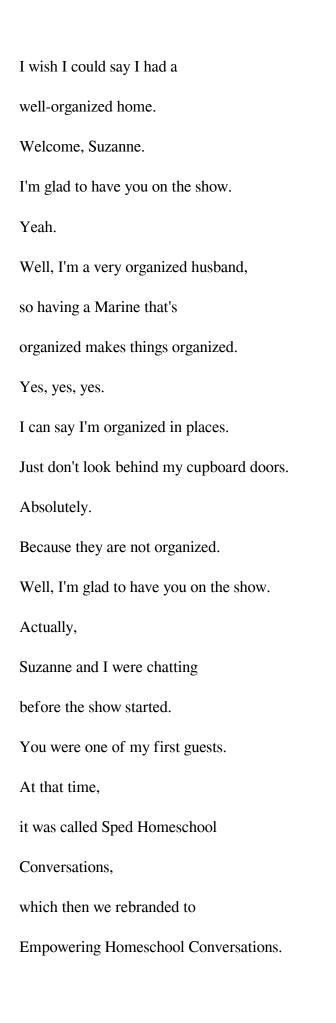
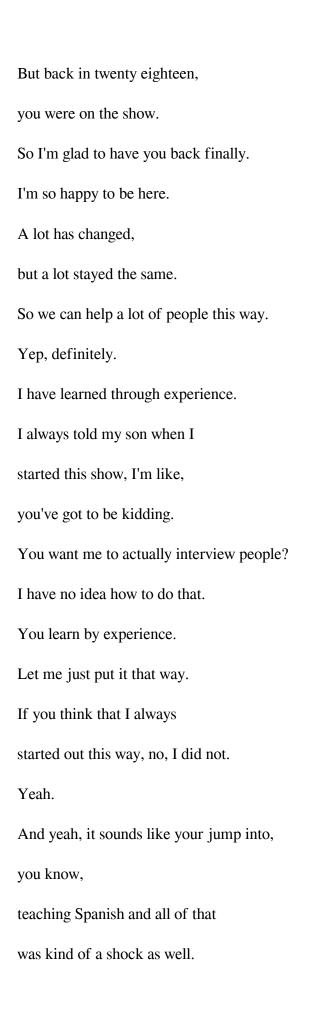
Welcome to Empowering Homeschool Conversations, your authority in navigating the world of homeschooling diverse learners. Featuring Peggy Ployer from Sped Homeschool, Annie Yorty from Annie Yorty.com, Leilani Melendez from Living with Eve, Stephanie Buckwalter from eLarp Learning, and Dawn Jackson from Dawn Jackson Educational Consulting and Tutoring. With over seventy five years of combined homeschooling expertise, experiences and perspectives, this group is eager to share their wealth of wisdom to empower your homeschooling journey. So grab your favorite mug, settle in and get ready for insightful discussions,

valuable insights and practical tips. Give your homeschool the power boost it needs to successfully educate the unique learners in your home. Hi, everyone, and welcome to Empowering Homeschool Conversations. Today, we are going to talk about beyond words, how learning a second language can transform struggling learners. And my guest today is Suzanne Gose. She is a former public school teacher who transitioned to homeschooling over twenty years ago. when she decided to stay home with her firstborn. She quickly realized how much she missed teaching, reaching out to her local

community to offer small Spanish class. Suzanne was met with an overwhelming interest, forty-two responses by the next morning. Since then. she has spent twenty-three years public speaking, and teaching Spanish to homeschool students in the classroom setting. Suzanne is a happily married mother of five, a small business owner, and the founder and board member of Community Homeschool Center. She and her family enjoy life on their fifteen-acre farm in Central Texas. Passionate about supporting the homeschooling community, Suzanne loves teaching Spanish weekly, helping families in their homeschooling journey, and maintaining happy, well-organized home.





It wasn't something you had planned. Can you tell us a little bit of that story and how that came about and just how you got launched into helping homeschoolers with Spanish? Sure. So I was a public school teacher, like you said. And when we had our first born, we wanted to I wanted to stay home with them and I didn't want to in daycare. And so I was planning, OK, I'll stay home with the baby and then put them in kindergarten like you do. And I really was bored. Like that baby was just like not doing flashcards or anything. And so. so I just had heard about these people called

homeschoolers and I thought

well maybe they need a

spanish tutor or something

so I got on their little

google well back then it

was yahoo groups and so yes

that's when I started

homeschooling too yes yeah

I sent that out and the

next morning I had forty

two responses which back

then was a lot of emails and um

Yes.

I had a little meeting at a

local church and said,

would anybody like a class?

And people started writing me checks.

My husband was there with a

little receipt book looking

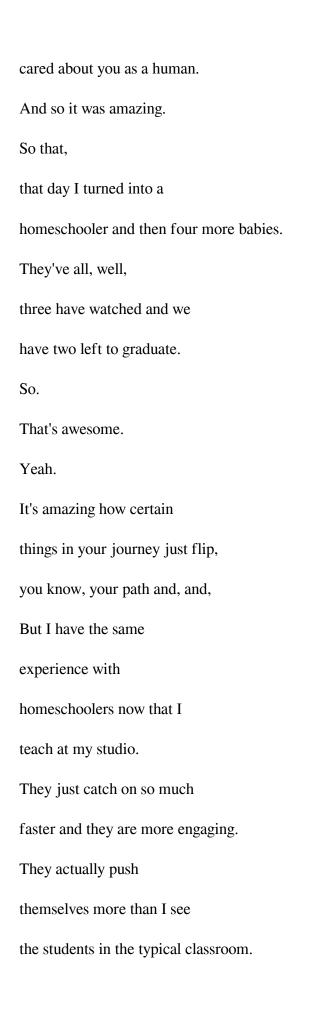
at me like people will pay

you to teach like what?

Because in our head, you know,

you if you wanted to teach,

you taught in the public school. And so it just never occurred to us because we have been in the system. And so once I started teaching homeschoolers, it was just like, oh, these kids are really different. And so I wanted our baby. He's what at the time he was nine months old. And I thought, I really want my baby to turn out like these teenagers because I didn't know teenagers came that way. Like, I thought they were like, I didn't know exactly. I thought they just came kind of sullen and, you know, sad and sort of introverted and kind of grunted only to adults. I didn't know they were engaging young adults that



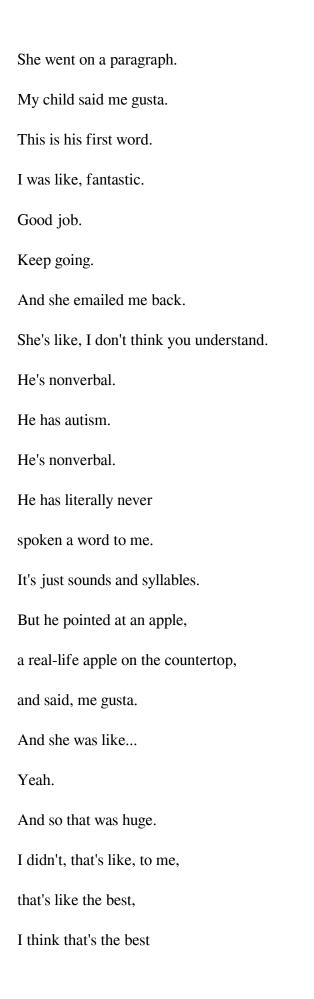
They've been taught how to, you know, learn at the pace of everybody else versus just, you know, pursuing where they are. It's their sweet spot. They seem to just hone into that. Right. There's a lot of conditioning, I think. No matter where you are, if you're somewhere for eight hours a day, you're going to be conditioned. Whether it's a good condition or a bad condition, it's still a conditioning. And so I think you need to remember, as homeschoolers, what are we conditioning our children in which way? In a good way. You know, it's not like bad or good. It's just something that you can't avoid. And just think about what that environment is for

your child and then for us, too. So there's always a look at what what are we getting used to? And is that something good to get used to or should we challenge? Right. Yeah, that's so true. And we control that environment. Yes. So when I talked to you last, we actually met in person recently, and you were telling me that you had some aha moments with some students that you had recently or families that had recently used your curriculum with students who had struggled. And I would love for you to share one of those stories with our community, because I think it's encouraging. Because a lot of times we

think learning a second language is just I mean, we just don't have enough time because we have to keep pushing those things that our students struggle in. But but I learned through homeschooling my own kids that that's not always the best approach. So I'd love to hear your stories about that. Yeah. So back when I started my little small classes, I would have people sign up their their advanced child or their, you know, that kind of type A, their first born kind of natured kid. Oh, we have extra time. We have extra money. So let's push this kid into Spanish classes and kind of give them extra maybe to

challenge them or something like that. And then they would have kids that were struggling in whatever reason, whatever reason, visual processing, dyslexia, audio, memory issues, whatever it is. And they would not sign their kids up for Spanish because of those reasons. And it was really I was really surprised by that because I was like, no, because even back then I knew there's so much brain health that learning a second language can do. And so if your child struggles with memory, that's when you do put them in a second language. You know, Spanish makes the most sense just because it's the most commonly spoken language

other than English in America. But if your kid is interested in any other language. Just having them use that part of their brain will improve everything else. So the biggest aha moment for for me was just a couple of years ago. You know, we've been doing this twenty years. So a couple of years ago is quite a short amount of time. But he I had a mom that had gotten I have the little flashcards here. This is the flashcard her little boy learned from. I like it. But in Spanish, me gusta. And she emailed me and she said, hey, I wanted to tell you my child said his first word today. And I was like, that's awesome.



story I'll ever get.

Maybe there'll be another one,

but I think using a

different part of the brain,

there's no pressure to

sound like mom or to say it

exactly right.

And whenever you're learning

with flashcards,

something that can't be measured, like,

you're always behind or or

ahead with math you're

always behind or ahead with

reading with learning a

language exactly you're not

on a sixth grade level or

an eightieth grade level

you're just learning a new

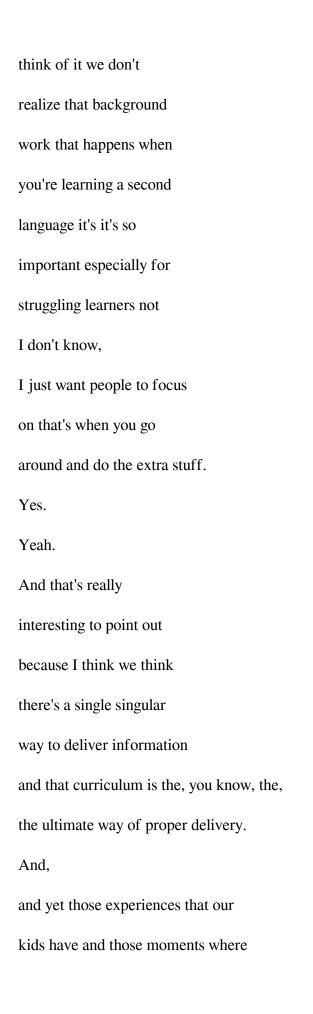
language and so I think a

lot of the pressure taking

off as well as the brain

health really makes a big

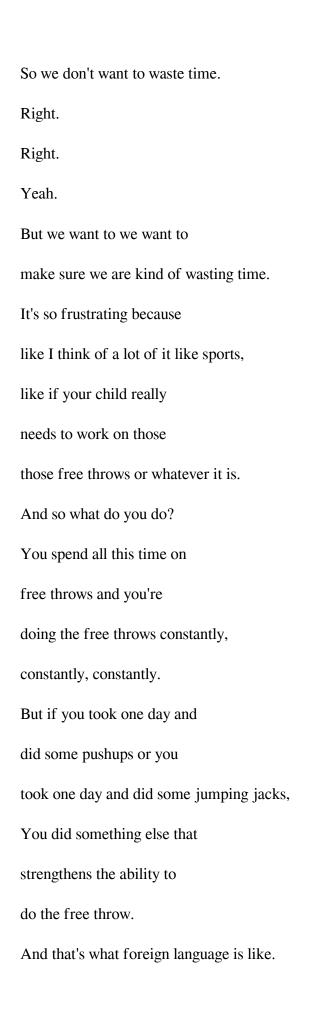
difference where we don't



where they can interact with learning and kind of make it fun and do something different or just, you know, not have it so under pressure like you were talking about. That's when we do get more aha moments from them. Yes. Yeah, as soon as we relax, everything opens up. And it's with us too, right? As soon as we relax, it's like, oh, all I needed to do was relax. But how do you tell somebody to relax? You know, as soon as you tell somebody to relax, they're like, oh, what's about to happen? So yeah, the game-like feeling of learning words. And it's like, I mean, it's just a game. It's, oh, I achieved the next level. I mean, we play video games,

we play board games, and we go, oh,
we got to the next level.
And so that endorphin, that excitement of,
oh, I learned a new word.
Even if you can't say it,
if you can hear it and point at it,
That's a synapse.
That's opening a part of the
brain that before that
moment simply was not open.
You cannot wake up the
foreign language part of the brain,
it's right up here,
any other way except by communicating.
Wow.
Yeah.
So it just stays dead and shriveled in.
I mean, it's okay.
You use other parts.
But imagine if you have a
part here that it's just
kind of in the way.
And so when your child gets

backed into a corner from
dyslexia or visual or any
kind of processing issue and you know, oh,
there's nowhere for them to go.
A foreign language is like
having a secret door.
They're back up and they go, oh, wait.
And the brain has this other
pathway that wasn't there
before and isn't there for
monolingual students.
Wow.
That is so cool.
Yeah.
And yet we're just so
tempted because that
anxiety and everything about getting them,
you know,
on track and caught up and all
these things.
And there we leave that out.
Yeah.
Right.



It's like adding in that stretching, those calisthenics, the fundamentals, and then everything else, reading, writing, executive functioning, memory, wit, everything else improves. But all you did was spend time on saying what you like and don't like in Spanish. It's so simple. That is, yes. But so counterintuitive. And it's just not how we teach anymore. And yeah, because it used to be about, you know, we didn't compartmentalize learning so much as what we do now. It's so compartmentalized. And we think that if we don't teach in this one area, then of course, it's going to be a detriment to that child. And I've heard...

I would just cringe when I

was on the phone with some

parents and they're like,

I removed everything else

from their curriculum

except this one subject.

And it just made me just, you know, go,

don't do that to the parent because,

you know,

you're suffocating your child

now by just teaching the

one thing that they struggle with.

And and then they're, you know,

just their whole composure about,

you know,

I am a bad learner and it just

it all compiles on top of itself.

So so, yes,

I love that we're having this

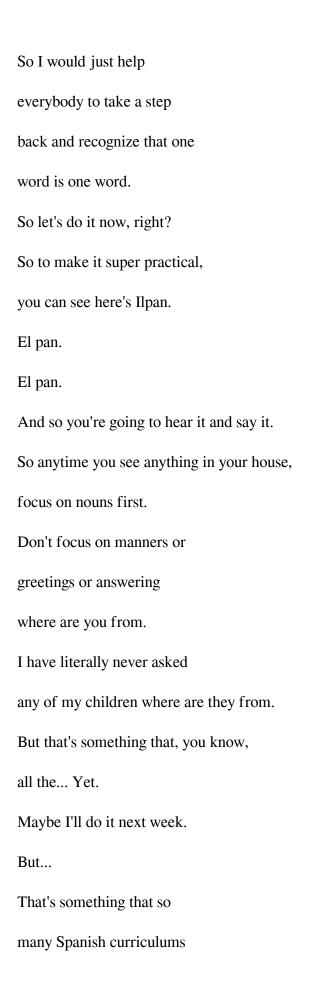
conversation right before Christmas,

because I think parents,

if you're listening to this and go,

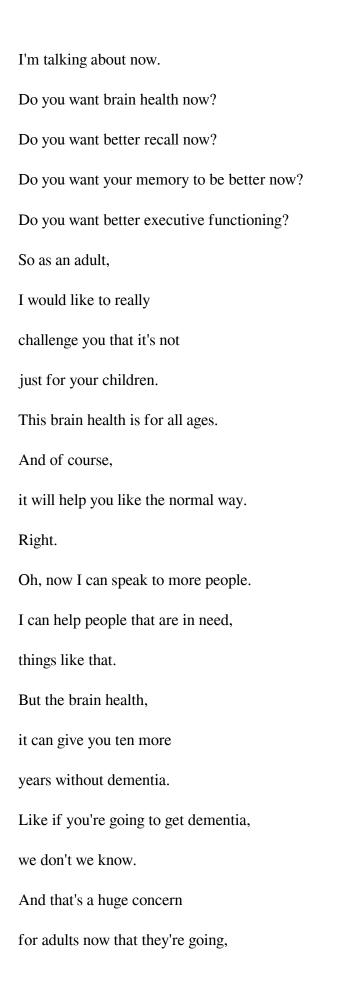
you know what,

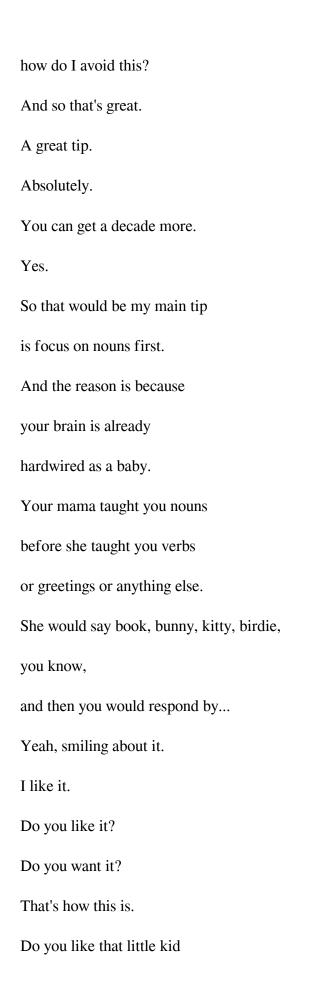
I think we've been doing what they're telling us not to do, change things up, you know, take some time over the Christmas break and and have some fun and. And then try to figure out how you can incorporate this fun and some additional ways of learning starting in January. And it's okay. It's, you know, it's where you started. So I would love for you to just share any practical tips. like tips or ways that parents could incorporate a second language into their homeschool routines that they feel like maybe, I don't know where we even have time for something like that. Right.



start with is greetings and how to make friends. Yes. I always thought that was so confusing when I took Spanish in high school. Right, because you're not going to use that. And so you want to think about, okay, what is my child's favorite food? Food is always a connector, right? So if you have kids that really like pan, the next time you say it, just say el pan. We do have the Spanish and the English on the other side, and as well as the phonetic spelling, but we really want to focus on just hearing the word and saying, and that's what see it and say it does is you listen to it. So start with nouns and start with one word.

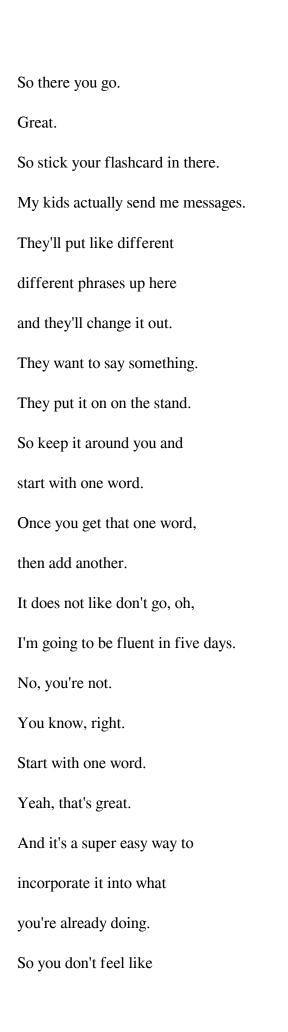
The next time you go to see that word or to see that item, you're like getting the bread out, you're ready to make a sandwich, your brain's going to go, What was that? And so that little pause is going to help awaken some synapses. And then not only are your synapses going to fire in a different direction, so now you kind of have shortcuts that weren't there before, but it also increases the capacity for memory. So it's kind of like making a room bigger as well as the path to it. So if you think, well, I didn't use Spanish. I went to high school. I learned Spanish, but I've never used it. I've been fine without it. I'm not talking about that.

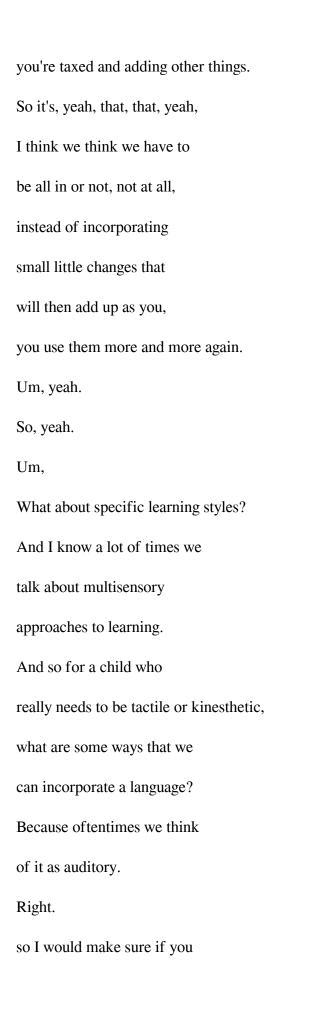




that learned how to say me gusta? Me gusta el pan. Now you can change this word out for all kinds of things. If you want to say I don't like it, you say no me gusta, but we don't teach that for a while. especially if you have toddlers yes yes we don't teach no for a long time but just starting with really simple things um and like we just did one word it takes five seconds you can put it like I have what I have it in front of me is I have it on a little stand and so if you have like one of those menu holders it's just like a little You know, you can get these so many places.

I've got one for a knife on my counter.





have a tactile learner keep

them off of screens the

screen is a real detriment

not only to the brain in

general but um it actually

closes down the language

development of part of your

brain so back when you and

I had toddlers remember

they would tell us thirty

minutes of tv a day right

max exactly for toddlers

and that was because it

would delay their speech

and that was whatever

twenty years ago right and

now you can't tell that to

parents because

Nobody knows how to function

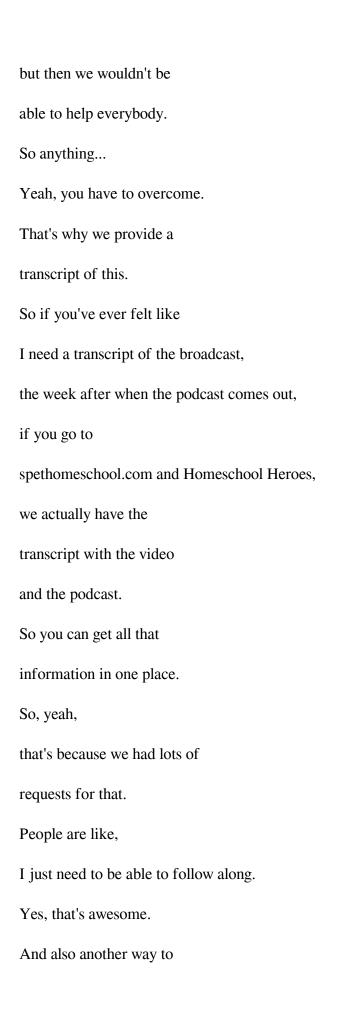
if their toddler doesn't

have the iPad in front of them.

But it's still true that

kids haven't changed.

So the developmental part of your brain for languages completely goes dark, even right now. Can we learn while we're sitting in front of a screen? Yeah, Peggy and I can learn. We could teach you the other stuff. But our brain is now doing an obstacle course trying to figure out, how do I absorb that information? As adults, if you've ever tried to watch a meeting, And you're like, gosh, you're getting really sleepy. That's because the part of the brain that is language development is dark. It is not fired up. So we learn much better from something on a piece of paper, from face to face. Peggy and I would be doing much better if we were sitting here,



overcome that is like I'm

not saying screens are the devil.

I'm just saying you want to

add something to it.

So if you just have a notepad next to you.

So as you're listening or if

you're hearing a word in

Spanish and you doodle it,

you draw you draw the

picture of the apple,

you draw a picture of the loaf of bread.

that will wake up that part

of your brain that has been

kind of diminished a little bit.

So supplement, like if you say, oh,

I just bought this video

program and that's all it is, that's okay,

supplement it with something else.

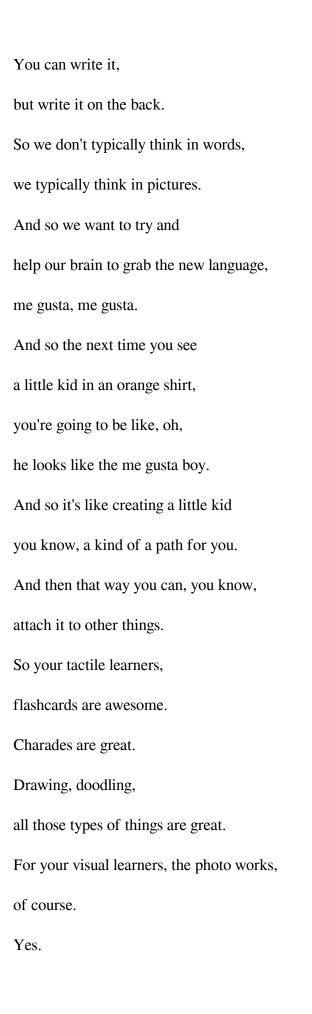
Your tactile learner,

have them draw their own flashcards.

So they're gonna draw a

picture on one side,

don't have them write it.

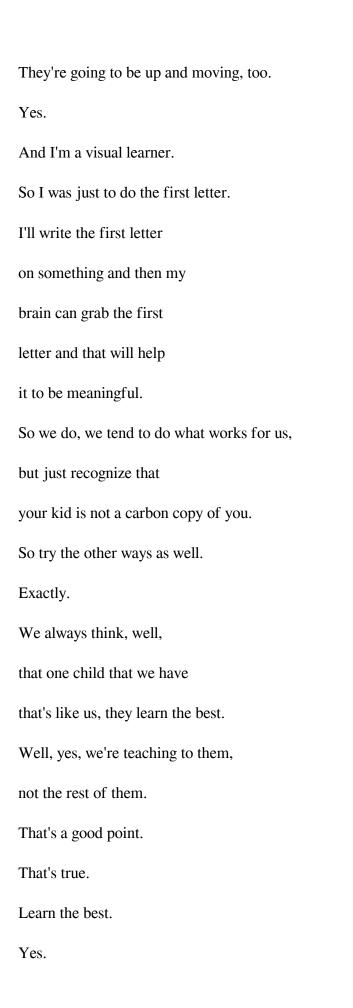


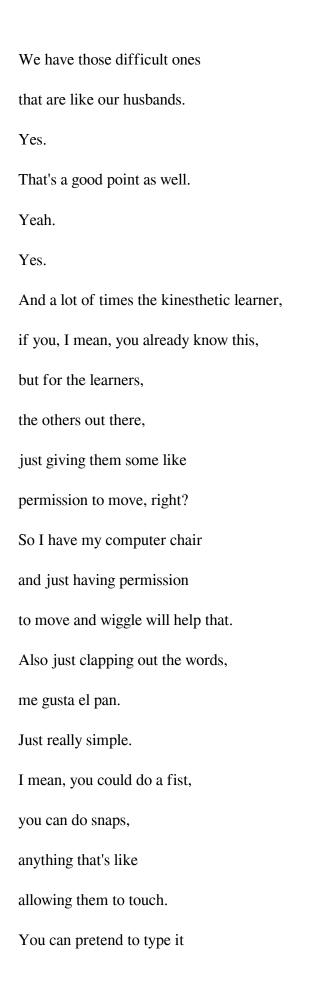
Sometimes our visual learners really like to read it. That's okay. But we just want them to always focus on this side. Just use this for reference. And then your audio learners, they are easy because they just hear it, repeat it, hear it, repeat it, and they got it quickly. yeah yeah have you ever incorporated any activities like like body like movement and things like that to help with learning as well absolutely so we're always acting things out um whenever I I have a child that has deaf parents so she's hearing but her both of her parents are deaf and

so she would sign it in you

know asl while we're

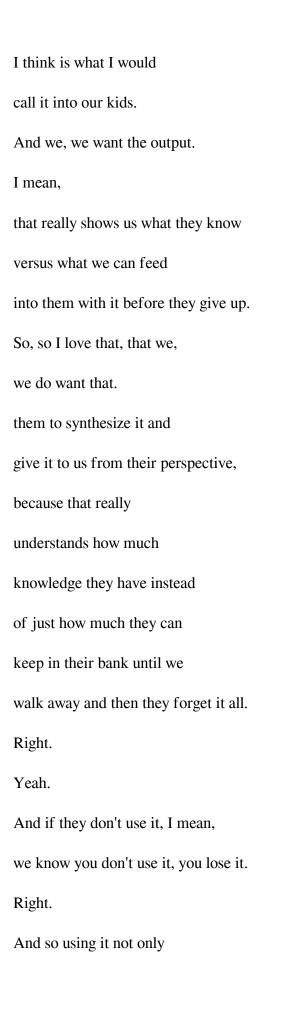
learning things so you can always add your own hand signals it does not have to be accurate asl So if we want to say el pan, I just use, you know, el pan, the bread, el pan, or comer, you know, to eat. So anything you're doing, me gusta, you can always add actions to it as simple or as complex as you want. And that will help the brain to grab it that much more. Awesome. Yes, I know when we memorize scripture verses, I would always do that with my kids because that's how I'm a kid aesthetic learner. I have to be in moving. And and so I'm like, OK, if I'm going to try to memorize this, that means I'm up and moving.



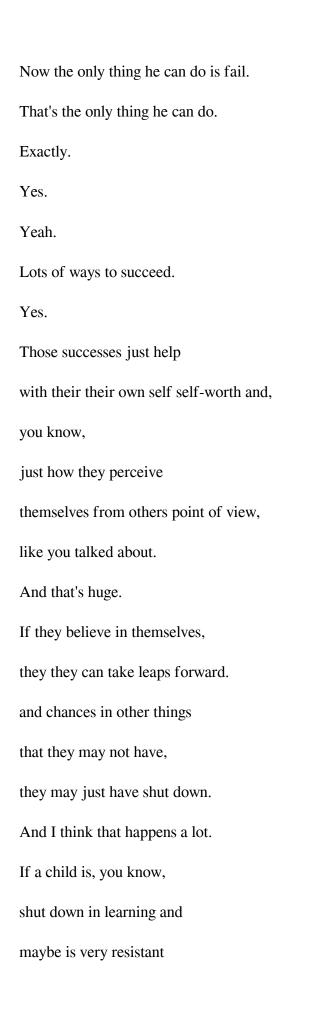


out on a pretend keyboard. So they're at the table and they're typing pretend letters. And that little tappity motion does something different than just hearing repeating. And also the biggest thing on us, and I know we're probably out of time just about, but the biggest thing is... Oh, no, we've got a whole hour. So you keep going. Hooray! I thought we only had thirty minutes. Well, that's wonderful because I have a lot more to share. But the biggest thing is making it meaningful. If you think about toddlers and when they were learning a language, they have an opinion. And so I like or I need is

how we start with see it and say it.
Me gusta or necesito.
And the kid gets to decide,
do I like it or do I need it?
And so that opinion, that decision,
that choice makes the
second half of the sentence
super important.
And so then that's why they
remember it is because now
it's meaningful.
It's not just, you know, items in a pantry,
colors on the wall.
What's it like?
I mean,
these kids are sick to death of colors,
numbers and clothing.
Exactly.
Yeah.
Yeah.
We get,
we get stuck in that perpetual
kindergarten mode of just data entry,



helps with the memory, but it also makes more space for other items and not just foreign language. Right. So once you start seeing that vocabulary go up and that usefulness and they're excited about it, nobody's expecting them to know it. And so that surprise in somebody else's face goes, ooh, learning these interesting tidbits, this little bit of memory work that I'm doing now impressed others. People's face went up. And so that kind of snowballs into learning the science, the history, the reading, the math facts. That gives them that good endorphin instead of like the poor kid that the mom took everything else away.



about learning a second language, I'm assuming that, you know, some of these more interactive ways that you were talking about would be great ways to even just start out relearning, you know, learning instead of going that traditional approach of let's pull the books out. Maybe let's just put all the books away and start with a foreign language, which may seem really counterintuitive, but, you know, hearing everything that you've been talking about with just opening up other parts of the brain and helping their self-confidence and doing all these other things that in the end, I could see this as

actually launching them into better learning. Yeah. than if you would have just kept, well, it's time to start doing again what we did before and really starting out with them mentally in the same place, which is not good. Right. I think we just repeat what we did. Right. So when we did Spanish or French or whatever foreign language we had and even elementary, like some of the schools do it earlier now, which is great. But they start with colors, numbers and clothing and or school supplies, you know, and it's just not super interesting for children. So if you have a kid that's kind of.

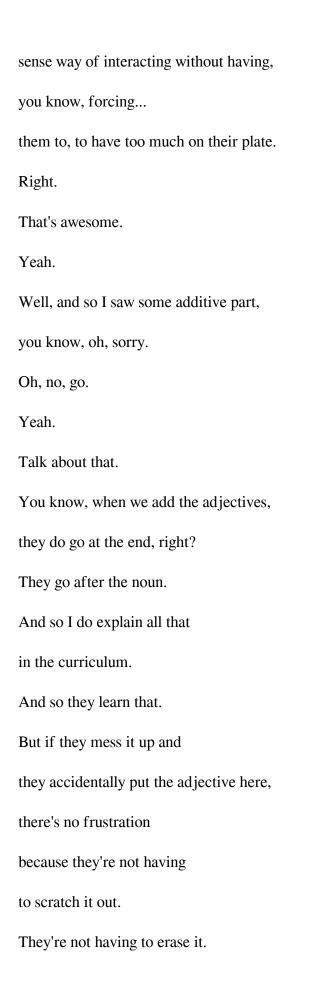
frustrated with the lists learning or that's just what they think Spanish is. Maybe they have a wrong attitude towards it because they've done it before or they've heard you talk about it even. As parents, we kind of give negative feedback for things we didn't enjoy in school. Playing bingo is a great way because that way it's all just luck. So I actually have a jillion bingo games on the website. So we'll pretend like this is a bingo card. On the bingo card, it has the word... as well as the picture so it's actual it's actually a cartoon instead of a flash card and so no it's no longer um it's no longer

like knowledge base it's luck so it totally takes the pressure off the kid so if I say okay the first word is me gusta they're looking on their card they're trying to find the words that's me gusta and they're like wait does that mean I like it you're like yes All they have to do is find it. They've got the hand eye coordination. They pick it up and they flip it upside down. And so they've seen they've heard the word. They've recognized it. They flipped it upside down. So you have the visual, the tactile and the audio all happening. And it had nothing to do with their skill level, their ability or their memory.

And so it's huge to just
kind of take that
performance anxiety away from them.
So that's a great way.
And then like what else are
you talking about shutting down?
Like here's I like to cook the bread.
Me gusta cocinar el pan.
And so a kid might be like, oh, no,
me gusta comer.
I like to eat the bread.
So the series model also
helps like the kids.
That's like they want they
have a reaction.
Right.
So I put together a sentence
that can be moved.
It's not on a piece of paper.
Right,
so they aren't forced to do any
handwriting.
They aren't forced to, yeah,

they can just pick and move things. Yeah, they don't have to read it. Yeah, so they're just identifying it. And like my little three-year-old, she accidentally learned to read from these things because I constantly told her. Really? Yeah, I was like, please focus on the photo. I was like, just listen and learn because I already had four kids. I was just like, we're just doing Spanish at three. Don't worry about it. Just listen and learn. Photosite only. And she has integrity issues at that point. She kept flipping it over to read it. And so, you know, I didn't know whether I

should cheer or be upset, like follow instructions. But you see that because it's not a requirement, I'm not expecting you to read it. Kids at three and four years old are learning to read accidentally because of the simple, chunky kind of little bit of information, just one flashcard at a time. Right. And it helps a little bit with the grammar because you chunked the words together that usually go together and can be put together. So they don't have to think about that. It's just what makes sense and how would I respond to it? And if it doesn't sound like it's something I can respond to, then it probably needs to change. So it's just that common



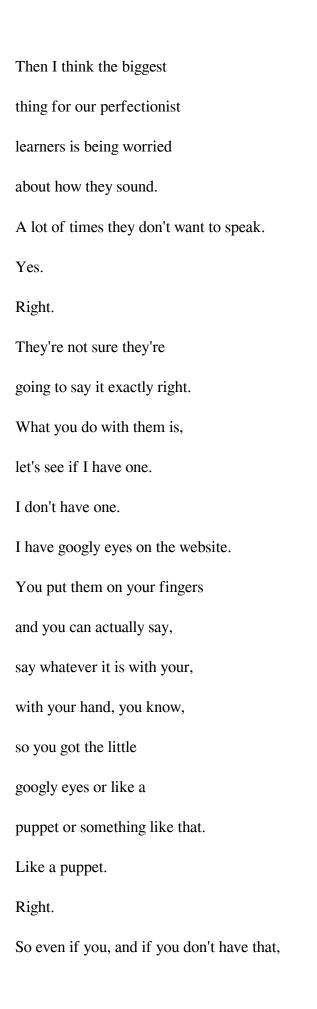
They're just moving the card. And so all those perfectionists, because a lot of struggling learners, that's why they struggle. They want it to be perfect before they ever put their pencil to the page. And so this removes that. It's just moving the cards around. There's nothing that's permanent about learning cards. Yeah, that was a big struggle with my kids. And that's why they can't do a lot of online learning because a lot of those programs, if you are off like by not adding a zero after a decimal place or something like that or doing, my daughter would just break down because it was so hard for her to deal

with that she knew the right answer,
but she put it in wrong.
And then everything, I mean,
it wasn't perfect.
It wasn't the way she had
mentally perceived that it was going in.
So.
So, yes,
something that is very flexible
like that and very
forgiving is makes it so
much easier to to be able to accept that.
Oh, well, you know,
that was just a wrong place card.
Then we just move it and life is good.
Yeah.
Yes.
Mm hmm.
I love that.
Yeah.
And and I think that's a
very good way because we
kind of started this part

of this conversation
talking about shutdown learners.
And I think that a lot of
kids who are shutdown learners,
they are those
perfectionists or they fail
so many times that they're
afraid to fail again
because it just kind of it
eats away at them as is.
And at a certain point,
you just don't want to do
something that you keep failing at.
Or you feel like you keep failing at.
And so to have those
successes and to have that
flexibility makes it so much more fun.
Yeah.
Yeah.
So let's talk a little bit
about fun and adding fun to
learning and just how how
you do that with your own curriculum.

and how you've seen students respond to making things a little more fun versus, you know, well, this is serious and we've got to learn all this stuff. So I think the main thing is because there is a manual that goes along with it. So you have the The manual that teaches you, you know, which lessons to do and everything like that has it all listed for us, kind of the type A type people that really want to know exactly what's coming. You have it written out here and the transcript is actually, you know, read to you. So everything that's in the book is on the audio. So you could just not read the reference book at all

and just listen along. that already goes, oh, there's no textbook for the kids. No, there's no textbook for the kids. The kids have the flashcards, they're listening and they're touching. So laying a card out on the table and just hearing it and touching it and repeating it is the first start. For the perfectionist kids, what I give them is something to touch it with. So they can use a ruler, they can use a fly swatter, they can use a pencil, those sticky hands. If they're like, oh yeah, Anything that's not your finger, that's okay too. That's a fun way. Then of course we can act it out. There's speed rounds.



you're like, well, I don't have that. Use an old sock, right? Put a sock on your hand and just do that. You can use any kind of little, anything, you know, maybe. And so they just having a voice is, Like change your voice, go higher, deeper, growl, whatever you want to do that it's no longer you. And you can even hide. Like I would even have students that would go down below the desk and hold it up high. Me gusta. And so taking that pressure off the face helps them to now speak. So, yeah. And it's really helps if you'll do the voice, if you'll be funny first, this kid will relax. Yeah, I found that even with like,

when my kids wouldn't talk about their feelings, we always had puppets. I had one especially that was, you know, really struggling through some stuff. And we got this one puppet and he would just open up when the puppet was in his hand. And I'm like, what's going on here? But it does, it takes the pressure off. It feels like that I am not being focused on and all the attention isn't at me, but I can share and I feel a little safer. And so parents, if you're really struggling with a child that has that perfectionism or they're just dealing with some deep things, that is some great advice that Suzanne just shared. shared with you about that.

Yes, I love that. Yeah, because you can just look over at the hand, even if you just let your hand talk. So now the child was looking at the hand, you might be looking at the child's face, and that's fine because the child's no longer required to make eye contact. I mean. how many times do we look at these little boys and say, look me in the eye? and that's the one thing they can't do and tell you the truth and admit that they messed up and so we want them to fess up tell us what they did wrong and also look us in the eye my goodness I mean they're eight so exactly something else and same with learning

learning anything once you

take the spotlight off of

their face they're able to

perform and show you what they know

Yes, that is so true.

And just a gentle way of parenting,

of homeschooling that I

think we've forgotten about.

We put so much stress on our kids,

stress that we put on our

own selves that we probably

shouldn't either.

I know we shouldn't.

And it just snowballs.

And it snowballs actually

our goals that we have for

that child because we are...

we allow that to come into

just how we teach instead

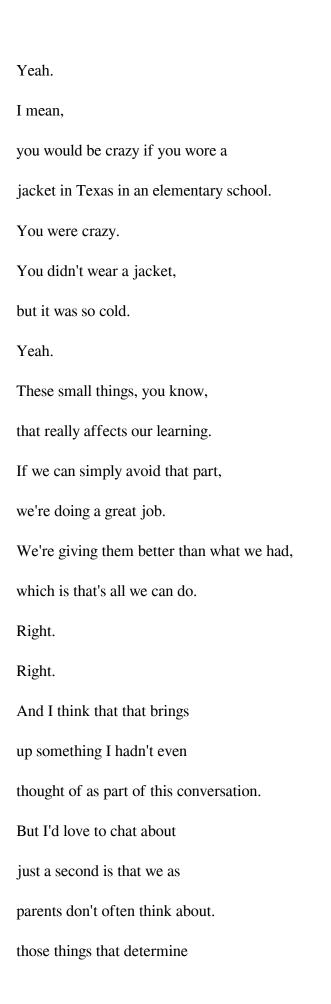
of just relaxing and

enjoying it and meeting

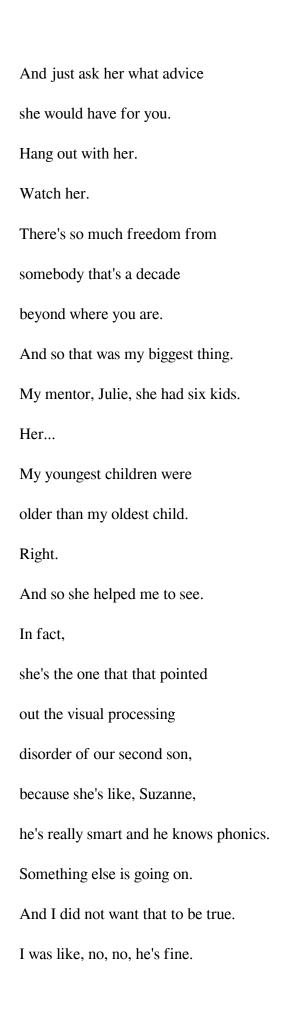
them where they're at,

which is so important.

Yeah,
I think a lot of it is just we can't
help but repeat what we experienced.
It's just it's the norm.
It's familiar.
And so when I think about
homeschooling in general,
if we can just avoid the
trauma that we had at whatever subject,
whatever teacher, whatever one event,
if we can just avoid that, then that's.
that's stellar already.
Even if they're not cold.
Like I was always cold in school.
I was freezing all the time.
And so I love that my
children are not cold while they learn.
I love that.
And you have the opportunity
to give them blankets and
lots of other things you
probably didn't have in a
cold classroom environment.



how we teach because of those past experiences. We don't even evaluate it. We don't even know why we do what we do. That would be a great thing as just a home educator parent to maybe take a step back this holiday season and say, why are we doing what we're doing? I'm sure you've done that multiple times in your homeschooling years, Suzanne. You know, what is what changed over the years for you as you've homeschooled twenty years plus? I think the biggest was listening to my mentor. So I think if you're a younger mom or you have elementary kids, find somebody that's ten to fifteen years older than you that you like.



But we had him tested and sure enough,

it was, it was huge.

And then just six months to

a year of therapy and it

worked out like all this therapy stuff.

So I think the biggest

things that changed is why, like you said,

why, why do we have to start at eight AM?

And I was like, yes, I knew I could not.

I was like, I don't know.

but you wouldn't have even

thought about that had

somebody not pointing it

out to you right absolutely

and why why this is why

there's all yes constantly

ask why why am I teaching

math this way you know

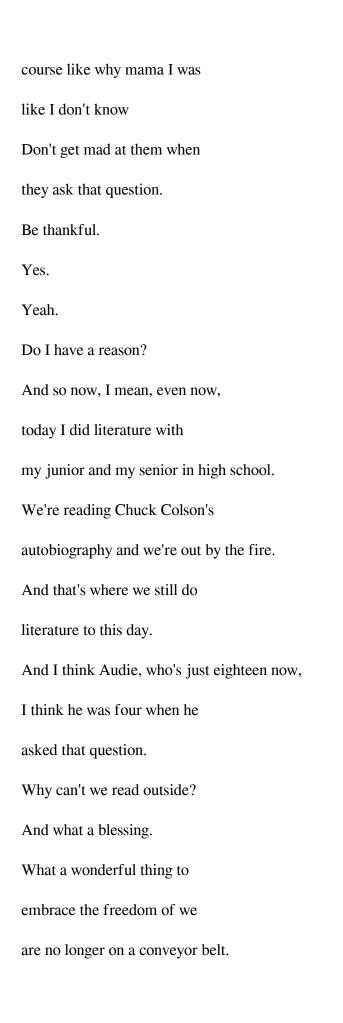
where why are we teaching

it where we are like the

kids were like could we

could we do outside I was

like no and they're of



The conveyor belt is not terrible. It's just they have to have a conveyor belt because they have so many cogs in the wheels. They have to do it that way. I had to do it that way when I taught public school. I'm not on the conveyor belt. Embrace your freedom. There's a lot of freedom. Yes, so true. Well, Suzanne, I'd love for you to share a little bit about your program. Suzanne has so many resources, so I want her to share with us some information. And she used a lot of visuals in today's broadcast. So if you're listening to the podcast, definitely you want to check out the YouTube video, at least parts of it.

You can either... pick that up on YouTube, Facebook, um, on our pages, there'll be some reels coming out, um, after the podcast as well. So, um, so those are things to look into as well, um, for, um, seeing what she was sharing as far as the cards, if you're interested in those, but, um, talk a little about, you've been about your, your website, flipflopspanish.com and what people can find on there. So, yeah, so I always forget about that. I am super visual, like I said, so I'm always showing people everything and instead of just saying it. But that's why it's called see it and say it, because that's how you

learned your first language. You saw an item, your mom said it to you. So your brain is already hardwired. If you're doing it any other way, you're kind of trying to make your brain do something that it's not used to doing. So it's a good idea to try and say, okay, what can I look at? Not the word, not the written word, but what can I look at that I can identify? And then, so this is cocinar, to cook, cocinar. And so I'm holding up another photo, y'all, another flashcard. Also recognizing that it's a photo and not a drawn cartoon of some sort. So when your mama was talking to you in the crib, she held up the actual bottle of milk or the apple or the bread.

She didn't hold up a cartoon.

Especially for struggling learners,

if they have a visual issue

or context or any kind of

little difference the way they are,

if you show them a cartoon,

they're going to give you

an opinion on the artist that drew that.

They're going to be like,

why is it that color?

Blah, blah, blah.

But if you give a photo,

it removes all those

questions and those attitudes.

It's just, oh, that's what it is.

So learning a language is a

lot about removing obstacles.

And once you do that in the

language portion,

you're going to see ways to

do that in all the other subjects.

So see it and say it.

You lay out the flashcards.

You push play on the audio.

And it talks you through the

whole two years of

curriculum from ages three

all the way to ninety three.

Anybody can learn.

The lessons are like fifteen minutes.

And then when you're ready

for high school Spanish, you're like,

well, I want the credentials.

I really need that high school credit.

We have SpanishGDCs.com

where I do it more at a scholar level.

You're still the same method,

but you're reading the stories,

you're listening and you're

conversing at a higher level.

That's awesome.

So yes,

and I will include the hyperlink in

the show notes so you don't

have to try to spell

anything or figure out what I said.

But if you are listening and

want to write it down right now,

it is flipflopspanish.com.

And so and I even say, you know,

like your cards,

they're very inexpensive.

If parents just want to

start out with like what we

were talking about earlier

and just get a set of cards

and and use them to help their students,

you know, learn some alternative words.

I think when we talked years ago,

I remember you talking

about how when a child like.

had to do something that was like typical,

that it was much more

exciting if you used like different words,

like a Spanish word in there.

And I always that always

stuck with me that, oh, yeah,

we can make things more

exciting instead of like,

this is something we do every day. Like, put your shoes away. Right. So let's just call, you know, the shoes are Spanish version and, you know, just change it up a little bit. And and that it makes a huge difference. It just adding that variety into into their lives. And it just makes things more exciting. It's like when you you hear somebody speaking in a foreign, you know, just accent or it just it sounds so cool. Yeah. Yeah. yeah variety is is huge and and it does like you said it just adds a little spice to your life um if you really wanted to do just one word a day we do have a calendar even it's a you can hang it on the wall and

it's a calendar one word a day you get to doodle and and label the thing in the picture at the top and it comes with audio I would never do that to you you always have audio so you can hear the word you know identify it and you're like hey we learned one word today and you don't have to find it it just stays on the wall so if you're looking for something like that say Suzanne I'm not ready for a full two-year curriculum but I hear what you're saying I think I could do one word a day then we have two different levels of the Spanish fun activity calendar I just don't want

you to be scared try it and embrace it if you need more help email message Facebook me I love this stuff you're never going to annoy me I want to help yeah And yes, and that's something we always encourage. I think I have, you know, various curriculum people on. I think I've been talking more and more in the past couple of years since I've been dealing more with curriculum creators. I just encourage our parents, call these people, email them because they truly want to help you. If you're struggling with teaching something that they wrote, let them know. They probably have a solution for you,

but you're not going to figure out what it is until you ask them. So so reach out because, yeah, that's instead of just saying, well, this isn't working. I think we do that too often and too early. And instead of really figuring out, I mean, if you fell in love with the curriculum, there's a reason you did. And and so ask. I mean, the worst thing they can say is, I don't know. But maybe you've also encouraged them to add something to their curriculum that they hadn't really realized was necessary as well. Or like the family you shared the story about, Suzanne, you know, what if that mom just never told you? I mean, it would not have impacted your

outreach and how you felt

your curriculum could be used even.

And so those interactions

are so important and we've

got to keep them going.

Yeah.

yes I totally agree yeah we

want to help otherwise we

wouldn't have done it like

we're not we're not in it

for the money y'all we want

to help if if something I

mean seriously if something

like this already had

existed I would have just

taught my little spanish

classes followed the lesson

plan and done it but the

reason it exists is because

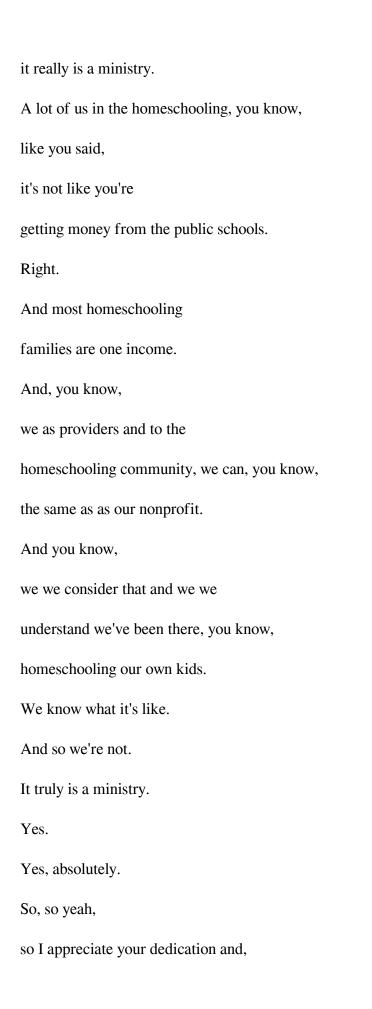
everything that was out

there didn't really work

for homeschoolers it worked

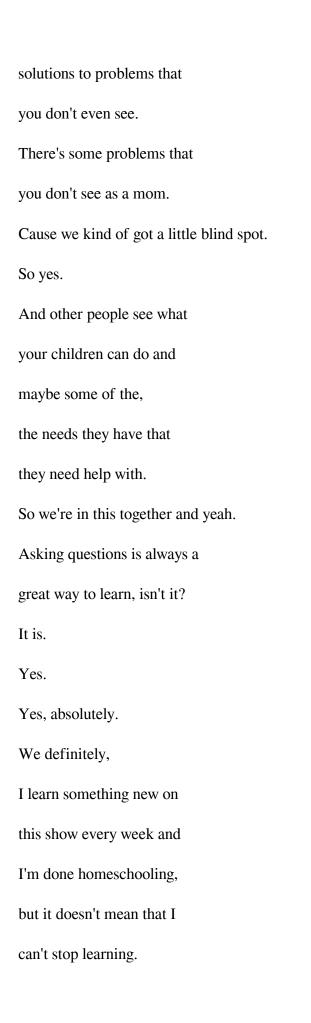
in a public school when you

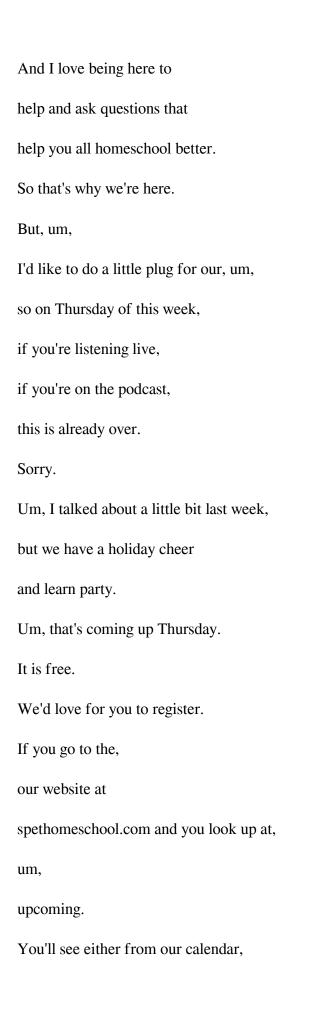
see the kids forty five minutes a day every single day and and even then y'all that curriculum was not good I mean, we just were, you know, we had to follow it because that's what the school district had. But now I actually have schools using see it and say it because why? Because it works better because it's the way you learned your first language. So, yeah, we want to help. Absolutely. Very cool. Well, thank you, Suzanne, just for the work that you do and the dedication that you've had in the homeschool community for so many years. I know it's hard to continue to keep just doing it as a, you know,



and just all that you do. And I know you do a lot in your local community too, and not just with your, your curriculum, your Spanish curriculum. So, so I appreciate that. And, and all that you do to pour into families and kids, I'm sure it's affected your community a lot. Thank you. I mean, we've learned so much from that. Being in one community for a long time really helps in a lot of ways. It's such a blessing. And it's something that you can't always choose. So I'm really grateful that we have been in the same place since my first kid was born all the way till now. We've been in the same community.

And what a blessing that they've poured into me as I was growing with those five kids. And now I get to be I mean, I have grand students. You know, it's amazing. I have students that have gotten married. Yeah. And I have their tiny little children in my classes now. It's phenomenal. So, yeah, I recommend finding at least one mom that is older than you and just asking and just being teachable and recognizing that you don't know everything. And, you know, a lot of us think, well, if it was a good idea, I would have already had it. And that's not the case. be open to people offering





our workshops page, but we have a incredible lineup of people. We're going to, Sarah Collins from Homeschool OT is going to do some baking with us, holiday baking and teach motor skills, fine motor, gross motor skills through baking. And then we're going to do a multi-sensory Christmas reading lesson with Don Jackson. Steve Demme's coming on for a Christmas devotional. I'm going to be leading a fitness break And then Right Start Math is coming on with a holiday math game. And Simply Charlotte Mason is going to do a picture study with us. And then we have an interactive Christmas history lesson with John

Knotgrass from Knotgrass History.
Carol Brown from Equipping
Minds is going to be on for
some brain training games.
And then we have a craft with Annie Yorty.
And then Rainbow Resources
popping on to do some Mad Lives,
Christmas Mad Lives for that.
And then Leilani Melendez,
one of my other co-hosts,
will be on to do a holiday
activity as well.
We've got some giveaways and discounts.
So it is going to be one fun
packed morning.
I love all those people.
I am for sure going to be there.
I love all those people.
It's amazing.
It is going to be lots and lots of fun.
So I'm super excited about that.
We do this once a quarter.
We did it as a kickoff event

and we had lots of people

interacting on that.

So our next one will be in the spring.

So if you missed this one,

just be watching for our

spring activity and then

we'll have one later on in the summer.

That's kind of a summer kickoff.

So

But that's our goal is to get those.

And plus what another great

announcement that we have

coming up as of January first,

we are going to be starting

to offer one on one consultations.

So we have a whole team of

consultants that we will be

working with us.

And so if you have any needs,

you can come in if you're.

associated with the state

organization that's going

to partner with us,

you'll be able to get a

discount on those as well.

So those are some things we

have coming up in January

that we're super excited

about since HSLDA,

the Homeschool Legal Defense Association,

dropped that perk from their memberships.

So we had a lot of very

large donors come up and say,

we want this program to happen.

So I was able to bring on a

full-time person

to um to start that program

and so um so that has been

because of their generous

gifts it is nothing that

I've done um so so I we're

just very excited that

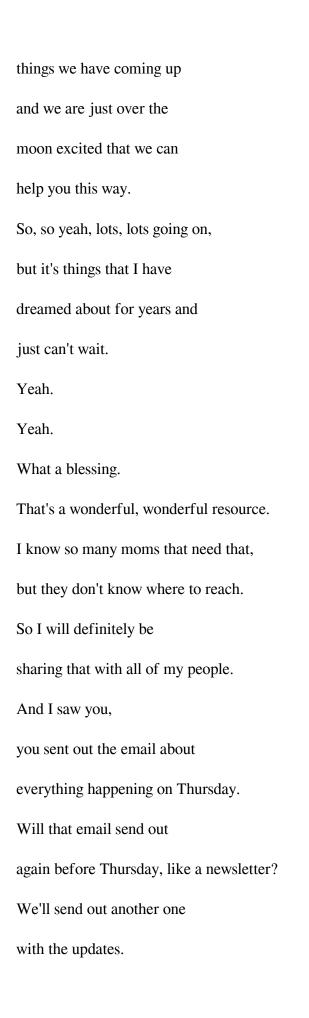
we're gonna be able to do

that for you and also we

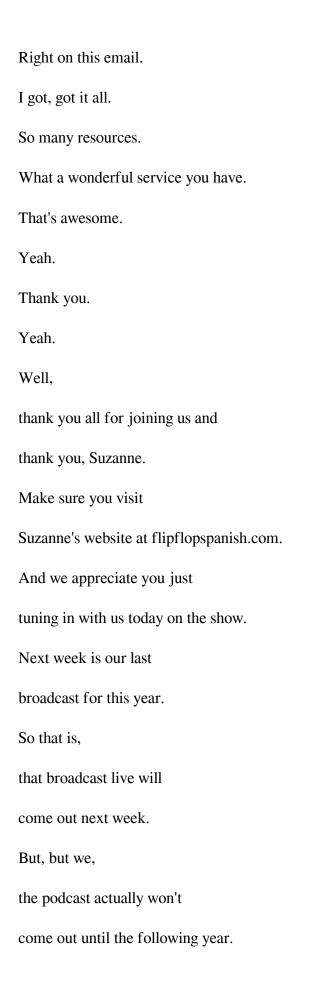
have a new cognitive test

that we're gonna be able to

offer to um for at a very reasonable rate. And it's what this test does. It doesn't test where your child struggles, but it's going to tell you where your child excels. And so if you're like, how do I teach my child? How do I teach to their to where they're gifted? Because every child is gifted. They have certain things that they're very good at. And so this test actually pins point those and it gives you ideas on how to teach to that child. And then if you want to follow up consultation with one of our consultants, kind of dig through that, that will be available for you as well. So those are some huge



Yes. Cause I'm going to send it to all my people say, Hey, you need to sign up for this newsletter. So you can see, cause I saw that list of stuff and I went, Oh my goodness. Right. And then every month we send out an update from all of our partners with special deals, too. So if they're on our email list, all of our partners put in, you know, like this is the discount we're offering. So so like Simply Charlotte Mason and Rainbow Resource and Not Grass History and all of them will give us whatever they're they have discounts on for the month. So you don't have to search for them. You don't go to their websites. You're like, oh, yeah.



And it's going to be on restoring joy, a biblical approach to bullies, forgiveness, and healing. So if you have a child that's dealing with trauma or you just want to get more information on how to prepare for that, it's something our family went through. I didn't even realize until I had an adult child that experienced trauma and it has crushed our family. So you just never know what it's going to hit. So it's just some good information to have. But I'm excited to have our guest on to talk about that and just offer some some help and some healing and. some restorative joy into the season. So tune in for that either

live next week on a broadcast or on the podcast the first week of January. So thanks again, Suzanne. Appreciate your time and love all you shared and blessings over your holidays. And same for you. Everybody, we'll see you again here next week on Empowering Homeschool Conversations. Until then, bye everybody and God bless. This has been Empowering **Homeschool Conversations** provided by Sped Homeschool, a nonprofit that empowers families to home educate diverse learners. To learn more, visit spedhomeschool.com.