



# HomeschoolNYC Newsletter

## Celebrating Child-led Learning

Vol. III, issue 4  
July/August, 2012

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

*Thank you for the many positive e-mails about this newsletter, in particular about the article [What's a College Education Worth?](#) I promise to write more stories about homeschoolers who have gone on to college and other myriad adventures, in future issues of this newsletter. If you could go anywhere in the world, where would you go? Perhaps that is an appropriate question in summer, when we visit gardens, parks and zoos, and take time to journey away from where we live. Wherever we go, we are always learning!*



[Laurie Block Spiegel](#)

### Daydreaming at HomeschoolNYC

#### The Value of Daydreaming

#### Summer Fruit

#### Seven Things to Do With Maps

#### Quote by A. A. Milne

#### Sir Ken Robinson to speak at AERO

## The Value of Daydreaming

Children are often told to stop daydreaming. It is seen as reckless mind-wandering, a sign of lack of focus, or worse: laziness, procrastination, and avoidance. Parents may feel at odds wanting to allow their children to be playful and relaxed, yet having an arduous schedule to maintain. I remember rushing my son to get dressed in the morning, watching him...



[READ MORE ...](#)

Click here for [books on daydreaming](#), for children and adults.

## Summer Fruit



Solomon, age 3, picking raspberries

In June my kids would start asking, "Is it time yet?" They wanted to know if it was time to go picking, if the strawberries were ripe, or if we had missed them and we had to wait for the raspberries and blackberries, and for the high bush blueberries we loved so much. We picked our own fruit every summer, on farms in New Jersey and New York, just west or north or east of the city. We would come laden home with ... [READ MORE...](#)

Here is a list of [Pick-Your-Own Farms in the NYC metro area](#).

Recommended [books for kids, including summer fruit cookbooks](#) are here.

[Blog entries by parents](#) including recipes are here.

## Seven Things to Do With Maps



Maps are not just about geography and the earth's terrain. They are an integral part of understanding everything from world political history to adventures of heroic figures both real and fictional. The skills developed in map reading include: planning, orienteering and keeping a sense of direction, understanding and computing distance, using a map legend like a code, and gaining additional perspective on the world. Maps tell stories!

[Click here for seven things for kids to do with maps.](#)

[Books about maps for children, with activities.](#)

## Quote by A. A. Milne

"Don't underestimate the value of Doing Nothing, of just going along, listening to all the things you can't hear, and not bothering."

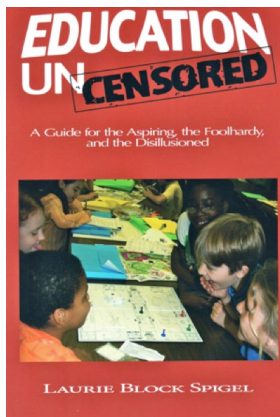
~~A. A. Milne, 1882-1956, English author of *Winnie-the-Pooh*

## Sir Ken Robinson to speak at AERO Conference

There is a great line-up of speakers this year at the 9th annual AERO Conference, along with a dazzling array of workshops. If my schedule allowed, I would rush to Portland, Oregon, and register for all four days, from August 1 - 4. All information is on their website: [Finding the Catalyst for the Education Revolution](#). If you can't get there, try listening to Sir Ken Robinson's inspiring TED talks: [How Schools Kill Creativity](#) and [Bring on the Learning Revolution](#).



## Education Uncensored



Laurie Spigel is a leading educator in the New York City homeschooling community, teaching popular group classes and inspiring parents to create their own curriculum. Her approach is informal, creative, and child-led. Here she shares her innovative ideas and original techniques for every subject. She explains why our current educational system has it all backwards and shows how exciting learning can truly be. A real source of inspiration as well as a practical guide, this is an eye-opening book for every parent and teacher.

Available now at [HomeschoolNYC.com](http://HomeschoolNYC.com)

Price: \$12.95 plus shipping & handling

[Read an excerpt.](#)

### Quick Links

[Newsletter Archives](#)

[More About Me](#)

[Ten Steps To Successful Homeschooling](#)

[What's ... in NYC](#)

[Education Uncensored](#)

*E-mail comments and suggestions to [Laurie@HomeschoolNYC.com](mailto:Laurie@HomeschoolNYC.com).*

