

January 27, 2019

EXPOsure

Your information source for EXPO 2019

May 2 - 5

**2019 CHN Family Expo
Great Wolf Lodge**

12681 Harbor Blvd.

Garden Grove, CA 92840

Presented by

California Homeschool Network

<http://www.californiahomeschool.net/expo/>

**A home education conference
for the whole family!**

COUNT DOWN TO EXPO 2019

95 DAYS

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Why Attend EXPO 2019

This is a question we often hear. It is an honest question and deserving of an answer. Over the next several editions of EXPOSure we will do our best to answer this important question. This will be answered from the perspective of a parent, speaker, exhibitor, board member and part of the EXPO team.

The first word that comes to mind is FAMILY.

The homeschool community is a family and in particular, CHN, is a wonderful family of many devoted parents dedicated to the successful endeavor of homeschooling their children. This is evident as our event is referred to as the CHN **Family** EXPO! Our focus has been and always will be serving the family and EXPO is our annual dedication to our wonderful families. The desire to provide our families with a wonderful experience starts at least a year or two before the event.

This leads us to what are the considerations in the planning and implementation of EXPO. The first and most important is to keep the central theme of **Family** alive and well. Some of the main focal points are:

1. Family Time
2. Education
3. Balance
4. Financial Value
5. Community
6. Exposure to New Products
7. Creation of New Friends
8. Interaction with the Board.
9. Great Speakers
10. Safe Environment

The Board is very excited to bring EXPO2019 to you and will be working very hard to bring a well-balanced event for your family's enjoyment. In the upcoming issues of EXPOSure we will expand

on the above components. We will also try to bring some interesting articles that should be of great interest.

Why Games Are Better Than Worksheets

Do your kids run for cover when the “school books” come out? If so, please stop to consider *why* you are homeschooling. If “develop a love for learning” is on your list of *why*’s, you may want to take a second look at your “curriculum.” In many cases, a game or activity can accomplish the same scholastic goals with a minimum of stress and with the added benefit of promoting a love of learning rather than an aversion to “school.” In addition, scientists have found that learning occurs up to 20 times faster when play is involved!

In deciding whether more can be accomplished with a game than with the formal lesson, you need to look carefully at the goal or “learning objective” of the lesson. For instance, if the lesson is about adding numerals to 10, it may include a number of practice problems and more than likely, they will run to several pages. It takes quite a lot of practice to become proficient in recognizing number combinations and their corresponding sums. Sometimes the books will include clever tricks to speed up the process, but more commonly, the lesson just includes a page or more of problems, day after day until the book “concludes” it’s time to learn something new.

It occurred to me one day that Abraham Lincoln never did a single workbook. How did he learn his arithmetic? He had almost no schooling, yet he became a very educated man. So I began to wonder, are all these worksheets necessary? Obviously, not! I surmise that much of Lincoln’s early learning had to do with the necessities of daily life. Helping to build a farm, tending animals and handling other daily chores involved numbers. He was curious and once he learned to read, he managed to find books from which he could continue learning. Kids are naturally insatiable learners if we do not squash their love of learning with too much “school.”

The late Dr. Karyn Purvis, co-founder of the Karyn Purvis Institute of Child Development at Texas Christian University, stated that it takes about 400 repetitions to create a new synapse in the brain *unless* it is done with play, in which case it takes only 10-20 repetitions! How many addition problems might you find in the average drill page? Twenty? Thirty? Now, how many times will your child have to add the dice while playing a half hour game of *Parchisi*, *Sorry!*, *Shut the Box* or

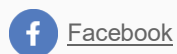
any board game that uses dice? My guess is it would be a lot more than 30 and no whining! Plus, you get the added benefit that any addition errors are instantly corrected by the other player or players. Do you need to teach him to add higher than 12? Get some 10 or even 12-sided dice to play with. The games will move faster and the kids get more advanced addition practice. *Match 'Em*, a clever card game that teaches addition combinations to 14, is fun for the whole family.

The same can be done with many other concepts in math, language arts, science, history, geography and even the arts. Activities like cooking, sewing, gardening and carpentry can also do the teaching for you. When children see the practical use for numbers and get to experiment for themselves, they learn much faster and retain the information much longer. There are children who enjoy doing worksheets but even they have a limit. If you reach it, reach for a game or activity instead. But, if you have children who hate worksheets, don't worry about it. Learning with games and real life activities will teach them just as efficiently. Just look in the book you are following, decide which concept or concepts you want to work on next, and then search for a game or activity that covers that concept.

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California Homeschool Network Family EXPO

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