

Welcome

Culturally Relevant Family Engagement Strategies for the Classroom

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Defining Terms

Family: Individuals or groups who are engaged or involved in the care of a child

Engagement: Communicating and connecting with families to build a partnership for child learning

Culturally Relevant: Culturally responsive pedagogy recognizes the importance of including students/families cultural references in all aspects of learning.

Culturally Relevant F.E.: Where teachers go beyond the traditional activities associated with the schools and families and seek to have a strong awareness of cultural differences, while also affirming the views of families. (Villegas & Lucas, 2002)



Core Beliefs

1. All parents have dreams for their children and want the best for them.
2. All parents have the capacity to support their child's learning
3. Parents and school staff should be equal partners
4. The responsibility for building partnerships between school and home rests primarily with school staff, especially school leaders



Why F.E. in E.C.E. ?

When we match:

- ◆ Cognitive and social development
- ◆ Parent attitudes and practices
- ◆ ECE expectations for family engagement

We see positive results for young children and school readiness.



Teacher Engagement Standards

- Teacher belief and mindsets on family engagement
- Communication and relationships
- Engagement of families in the core instructional program
- Welcoming parents and community into the school



1
Check personal beliefs and mindsets of culture and engagement

6
Parent/family and teacher as co-facilitators



2
Balance individualism and collectivisms communication styles & messages

5
Ensure cultural interchange

4
Embed cultural based knowledge into the classroom

3
Use inquiry based approaches to gather cultural based knowledge

Culturally Relevant/Responsive Family Engagement Framework



“Families...regardless of their race or ethnic identity, educational background, gender, disability, or socioeconomic status, are (able) to engage in partnerships with school”

Dual Capacity Framework



Thank you. Now it's your turn.....