

1. Using the “Less is More” Approach to Engage Parents

This one-page article is based on research from a child care program that examined how to better engage with parents. They came up with 3 simple ideas that you can incorporate into your own approach to family engagement.

<https://www.edutopia.org/article/using-less-more-approach-engage-parents>

2. 20 Tips for Developing Positive Relationships with Parents

A list of 20 things, with a brief explanation, that you can do in your daily practice to promote positive relationships with families. A good reminder that the little things we do can go a long way to developing meaningful relationships with parents.

<https://www.edutopia.org/blog/20-tips-developing-positive-relationships-parents-elena-aguilar>

3. 40 Ideas That Can Get Parents Involved

A quick list of 40 innovative and fun ideas to do with families. There may be a few new ideas that you might want to do with your families.

<https://www.jackrabbitcare.com/blog/40-ideas-can-get-parents-involved/>

4. Why Learning at Home Should Be More Self Directed and Less Structured

This 2-page article provides of a variety of learning opportunities for a wide age range of children that families can provide at home to provide for authentic learning. It briefly explains how these activities develop critical thinking skills as well as intrinsic motivation, independence, and creativity.

<https://www.edutopia.org/article/why-learning-home-should-more-self-directed-and-less-structured>

5. Engaging Families in Early Childhood Education.

This is an 8-page article that is more research based and theoretical and provides a lot of relevant content about family engagement. It does provide tips and ideas on how to better engage with parents and how to build productive relationships to strengthen their child's development.

<http://www.rtinetwork.org/essential/family/engagingfamilies>

6. Building Partnerships Between Families and Early Childhood Staff

This 6-page article talks about moving your positive family relationships into partnerships, where you are all working toward the common goal of supporting children in reaching their goals. It also examines the positive effects that a positive partnership has on the families, the early childhood educators, and the community.

https://www.startingblocks.gov.au/media/1105/kmec_c4_201205_03_building-partnerships.pdf

7. 7 Tips for Managing Distance Learning in Preschool

This is a quick 2-page article that promotes play based learning ideas for families that they can do at any time, but it is presented through the lens of remote/virtual learning.

<https://www.edutopia.org/article/7-tips-managing-distance-learning-preschool>

8. Parent Involvement & Family Engagement

A 2-page article that explains the difference between parent involvement and parent engagement and the importance of having both in your early years program.

<https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/pdf/parent-involvement-family-engagement-for-professionals.pdf>

9. Building a System to Support Family Engagement

This 2-page blog lists twelve user friendly steps that you can take to create a family engagement system within your program. There is also mention the book “Families and Educators Together: Building Great Relationship that Support Young Children”.

<https://www.naeyc.org/resources/blog/family-engagement-system>

10. PODCAST

An interesting 36-minute presentation on “Connecting and Collaborating with the Early Learning Community: Pandemic Reflections” from the Early Childhood Community Development Centre which is an organization in the Niagara area. Many different experiences are shared as well creative solutions to challenges that were faced over the last year.

https://eccdc.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/ECCDC_Podcast_Jan2021.mp3