Forms.....	included in Membership.....	\$ 5.00
• School District Assurance form.....	included in Membership.....	\$ 5.00
• School Attendance form.....	included in Membership.....	\$15.00
• Help dealing with School and Truant officials.....	included in Membership.....	\$25.00 hr.
• Acheivement Testing Fee.....	\$40.00	\$4500

Your \$35.00 Monthly Member fee Includes the following:

- Group enrollment for a period of 10 months
- Records requested from previous school
- Administration of cumulative records
- Transcript service
- Curricula consultation
- Diagnostic testing evaluations
- Yearly transcript report
- High School Diploma
- Local group identification

Call now and let us help you set up a service evaluation for your particular needs.
 (210) 416-3307

“Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it.”

Service Evaluations

Fruit of the Spirit Ministries will be glad to prepare a service evaluation study for your family. Any and all services may be ordered separately or combined to suit your family’s needs. Feel free to call with any questions or to set up an appointment foy your service evaluation. F.O.T.S. unique support program offers a year round flexible schedule that can begin at any time convenient to your needs. The following information should be taken into consideration when planning your homeschooling schedule:

- Number of students needing testing
 - Do you have your own curricula?
 - Do you want a complete support program?
 - Or do you want minimal support?
 - What are your reasons for home schooling?
 - Are there specific needs that your student has that you need to address?
 - When do you plan to begin your home schooling program?
- We at F.O.T.S are ready to help you begin your Home School Adventure!



F.O.T.S. POLICIES

MONTHLY FEES- All monthly fees must be made by the 10th of each month or a late fee of \$5.00 will be added to the member account for each month payment is past due. Failure to pay fees in a timely manner will be grounds for termination of membership. All records will then be forwarded to the truant officer in your school district for evaluation.

REQUIRED DAYS OF SCHOOL- F.O.T.S. Ministries requires that each student have a minimum of 180 days of school.

QUARTERLY REPORTS- The 180 school days will be broken up into four - 45 day periods or quarters. Each member family is required to turn in a quarterly report for each member child each quarter. Quarterly report due dates are as follows:

REPORT # 1 DUE - 10/31/09

REPORT # 2 DUE - 01/31/10

REPORT # 3 DUE - 03/31 /10

REPORT # 4 DUE - 05/31 /10

SUMMER WORK REPORT DUE - 08/15/10

Failure to turn in Quarterly reports in a timely manner will be grounds for termination of membership.

ACHIEVEMENT TESTING- All F.O.T.S. member students must be tested in the spring of each year. Fee for spring testing is \$40.00 for member students.

F.O.T.S. LIABILITY- Fruit of the Spirit Ministries is not liable for any injury to any child or member family due to participation in any fieldtrip or F.O.T.S. related activity.

REFUNDS- There are no refunds given on any enrollment, administrative, or test fees.

RETURNED CHECKS- There will be a \$30.00 fee added to any member account that issues to F.O.T.S. an NSF check. In addition all future fees must then be paid in the form of a money order or a cashiers check.

Failure to comply with any of the above policies will be grounds for termination.

Notes: _____

High School Credits

The following is a sample of how one might calculate credits for a High School Transcript.

- 1. Bible** - (considered an elective) course may consist of Family Devotions, Organized Bible Study, Church Sunday School, Theology Studies, Home Fellowship Study etc. .5 credit is given for each semester of study.
- 2. Math** - course may consist of the following: Basic Math, Consumer Math, Business Math, Pre Algebra, Algebra I, Algebra II, Geometry, and Calculus.
- 3. English** - (must include) World Literature, English Literature, American Literature, Grammar and Research Paper Studies.
- 4. Social Sciences** - courses may consist of the following: Geography, U.S. History, World History, Government, and Economics. A course in Citizenship (Civics) is required.
- 5. Science** - courses may consist of the following: Life Science, Earth Science (Geology), Health, Biology, Anatomy, Chemistry and Astronomy.
- 6. Physical Education** - Course may consist of the following: A physical training program such as weight training, a systematic program involving situps, pushups or any type of equipment training (treadmill, stairmaster, etc.), Organized sports teams such as baseball, basketball, Volleyball, and programs involving walking, running or cycling.
- 7. Electives** - Courses may include the following: Home Economics (cooking, sewing, home management, hospitality), Music (choir, musical instruments, music appreciation etc.), Art (drawing, painting, crafts, art appreciation), Drama, Speech, Computer Science (typing, word-processing, desktop publishing, graphics, programming), Work Experience (paper route, house cleaning, baby sitting, pet sitting, yard work, filing etc.), Auto Mechanics (auto tune-up, oil changing, tire changing etc.), Foreign Language.

Graduation Requirements

Course	Texas Regular	Texas Advanced	F.O.T.S. Requirements
Math	3	*3	4
English	4	4	4
Social Studies:			***4
U.S. History	1	1	
World History/Geography	1	1	
Government	.5	.5	
Economics	.5	.5	
Science	2	3	4
Physical Education	1.5	1.5	2
Electives	7	3	****8
Foreign Language	0	**2	
Health	.5	.5	
Computer Science	0	1	
Fine Arts	0	1	
CARNEGIE UNITS	21	22	26

Grade Reporting Scale

A student's progress shall be reported using the actual numerical average. A grade of 69 or below will indicate failing. Alpha grades are not reported.

90	-	100	=	A
80	-	89	=	B
75	-	79	=	C
70	-	74	=	D
Below 70			=	F

The Cumulative Grade Average is reported as a whole number on a scale of 100 to 70.

* Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, or above
 ** 2 units of the same language
 *** Citizenship must be included

**** Bible is included in this total