

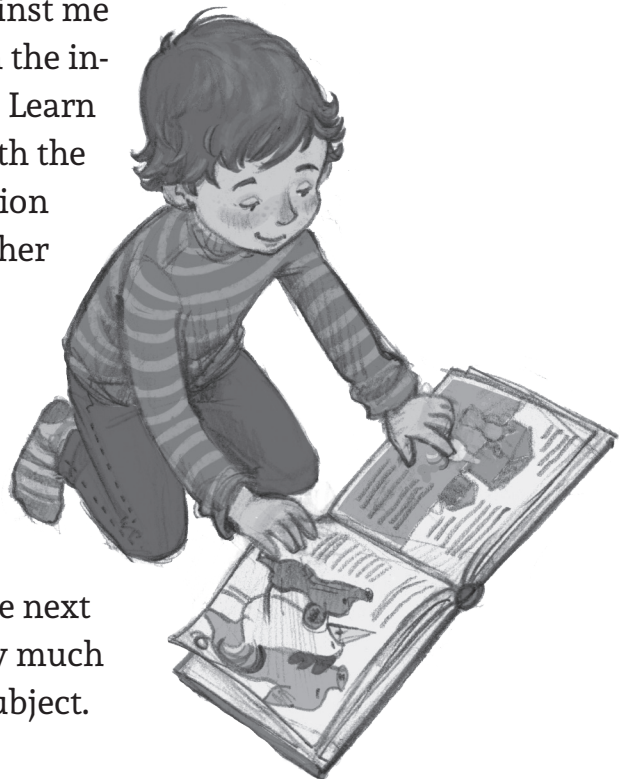
A Homeschooler's Guide to Well-Ordered Language

Well-Ordered Language (WOL) is designed as a robust, full-year curriculum that presents grammar in a clear, orderly manner, while simultaneously seeking to cultivate a child's wonder of language by presenting instruction in the context of narrative and language, attractive illustrations, and samples taken from classic children's literature and poetry.

The series supplies an abundance of information, lessons, and practice that may at first seem a bit overwhelming. But let's take a look at what one homeschooling mom and blogger (Margaret Chind, Homeschool Mama, CreativeMadnessMama.com) has to say about how she and her daughter use Well-Ordered Language Level 1A in a way that fits their schedule and needs.

My daughter, with writing utensils on a table nearby, sits with me on the couch. I hold the teacher's edition and she's snuggled up against me with her student book next to her. As I read through the introduction of our lesson as well as the Review It and Learn It sections, my daughter spontaneously interacts with the content. A little while later we do the Analyze It section together on a whiteboard. Then my daughter sits at her desk and goes back in her student book to fill in the answers to the Learn It section.

We generally follow Option B from the Lesson-Planning Options page (see p. viii of the book), but it varies and I like that flexibility. We generally do Days 1–3 in one day. Then we start and finish Lessons to Learn C and Lessons to Learn—Review on the next two days we work. I have not timed us, but we pretty much work until she's requesting to move on to another subject.





My daughter really enjoys discussing the poems, and often will rewrite them as her own initiated copywork. As for From the Sidelines . . . if it is something she asks about I will go into detail. Otherwise, I skip it. We tend to skip the games because I find them to be more classroom oriented. We did like the inclusion of origami.

We love the To the Source information, which brings out the Latin and/or Greek roots of words. We also love the Off the Shelf remarks and sparks that send us to our library or Kindle shelf for more reading that continues the lessons off book. Our grammar lessons don't just end during grammar time and I like that. I love the Curious Child Appendix and biographies section—we have referenced them quite a few times.

I personally prefer WOL over Shurley Grammar because of how it introduces parts of speech and has much more review. I also appreciate the flexibility to use or skip material if we do not need the redundancy.