

# School Bus , Shmool Bus !

(What I don't have to deal with.)

Every morning, five days a week for nine months of the year, I miss out on something. Rousing sleepy children each day in order to shuffle them out the door at precisely the same time for fear of missing the school bus is something I don't have to deal with for my children whom I school at home. I don't have to worry about trying to shovel something healthy into their systems for breakfast as they complain about not being hungry yet. No frantic daily searches for missing items that must be found immediately before the bus gets here. Aaaaah, nice fringe benefits. Are there more?

I have discovered some things over the years that I can consider as bonuses that I don't always take the time to appreciate. I'll list a few. Maybe you can come up with some too.

- ✓ No need to pack daily sack lunches. That gets old fast, doesn't it?
- ✓ Have to remember to call in a child as sick? No, just have them watch an educational movie, read a book to them, etc.
- ✓ No need for battles with the school as to what is appropriate reading material for my child.
- ✓ No stress about wondering how the school is handling teaching my child about controversial issues. I do it myself.
- ✓ The influence of peer pressure on the kids to do/say/wear inappropriate things is greatly reduced by being at home.
- ✓ No need to check students out of school to go to the dentist, doctor or swimming pool! Just go do it.
- ✓ If the family was out late the night before, it is okay for the child to sleep in and start school later or do some on Saturday.
- ✓ Not having to have my kids ride the school bus is something I count as a bonus.
- ✓ My kids don't catch every little sickness that other kids drag home from school with them.
- ✓ I don't always have to take small children with me to the grocery store. I have older ones at home too that can watch them. (Doesn't apply, of course, for when the older ones were small, but it is nice now.) ☺
- ✓ No need to plan life around school. We can plan school to fit with our life.

Those are just a few nice things. Let me know what you come up with. As for me, I shall try to think of something healthy I can fix up for breakfast tomorrow to enjoy at a leisurely pace with my kids (especially since we have had cold cereal way too often lately!).

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