

A photograph of a classroom scene. A woman with blonde hair, wearing a black top and grey pants, is sitting on a blue chair and reading a book to a group of young children. The children are sitting on the floor, some on mats, and are looking towards the teacher. The classroom is decorated with various educational posters, including one about weather and another about the book 'We're Going on a Lion Hunt'. A whiteboard in the background has the text 'Favorite way to move...'. The overall atmosphere is educational and engaging.

Reconnecting Young Learners During *and* After COVID-19

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Invisible Load of Educators: COVID-19 Edition!

- Shift to remote learning has affected around millions of students from pre-school to higher education levels.
- Moving class remote creates an additional burden for teachers as they have to incorporate technology in their learning method, a skill not many people possess.
- Other challenges for remote learning include lack of internet access, poor quality of teachers' capacity and student-parent readiness.

COVID-19 Reset...

1. What's important to us?
2. What have we learned about ourselves and others?
3. What new things did we do or try?
4. How do we feel?
5. Without COVID, would we have made changes?



Schools have an important role to play in providing stability and a safe space for children and connecting them to caring adults.

Returning to Learning must be done with sensitivity and understanding

- ✓ **Experiences of trauma**
- ✓ **Impact on Social-Emotional Well-being**
- ✓ **Responses to minimize its impact**

- **Provides educational instruction**
- **Supports the development of social and emotional skills**
- **Creates a safe environment for learning**
- **Addresses nutritional needs**
- **Facilitates physical activity**

3

Realms of ACEs

ACEs Connection accelerates the global movement to prevent and heal adverse childhood experiences (ACEs), and supports communities to work collaboratively to solve our most intractable problems. Left unaddressed, toxic stress from ACEs harms children and families, organizations, systems and communities, and reduces the ability of individuals and entities to respond to stressful events with resiliency. The ACEs in these three realms intertwine throughout people's lives, and affect the viability of organizations, systems and communities.



Thanks to Building Community Resilience Collaborative and Networks and the International Transformational Resilience Coalition for inspiration and guidance. Please visit ACEsConnection.com to learn more about the science of ACEs and join the movement to prevent ACEs, heal trauma and build resilience.



Social Determinants of Health

The social determinants of health are the conditions in which we are born, we grow and age, and in which we live and work. The factors below impact on our health and wellbeing.



Childhood experiences



Housing



Education



Social support



Family income



Employment



Our communities



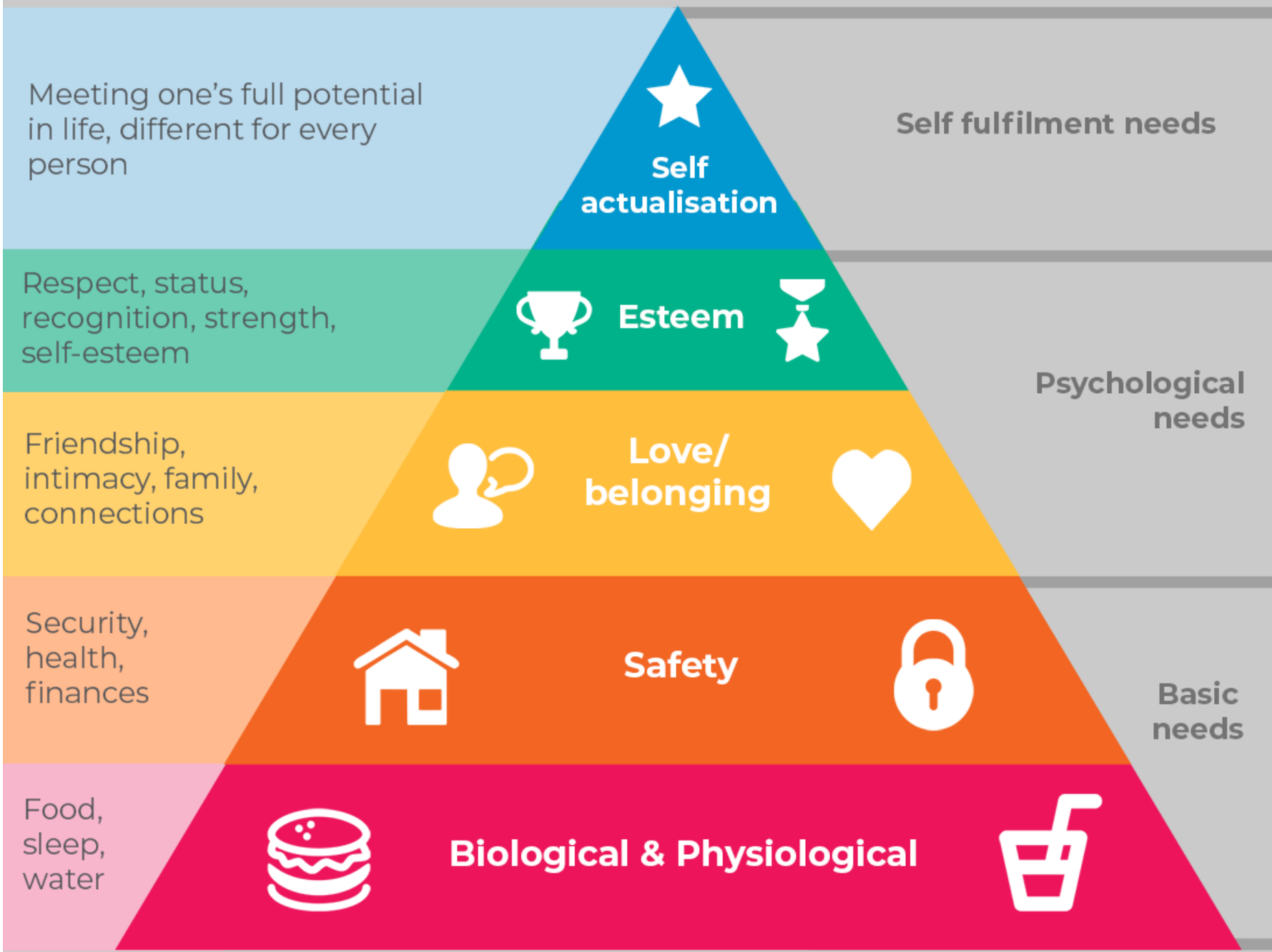
Access to health services

Impact of Trauma

- **Research shows that the exposure to adverse experiences can have devastating impact on the brain development of very young children and adolescents.**
- **It may also impact children's relationships with peers, caregivers, and authority figures**
- **The consequences of traumatic experiences have the potential to be long lasting and devastating to individuals and society.**

Assessing the Needs of Young Learners

MASLOW'S HIERARCHY OF NEEDS



Bloom's Taxonomy



Collaborate *and* Know Your Resources



Ensure staff are equipped with Life Lines & Resources

Three Building Blocks of Reflective Supervision

- Reflection
- Collaboration
- Regularity



Establish weekly meetings to stay abreast of needs and challenges.

Reconnecting Young Learners During *and* After COVID-19

- **S**tructured Learning
- **M**ake Choices Available for Students
- **A**daptive & Flexible Classrooms
- **R**elevant and Realistic Work Expectations
- **T**each and practice



Learning Acquisition *and* Development

Greatest Challenges for Early Childhood Education



- ❑ Opportunities to build language and literacy skills are especially important to their growth and development.
- ❑ The science of child development tells us that young children learn best through hands-on activities and interactions with caring, attentive adults (U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 2018).
- ❑ Create play-based learning engagements children and caregivers can do together that are developmentally appropriate and that, as much as possible, reflect learning standards.
- ❑ Administrators and school systems should be working on post-COVID plans that get students back on track academically while making space for social-emotional learning.

Reconnecting Young Learners During *and* After COVID-19



**Small Groups for
Differentiated
Learning**

**Interactive Lessons
via remote LMS**

**Writing resources
and manipulatives**



Pear Deck™



ClassDojo

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Record of data that is collected through the work children have produced over a period of time. The collection clearly shows the progress of a child's development.

Portfolios can be an important tool in helping facilitate a partnership between teachers and parents.

Digital Portfolios & Interactive Notebooks



Culturally Responsive Classrooms

While remote learning should be a priority for educators, they must also prepare to meet the opportunity gap once students return to schools.



Culturally Competent *and* Responsive Classrooms

Differentiation'

CALL IT OUT!

ATTENTION! (teacher... students)

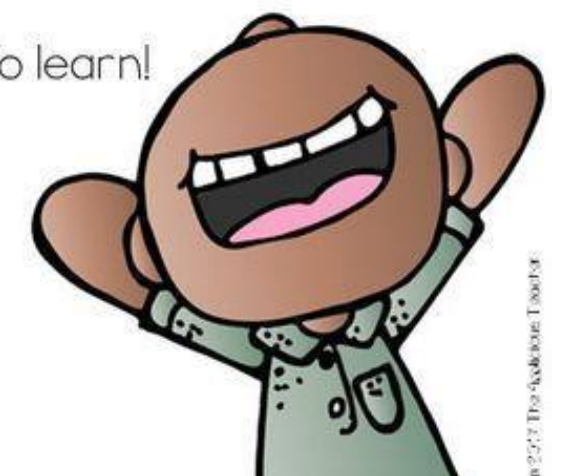
- Class, Class... Yes! Yes!
- Macaroni and cheese!... Everybody freeze!
- Hands on top... Everybody stop!
- Eyes and ears on me in 3-2-1...
- And a hush fell across the room... Sh-h-h-h-h
- Freeze! Everybody clap your hands (7 claps)
- L-I-S...T-E-N

REFOCUS (teacher... students)

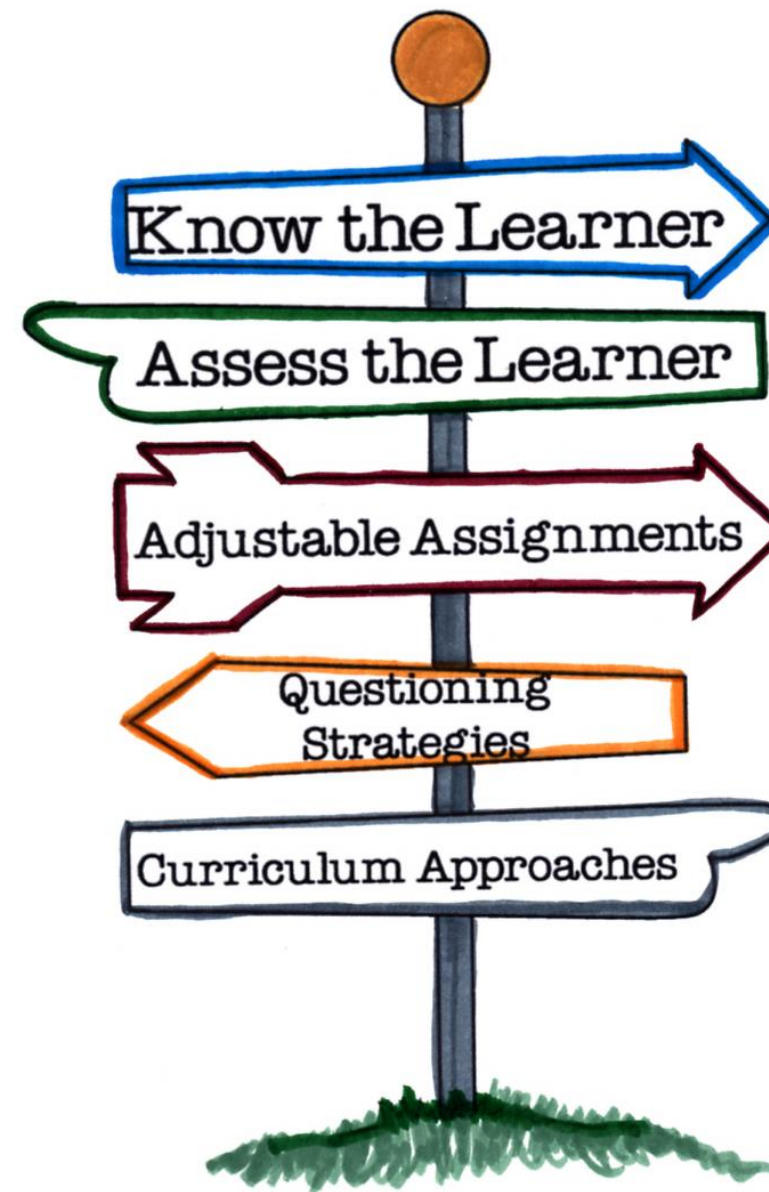
- Hocus pocus!...Everybody focus!
- Tootsie roll, lollipop... We were talking, now we'll stop!
- Holy moly!... Guacamole!
- What are we here for?... To learn!
- What's up?... It's all good!

RELEASE (teacher... students)

- Work hard... Do right!
- Ready, set... You bet!
- Crystal...Clear
- To infinity... and Beyond!



Cooperative & Collaborative Learning



COVID Crash *and* SEL

*Focus on Remote Learning
rather than Online Learning*

Instead of trying to teach students online, equip caregivers with simple evidence-based activities they can use at home to advance young children's learning in early language, literacy, and mathematics.

In addition to checking in on academic learning, be sure to check in on students' well-being and their overall distance learning experience.

COVID Crash *and* SEL

Assess students' social-emotional needs and assess their general well-being

- Whole-self care: Do students demonstrate a “healthy balance” regarding the well-being of their whole selves physically, mentally, and emotionally?
- Self-confidence: Do students believe in their own ability to succeed?
- Coping and safety skills: How do students cope when dealing with a problem?
- Adaptability: Are students able to transition well to new routines, expectations, and responsibilities?
- Social skills: Do students exhibit mature social skills? Are they behaving appropriately in relationship to their environment and the situations they are in?



Incorporating social-emotional learning (SEL) in teaching can help students learn better and help teachers, too.

Focus on Five Core Competencies:

Self-awareness

Self-management

Responsible decision-making

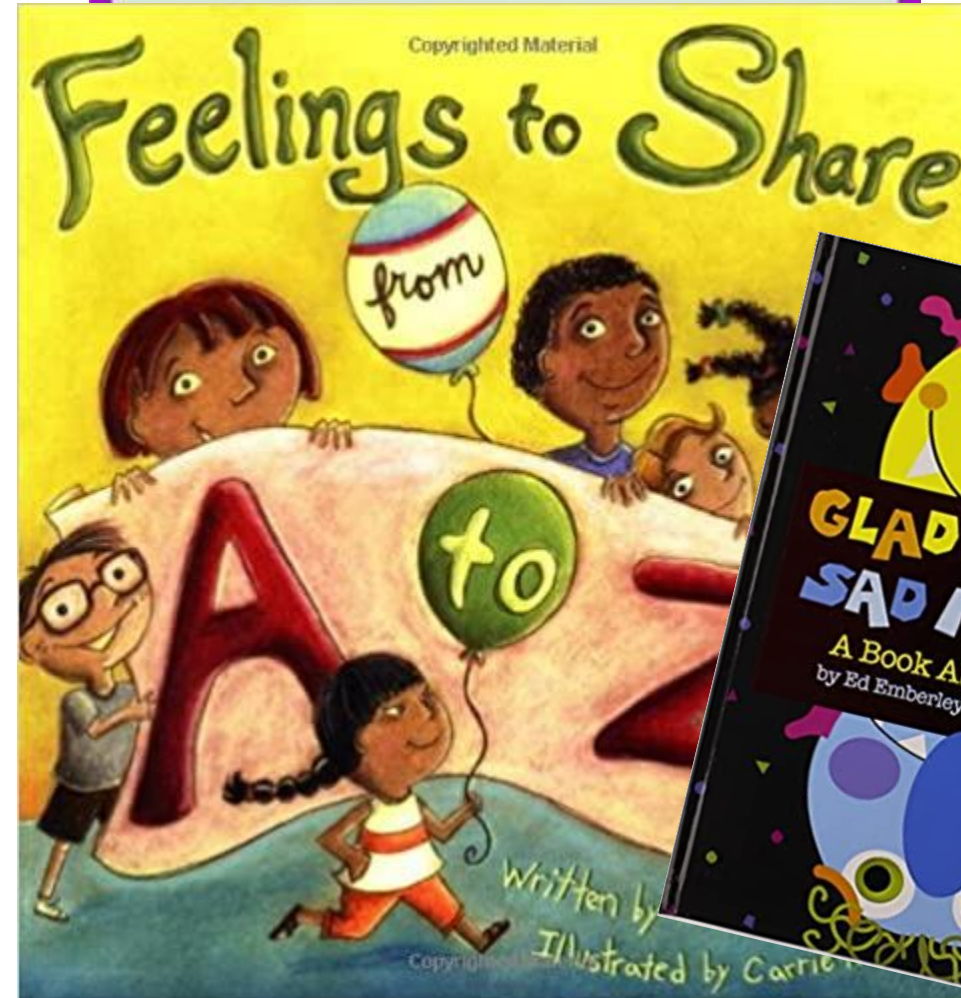
Social awareness

Relationship skills.



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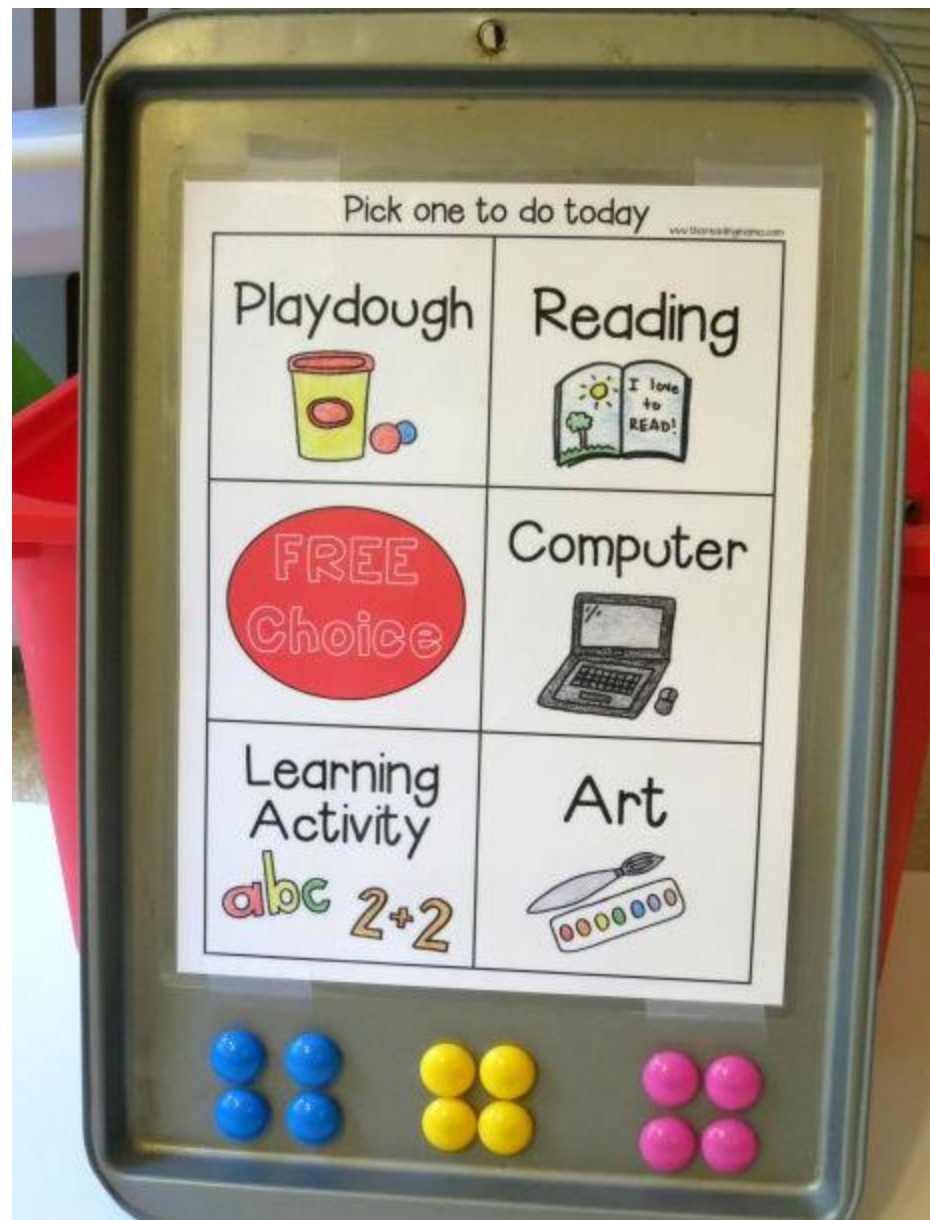
- Children's Literature*
- Boom Cards / Feelings Cards
- Empathy with movies
- Task Cards
- Choice Boards or
Activity/Learning Menus
- Caught Being Responsible
- Accomplishment Jars
- Morning Meetings*
- Helping Others
- Connect with Others
- Virtual Playdates*



18 DISTANCE LEARNING CLASS REWARD IDEAS

Virtual lunch with teacher	Digital dance party	Choose a GoNoodle song
Class game	Positive email to parents	Mystery Reader
Cut assignment in half	Virtual Field Trip	Joke sharing
Show and tell	School page shoutout	Vote on teacher's hair style
Dress up day	Special virtual meeting visitor	Change your name for the day
Raffle Prizes	Invite another class	Virtual Scavenger Hunt

Choice Boards *and* Activity/Learning Menus



Pros: Provides Structure, Routine, Consistent Activities Sensory Based Activities, Easy for caregivers to follow.

CONS: Prep for Teachers, Personalization and/or Weekly Differentiation of Activities

Overcome Barriers:
Collaborative Planning, Shared Resources, Use Created/Developed Resources, Title I Manipulatives & Resources Available

Virtual Conferences

Pros: Assessment & Evaluation of Learning (“Virtual Report Card”), Ongoing Feedback & Parent Coaching, Review Resources and Lesson Plans for Upcoming Week(s)

Cons: Planning & Time, Potential for Low engagement; “Virtual” meeting out

Overcoming Barriers:

Offer Multiple Timeframes from Morning, Mid-day, to late Afternoon (7am-6pm)

Keep Sessions to 15-20 minutes

Virtual “Report Card” can be made available via

Slides or PPT with video share

Provide Newsletters in multiple media: Print, Digital, Video



Engage students and families in sharing ongoing feedback and partnering on continuous improvement.

Return to School ^{and} Breaks in Learning

- **Provide Virtual Open House & Orientation Visit**
- **Host instruction from classroom**
- **Use assessment data from remote learning to guide in person instruction & differentiation**
- **Build momentum & task difficulty**
- **Use restorative and relief breaks to build in rest**

Looking Ahead

- 1. Integrate “Standards Not Taught” in LMS & Engagement Nights**
- 2. Strategic Collaboration & Cross-Map with Community Partners**
- 3. Prepare for a Summer Based Learning Program**





Monique Williams

Education & Training

- Master of Arts, Human Services: Marriage & Family Counseling
- Master of Arts, Criminal Justice
- Bachelor of Arts, Criminal Justice;
- Advanced Studies: Positive Psychology and Sociology
- Certified Cognitive Behavioral Coach
- Licensed Special Education Teacher (K-12)

Expertise & Experience

- More than a decade in Community Counseling and Mental Health Services
- Parent Educator & Parent-Child Interaction Faciliator
- SWAM Business Owner since 2014
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