

Design-A-Study
408 Victoria Avenue
Wilmington, DE 19804-2124
Phone/Fax (302) 998-3889
www.designastudy.com

DISTRIBUTOR INFORMATION

Design-A-Study materials may be purchased at a price 40% less than retail prices. Orders of 100 or more items may be purchased at a 45% discount.

There are no minimum quantities to purchase. Payments must be made within thirty days of the invoice date. Check, money order, or credit card payments are all acceptable. (We accept Mastercard, Visa, Discover, and American Express.)

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If you have any questions please ask for Richard or Kathryn Stout.

Thank you for your interest in Design-A-Study!

Web Site: www.designastudy.com

Enclosures: 2005/2006 Price List
Product Descriptions
Promotional Materials

DESIGN-A-STUDY 2005/2006 PRICE LIST

BOOK TITLES	Retail Price	40% Discount Price
Critical Conditioning	12.00	\$7.20
Comprehensive Composition	14.00	8.40
Guides to History Plus	14.00	8.40
Maximum Math	24.00	14.40
The Maya	5.00	3.00
Movies As Literature	32.00	19.20
Movies As Literature Student Book	16.00	9.60
Natural Speller	22.00	13.20
Science Scope	15.00	9.00
Teaching Tips & Techniques	10.00	6.00
AUDIOCASSETTE BOXED SETS		
Kathryn's Complete Workshop Series	\$54.00	32.40
Essential Eight: Teaching the Basics	31.00	18.60
AUDIOCASSETTES BY KATHRYN STOUT		
A Chronological Approach to History		45 minutes
Classic Movies as Literature		60 minutes
Developing Attitudes & Habits: What's Important & When		60 minutes
Homeschooling the Challenging Child		60 minutes
How to Teach Composition		60 minutes
Make It Easy On Yourself		90 minutes
Math That Makes Sense		45 minutes
Science That Sticks		60 minutes
Strategies for Teaching & Learning Spelling		45 minutes
Teaching English: What's Essential?		60 minutes
Teaching Kids to Think		60 minutes
Teaching Reading, Spelling, & Critical Thinking		60 minutes
Teaching Teenagers to Think Critically		60 minutes
Teaching Tips That Really Work		60 minutes

DESIGN-A-STUDY WEB SITE: www.designastudy.com

TO ORDER: PHONE/FAX: (302) 998-3889 E-mail: DesignStdy@aol.com

OR WRITE TO: Design-A-Study, 408 Victoria Avenue, Wilmington, DE 19804-2124

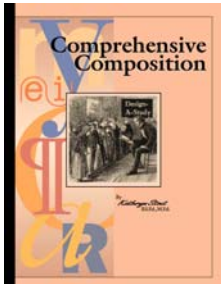
- Order a total of **100 items (books/tapes)** or more for a **discount of 45%**.
- Books are shipped via FedEx ground unless other instructions accompany the order.
- There are no minimum purchases required.
- All other orders must be paid within 30 days.
- Checks, money orders, Mastercard, Visa, Discover, and American Express are all acceptable forms of payment. Payment must be in U.S. funds.

DESIGN-A-STUDY PRODUCT DESCRIPTIONS

Books are written by Kathryn Stout, BSEd, MEd, Christian educator, consultant, speaker and homeschooler.

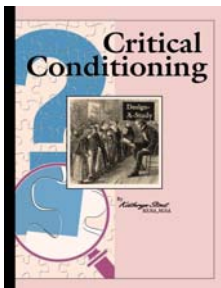
LANGUAGE ARTS:

Comprehensive Composition



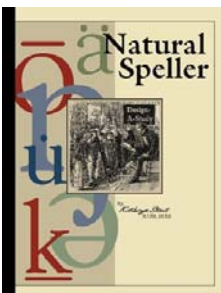
Just one volume covers grades K-12. The outlined teaching strategy encourages better writing through editing, allowing students to develop at their own pace, improving with practice. Boredom is eliminated by choosing the type of composition and an appealing topic from among those listed which suit the student's needs and interests. Topics include: paragraphs, essays, reports, outlines, biographies, narratives, letters, and short stories; persuasive, descriptive, expository and creative writing; choosing and narrowing a topic; content and structure skills; mechanics; and sample lessons. Use it alone or as a reference. **Recommended by reviewer Cathy Duffy as "one of the most concise yet comprehensive books for teaching the writing process available to home educators."** \$14.00 retail. ISBN 1-891975-01-3

Critical Conditioning



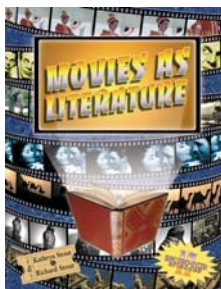
Now you can see all of the K-12 components of reading comprehension, along with definitions, explanations, and activity ideas. Teaching suggestions include ways to incorporate analysis and thinking skills while covering comprehension objectives. Topics include elements and types of literature, reference skills, SORRR study skills, propaganda techniques, discussion questions, and more. This is an area too easily forgotten when library books are used as the reading program. For anyone using readers, this helps eliminate the busy work. \$12.00 retail. ISBN 1-891975-02-1

Natural Speller



The only book you will ever need to teach spelling. Teaching strategies include additional tips for use with the learning disabled, and word lists are organized by both sight and sound patterns. Build vocabulary skills with Latin and Greek roots and word lists, and by using the spelling rules to add prefixes and suffixes to root words. Choose from among the suggested activities to include practice with grammar, dictionary, and composition skills. Phonic, spelling, and punctuation rules are listed for easy reference. Word lists are divided by grade, 1 through 8. However, this method is easily adapted for older students or adults who need remedial work. Because of its multi-sensory and simplified approach to spelling, and because each child can work at his own pace, this program is ideal for students with learning disabilities. \$22.00 retail. ISBN 1-891975-005

Movies As Literature

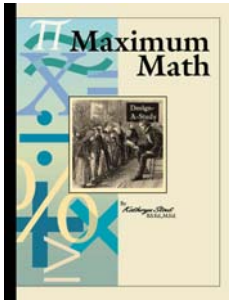


By Richard and Kathryn Stout. This complete, one-year high school English course uses classic movies on video to introduce and study the elements of literary analysis. Student discussion and composition questions are provided for each of 17 lessons, several of which can also be used to supplement studies in grades 7 and 8. Also included are an extensive teacher's guide/answer key, plot summaries, glossary of literary terms, and final exam. This course will not only give students the tools to appreciate good books more fully, but will equip them with the ability to discern underlying messages in movies rather than simply absorb them. \$32.00 retail.

ISBN 1-891975-09-9

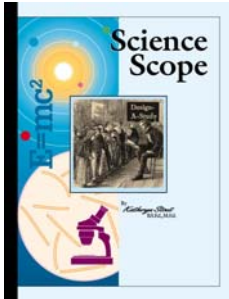
Student Workbook \$16.00 retail ISBN 1-891975-12-9

MATH AND SCIENCE:



Maximum Math

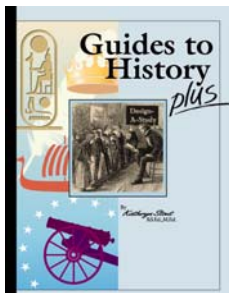
The ultimate guide to teaching math in K- 8. Now you can fill in gaps or allow students to progress as far as ability allows. Teaching strategies provide you with ideas for working with all learning styles to promote understanding of concepts and increase problem solving ability. Graded objectives conform to NTCM standards and are arranged to allow you to follow an objective over several grades. Activities are provided for initial instruction. Just add a few manipulatives to teach grades K-2. Supplement grades 3-8 with practice problems using software, workbooks, texts, kits, and/or games. \$24.00 retail. ISBN 1-891975-04-8



Science Scope

The concepts and skills taught in grades K-12 science and health classes are arranged by topic and grade for an easy-to-use approach to teach students of all ages—including multi-levelled. Teaching tips include how to teach the scientific process and strategies for guiding children in thinking critically in order to get the most out of their explorations and experiences. By using this guide as a reference of what and how to teach, content can be covered with any resources that the student finds appealing. The teacher no longer needs to feel bound to one specific curriculum for fear of leaving educational gaps. A checklist allows convenient record keeping. Students in grades 6-12 can use this book as a working outline to find information on their own. \$15.00 retail. ISBN 1-891975-03-X

HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHY:



Guides to History Plus

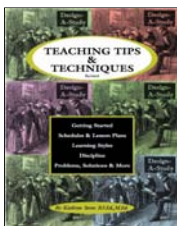
Social studies objectives—American and world history, geography, government, and economics—are incorporated into an easy-to-use question guide for the study of any period or culture in grades K-12. This section can also be easily used as a working outline for independent study. Activity ideas follow, incorporating objectives in other subjects for those interested in using a unit study approach to history. Also included: teaching tips, instructions for making timelines, lists of map skills, reproducible blank maps, definitions of geographic terms, questions to provide practice in analysis for high school students; lists of literature, games, and movies on video arranged by period with topics for study, and a checklist of objectives for reference in making high school transcripts. \$14.00 retail. ISBN 1-891975-08-0



The Maya

A complete unit study on this advanced, ancient, American civilization. Since the information and specific activity ideas follow the outline in the *Guides to History Plus*, this unit can serve as a model for making your own historical study. \$5.00 retail. ISBN 1-891975-06-4

SUPPORT:



Teaching Tips & Techniques

Here's help in getting started, planning schedules and lessons, and learning how to teach effectively. Find out about characteristics of kids at various ages (what to expect), learning styles, discipline, and how to solve common problems. Advice also includes special tips for meeting special needs and a list of hard-to-find resources. A must for the beginning teacher. Plenty of help for anyone to meet the challenges of homeschooling. \$10.00 retail. ISBN 1-8189175-07-2

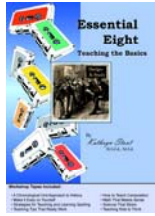
Audiocassette Boxed Sets

Kathryn's Complete Workshop Series



All fourteen workshop cassettes boxed in a white plastic, 9 ½ x 12 inch case. Separately, tapes are sold for \$4.50 each or \$4.00 each when buying three or more. This set retails for \$54.00, a \$2.00 savings at the \$4.00 per tape price plus a convenient holder. Titles included: *A Chronological Unit Approach to History*; *Classic Movies as Literature*; *Developing Attitudes & Habits: What's Important & When*; *Homeschooling the Challenging Child*; *How to Teach Composition*; *Make It Easy On Yourself*; *Math That Makes Sense*; *Science That Sticks*; *Strategies for Teaching and Learning Spelling*; *Teaching English: What's Essential?*; *Teaching Kids to Think*; *Teaching Reading, Spelling & Critical Thinking*; *Teaching Teenagers to Think Critically*; *Teaching Tips That Really Work*. \$54.00 retail. ISBN 1-891975-10-2

Essential Eight: The Basics



Eight of Kathryn's workshop cassettes boxed in a white plastic, 6 ¾ x 9 ¾ inch case. At the special price of \$4.00 per tape when buying three or more the cost of eight tapes would be \$32.00. This boxed set saves an additional dollar plus provides a handy carrying case. Titles included: *A Chronological Unit Approach to History*; *How to Teach Composition*; *Make It Easy On Yourself*; *Math That Makes Sense*; *Science That Sticks*; *Strategies for Teaching and Learning Spelling*; *Teaching Kids to Think*; *Teaching Tips That Really Work*. \$31.00 retail. ISBN 1-891975-11-0

BIOGRAPHY:



Kathryn Stout is a Christian educator, consultant, speaker, and author of the award-winning Design-A-Study books. An honors graduate of the University of Delaware, Kathryn holds a bachelor's degree in elementary education and a master's degree in special education. During her eight years in public schools she taught, tested, and developed programs for students who did not respond to traditional strategies.

She homeschooled her own two children, Clea and Christopher, for fourteen years using the Design-A-Study materials she created. Both graduated from college with honors. Clea earned a BA degree from her parents' alma mater and a Juris Doctorate from Widener University School of Law. Christopher earned a BA in cinema-television from the University of Southern California, attending on a USC Presidential Scholarship.

Kathryn's multilevel books provide the tools necessary for homeschooling families to do as she did—create (or tailor) a curriculum to suit their children's specific needs. Her books and workshop tapes are available at the Design-A-Study web site—www.designastudy.com—where she also offers a free column of additional guidance in effective teaching. Her books include *Natural Speller*, *Comprehensive Composition*, *Critical Conditioning*, *Science Scope*, *Guides to History Plus*, *Maximum Math*, *The Maya*, and *Teaching Tips & Techniques*.

Descriptions of Workshops on Audiocassette

Speaker Kathryn Stout, BSEd, MEd

A Chronological, Unit-Study Approach to History 45 minutes Save planning time while helping kids develop a greater understanding of the people and events being studied. Not only will history become real and exciting, but geography and science lessons will make more sense, too. Use nonfiction books that have kid-appeal, literature that broadens their perspective, and enjoyable activities that leave them with English skills that would have otherwise been tedious to acquire. Kathryn Stout, author and educator, shares specifics for all ages, including discussion and composition topics for grades 7 - 12 that require analytical thinking.

Classic Movies as Literature 60 minutes Are your teens able to analyze literature? Can they articulate why they like or don't like a movie? If not, they may find themselves accepting a jumble of philosophies without really thinking. Stories entertain, but they also teach. Kathryn provides questions to use as you discuss movies with your thirteen- to eighteen-year-olds. By incorporating literary elements and film techniques, your child will not only be better equipped to reject wrong influences, but more capable of analyzing literature.

Developing Attitudes & Habits: What's Important and When 60 minutes There's a best time for developing attitudes and habits that affect not only your child's character, but also his ability to learn beyond high school. If bad habits have already been acquired there are techniques to replace them with good ones. Kathryn shares specific goals, explains their importance, and provides teaching strategies to reach those objectives. This workshop is a must not only for those wanting to get the right start, but for anyone teaching a child between ages 11 and 14 that has been in a public school.

Homeschooling the Challenging Child 60 minutes Kathryn Stout describes methods for effectively teaching children who seem to require a great deal of one-on-one attention. This includes children who are gifted, those who have difficulty with understanding and/or retention, those that can't seem to pay attention, and children who just seem to protest everything you assign. Specific suggestions are made for balancing your time so that your other children are not neglected. (See the enclosed review by Dr. Jay Wile.)

How to Teach Composition 60 minutes Every child should be able to express himself logically and succinctly. Kathryn shows you how to teach composition so that even kids who "hate to write" will change their minds. Practical suggestions include how to remove common obstacles to good writing, ways to hone skills at a pace comfortable for each child, and ideas for tying composition topics to other subject areas to keep writing relevant (and save you teaching time). She also gives keys to evaluation so that you can help your children build skills instead of simply completing assignments.

Make It Easy On Yourself 90 minutes Put the spark back into your homeschool! Turn kids into thinkers and independent learners without exhausting yourself or your bank account. Children trained to love learning become a joy to teach. Learning becomes their goal, not just another assignment. If that's what you want for your children, here are specific methods to use with children of all ages. Examples include activity ideas and methods for teaching multi-levelly that will make your job easier while developing these qualities in your children.

Math That Makes Sense 45 minutes Children need to understand math, not just memorize formulas and reproduce them with practice. Help kids get past the "I don't get it, just tell me what to do" stage with these practical techniques for teaching children from preschool to grade 8. Encourage discovery, logic, and reasoning in order to develop the "math sense" necessary for your children's future day-to-day living.

Science That Sticks 60 minutes Everyone loves to "do" science--but do the concepts "stick"? Kathryn explains how to teach science to children of all ages with a minimum of planning, using a variety of fun and interesting materials, and with the assurance that basic concepts and skills will be understood and retained.

Strategies for Teaching and Learning Spelling 45 minutes Give your children (or yourself) the tools needed to learn and retain correct spelling. Kathryn explains why so many approaches fail to help children remember how to spell words beyond the test. She offers simple techniques that anyone can use to turn that around. This is not an attempt at photographic memory. Rather, it is the use of strategies that allow children to become confident in their ability to learn. These approaches are used in Kathryn's award-winning book *Natural Speller*, a complete spelling program for all ages.

Teaching English - What's Essential? 60 minutes Do your children dig beyond the basic plot, analyzing, appreciating, and learning life lessons from literature? Do they compose interesting and well-supported essays that reflect their ability to think critically? Or, do they merely parrot back the plot and fill in the blanks by rote? Kathryn discusses the components of English in light of ultimate goals. She explains how to get the essentials out of English, even while working toward objectives in other subjects.

Descriptions of Workshops on Audiocassette continued

Teaching Kids to Think 60 minutes Too often we merely tell our children what to think. However, if we don't also teach them how to think, they may become easy prey for anyone who appears to speak with authority. A few minutes each week filling out critical thinking worksheets is not enough. Instead, we need to create a learning atmosphere that encourages reasoning, supporting opinions, and problem-solving. Kathryn shows you how to do this with a minimum of effort while covering requirements in basic subjects—reading comprehension, composition, science, and math.

Teaching Reading, Spelling, & Critical Thinking 60 minutes Here are suggestions to use with elementary age children to begin building the foundation for analysis later. Teach children to recognize patterns and use reasoning as you read to them, as they practice phonics and spelling, and when they write compositions. Help them find and use patterns in math and science as well. These easy-to-use ideas encourage kids to become problem-solvers.

Teaching Teenagers to Think Critically 60 minutes Arm your teens with protection from worldly propaganda. Kathryn offers teaching strategies that are easily incorporated into basic subjects—literature, composition, history, and government—and certain to build skills in analyzing what is read, watched, and heard. Examples focus on teaching students in junior and senior high school.

Teaching Tips That Really Work 60 minutes Whether your child is gifted, struggling, a bit of both, or somewhere in between, there are approaches that will replace boredom or frustration with a love of learning. Kathryn discusses how to overcome the "I can't, I won't" syndrome, teach through strengths, build up weak areas, and create a problem-solving atmosphere.

High Praise for Kathryn's Workshops and Audiocassettes

"The Kathryn Stout [all-day seminar] is one of the very few workshops that I've ever attended that I could take home the ideas and immediately put them to use. Kathryn will teach you how to teach—anything. I highly recommend this workshop and the Kathryn Stout Design-A-Study curriculum, for both new and experienced homeschool parents!"

Vicki Falco, Director, Champion Preparatory Academy

"Looking for a speaker who can both encourage and equip? Looking for guidance from someone with honest, practical experience? Kathryn Stout is a dynamic speaker with a solid educational background: before homeschooling her own children through high school she spent eight years working in the public education arena. Additionally, she has counseled hundreds of families during the last seven years as director of Academy Adonai in Delaware. This hard-earned knowledge quickly becomes evident while listening to her workshops. No pie-in-the-sky, wishful thinking stuff here: Kathryn offers practical, intelligent advice that really works. Listening to her gives one both the confidence to teach and the information needed to teach well. I highly recommend Kathryn!" **Maggie Hogan, speaker, homeschool support group leader, DHEA vice-president, and author of *Gifted Children at Home, Hands On Geography*, et al.**

*"Everyone seems to have an answer to the question, How do I deal with my challenging child? I have listened to hundreds of lectures, sermons, and tapes on the subject. To my mind, few of them were worth the time it took to listen. This tape, **Homeschooling the Challenging Child**, is different.*

"One reason it is different is that the lecturer, Kathryn Stout, has a lot of experience in this area. Not only did she have a challenging child of her own, she has also worked with challenging children in both public and home school settings. Her experience in this area comes through time and time again throughout the tape.

"While listening to this workshop, I was struck by three things. First, Mrs. Stout tries to keep the parent on track. She deals with physical problems that are often misunderstood to be behavioral problems. She also spends a great deal of time on proper parental expectations. In my experience, what many parents perceive to be a problem with their child is often a problem with their unrealistic expectations!

"The second thing that struck me was the practical nature of Kathryn's words. She gives several concrete methods for dealing with different kinds of challenging children. I have never heard such a practical talk on this subject!

"Finally, Mrs. Stout stresses one of the most important things that can be stressed when dealing with a challenging child. She stresses that we should NOT try to CHANGE the child's personality! In my opinion, this happens far too often. As parents, we tend to want to raise little versions of ourselves. This is not only destructive to the student, it challenges the very Providence of God. God has CREATED your child with his or her own unique personality. Do not CHANGE what He has done. Simply SHAPE it into a personality that will work within the bounds of society.

"This workshop gives you an enormous amount of practical advice on how to do just that!" **Dr. Jay Wile of Apologia Educational Ministries is a noted speaker and the author of *Reasonable Faith: The Scientific Case for Christianity, Exploring Creation with Physical Science*, et. al.**

DESIGN-A-STUDY BOOKS

Were written to give homeschooling parents the advantages of well-trained teachers:

- **An understanding of the subject** and
- **How to teach it effectively**, as well as
- **A multi-grade overview of concepts and skills that allow parents to target objectives.**

Good teachers use curriculum packages and resources as tools, not as the be-all and end-all. Because many parents are afraid of leaving educational gaps, or are uncertain about what is or is not important and when, they often allow a curriculum to act as an unrelenting dictator. Students are pushed at a rate that is not conducive to mastery—either too fast or too slow. **DESIGN-A-STUDY BOOKS can free them from those fears.**

DESIGN-A-STUDY BOOKS can be used in a variety of ways:

- ☑ **As a reference—how to teach and when—while using a packaged curriculum in order to make adjustments suitable to each child.**
- ☑ **As a complete curriculum foundation.** Any needed content (history, science, and literature) can be added using books and videos from the local library, television learning channels, the Internet, and so on.
- ☑ **As a guide to using historical unit studies as the focal point of a curriculum (*Guides to History Plus*).**
- ☑ **As a checklist of concepts and skills to be covered.**
- ☑ **As a reference to target strengths and weaknesses of a student.**
- ☑ **As a reference in order to adjust teaching methods and materials when students have become bored or discouraged.**
- ☑ **As working outlines for older students to find information independently.** This allows students to choose the resources they find most appealing—texts, library books, periodicals, videos, Internet sites, etc.

AND, DESIGN-A-STUDY BOOKS help stretch homeschool dollars. Each subject book covers either grades K-8 or K-12!

EDUCATORS, AUTHORS, AND REVIEWERS ON DESIGN-A-STUDY:

“I highly recommend Kathryn Stout’s spelling book and other books for homeschoolers. Her curriculum writing is exactly on target for the needs of teaching parents. She has a talent for laying out the core essentials of a subject, and making clear what needs to be learned and how to learn it. This no-nonsense approach is efficient; it guides teaching parents and builds their confidence: and it motivates students, since they see clearly their goal and their progress. This system breaks through the curriculum clutter that has been building up in the textbook industry for many decades. It is a giant step forward.

“A bonus for many families is that all this is accomplished at low cost with the Stout materials. One book covers several years of teaching in a subject. Thus families need not collect piles of graded books. Additionally, they find it easier to locate in the Stout books information as needed from their past studies.” [Ruth Beechick, author, educator](#) (*She requests that the above be given to book sellers but not be used in advertising.*)

“[Kathryn Stout’s] way is designed to develop your kids as independent, aggressive learners without missing important concepts and skills they should know. . . . her ideas will give you a better understanding of the process of good teaching.” [Ted Wade, *Home School Manual*](#).

“Even if we are willing to abandon the textbook approach, many of us feel insecure determining at what level our child should be working on a science topic. . . . Kathryn Stout’s *Science Scope* helps us identify appropriate activities for different age groups within each science area. This is an extremely useful resource. . . *Science Scope* makes it easier to select appropriate resources for whatever topic is chosen for study.” [Cathy Duffy, *Christian Home Educators’ Curriculum Manual*, review of *Science Scope*](#)

"[*Science Scope* is] An incredible resource even if you don't teach the unit study method!" HIS Publishing catalog

“This has to be one of the most concise, yet comprehensive books for teaching the writing process available to home educators.” [Cathy Duffy, *Christian Home Educators’ Curriculum Manual*, review of *Comprehensive Composition*](#)

“These materials are a gold mine for those of us who want to break away from a structured curriculum and use a more varied approach. . . . These materials can guide you to wonderful, thorough unit studies...” [Christine Field, *A Field Guide to Home Schooling*](#)

“It is important to continue working on spelling; that is a lifelong task. . . . If you use a book at all, use an all-in-one book. . . . the *Natural Speller* by Kathryn Stout.” [Ruth Beechick, *Dr. Beechick’s Homeschool Answer Book*](#)

“*Critical Conditioning* [is] not a ‘teach to read’ or ‘what to read’ program, this is a ‘think while you read’ guide. . . . If you are trying to ‘train up a child in the way he should go,’ this book covers skills that will be essential in life.” [Rainbow Re-Source catalog](#)

“. . . this may be the ultimate reference guide for teaching math!” [Rainbow Re-Source catalog](#)

“An invaluable reference for teaching science without a text! . . . Also helpful is the introductory section on teaching science and science skills that can help you to understand the process skills used in science and how to develop them in your children.” [Rainbow Re-Source catalog](#).

HOMESCHOOLERS TALK ABOUT DESIGN-A-STUDY BOOKS

“ . . . I am so happy I want to shout it from the rooftops! . . . I am sure the Lord has directed me to this program to inspire me with quality material that I can afford on my limited budget. . . . I finally feel equipped to give my best now. You have blessed me immeasurably.” P. Angeloni, AR

“Thank you for your thorough work! Finally, a resource I can use as a tool to do the job I want to do, instead of feeling like I am the tool to be used by the resource!” K. Fetz, VA

“I just wanted to let you know what a wonderful blessing your materials have been to me! . . . I feel like your guides give me a framework and confidence. . . . We are all looking forward to school now!” J. McDonald

“It is incredible how my son’s interest and motivation have increased since I started using *Comprehensive Composition*. . . . It helped him overcome the ‘hate-to-write syndrome’ and allowed him to express his apparent gift for creative writing.” K Alexander, SC

“I still think your guides are the next best thing to bread and butter and tell everyone I see with that ‘textbook glaze’ in their eye about your books. Thanks.” D. Edson, SC

“I must tell you that thanks to your books and seminar [tapes], I am finally getting MY education. I am actually beginning to learn to think, too!!” N. Spacek, CT

“Your Design-a-Study Books are wonderful! They have given me the courage to step out into the world of ‘designing your own curriculum.’ They are a wealth of information I could not do without.” PA

“First let me say how grateful I am that you have made homeschooling better for me and my kids! Because of your work, I feel capable as a teacher.” D Chavalier

“I use my summers for planning materials needed throughout the year and your publications really help me to achieve my goals without a lot of headaches.” N Sadewater, IL

"I LOVE the *Natural Speller*. We also use *Critical Conditioning* which has helped us tremendously with reading comprehension. Being an 'eclectic' homeschooler, I enjoy these books as they help break the mold of strict curriculums and allow the use of real books. They provide just enough guidance to help me teach without putting me in a box. Thanks!!!!" Meliea, NC.

“My son did not do well with traditional spelling programs. I tried yours and he can spell now. Thank you. I have enjoyed using your materials . . .” L. Schiessl, NE

“We love the *Natural Speller*. . . . Thank you for meeting the needs of homeschool families at an affordable cost with this great non-consumable book.” J. Lamb, CA

“I was totally impressed with your Science [*Scope*. It] filled in the gaps and I am pleased.” E-mail

“The math and speller have helped my son very much and he is beginning to enjoy school. He’s a real hands-on kid and I couldn’t get him to enjoy workbooks. Now I’m learning more about teaching.” K. Schlik

“ . . . the unit studies approach really appealed to us. It is hard, however, to know exactly how to pull it all together. . . . Thanks for creating such a simple, concise, easy to understand book [*Guides to History Plus*]. School will be much more fun for all of us now!” C. & T. Wegner, MI

MEMO

TO: Our Distributors

FROM: Kathryn Stout / Design-A-Study

RE: **FAQ**

What is the difference between our *Natural Speller* and *Spelling Power*?

Because many of you have asked in order to respond to your customers' questions, below is a comparison between *Natural Speller* and *Spelling Power*.

Natural Speller vs Spelling Power

Both include: Multi-sensory strategies
Dictionary skills
Phonic Rules
Spelling Rules
Word lists*

The *Natural Speller* also contains: Writing Rules
Latin roots and meanings with activities
Greek roots and meanings with activities
Prefixes and meanings**
Suffixes and meanings**
Daily practice activities
Vocabulary building activities**
Grammar objectives for grades 1-8

*The difference in word lists: *Spelling Power* groups words either alphabetically or by phonic sound (not sound and spelling). In the few phonic lists, words like menace and grievous are together because the "us" sound can be spelled ace or ous. This is a disadvantage for anyone with difficulty remembering the correct spelling of a word in the long-term. In the *Natural Speller*, word lists are arranged with both a **sight and sound** pattern in common in order to help with long-term memory. For example, bean and feed are not on the same list even though ea and ee both make a long e sound. Review tests mix these kinds of words, but initial practice gives the student the aid of a pattern that involves two of his senses. This is especially helpful for children with learning disabilities which hinder learning to spell.

**Vocabulary Building Practice: Students add prefixes and suffixes to spelling words to build word families as part of regular spelling practice. This also reinforces long-term memory of the spelling and meaning of words by promoting the use of logical patterns—word parts and meanings.

QUOTES

I receive numerous verbal comments as I meet families at conventions. There has been enormous feedback from parents of children with special needs who were discouraged by the lack of progress in spelling and found success “at last” with the *Natural Speller*. I also work as a consultant with homeschooling families, many of which have special needs children. I have seen the success there first hand.

The *Natural Speller* is the only spelling program recommended by name in *Dr. Beechick's Homeschool Answer Book*. **Ruth Beechick**, also an educator, author, and consultant, wrote the following for our promotional use with book sellers: “I highly recommend Kathryn Stout’s spelling book and other books for homeschoolers. Her curriculum writing is exactly on target for the needs of teaching parents. She has a talent for laying out the core essentials of a subject, and making clear what needs to be learned and how to learn it. This no-nonsense approach is efficient; it guides teaching parents and builds their confidence; and it motivates students, since they see clearly their goals and their progress. **This system breaks through the curriculum clutter that has been building up in the textbook industry for many decades. It is a giant step forward.**”

“A bonus for many families is that all this is accomplished at low cost with the Stout materials. One book covers several years of teaching in a subject. Thus families need not collect piles of graded books. Additionally, they find it easier to locate in the Stout books information as needed from their past studies.”

“I bought the *Natural Speller* a couple years ago, but I haven’t used it faithfully until this year. We homeschool our girls and have them tested every year. My daughter, Jamie, always tested high, except in spelling. This is the first year that she was at grade level. I have no doubt in my mind that it is due to me using nothing other than the *Natural Speller*. This is a note of Thanks!” Diana Miller, CA

“My son did not do well with traditional spelling programs. I tried yours and he can spell now. Thank you.” Linda Schiessl (e-mail)

“*Natural Speller* is the first spelling program that has worked successfully for my daughter.” This was in Rainbow Resources’ catalog. I don’t have a name or address.

“We have started with the spelling (*Natural Speller*) and *Critical Conditioning* and (my son) is so excited and motivated he wants to continue working well into the evening.” Annette Tappin, Zimbabwe

“...the math and speller have helped my son very much and he’s beginning to enjoy school.” Kathy Schlek

“We love the *Natural Speller*. . . Thank you for meeting the needs of homeschool families at an affordable cost with this great non-consumable book.” J. Lamb, CA