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DISTANCE LEARNING NEWSLETTER FOR PARENTS

ENGLISH LEARNER SUPPORT DIVISION
CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

A Letter from the California Department of Education (CDE)

DEAR PARENTS,

Each week this newsletter will focus on a different theme and will provide information and resources to parents on that theme.

This week the topic is early education, or preschool. There are many types of preschool programs in California that encourage active, playful exploration and experimentation. High-quality preschool programs have play as an important part of the curriculum and include purposeful teaching to help children gain knowledge and skills in many areas including social-emotional development, language and literacy, mathematics, and English language development (for English learners).



New Informational Resources

First 5 California Talk. Sing. Read. It Changes Everything!

First 5 California is a tremendous resource for early education. Their focus is on early learning and care, effective interactions and teaching, and positive parenting. You will find many exciting activities for you and your child in English and Spanish.

Family Resources Link

The *Parents Site* provides a link at the bottom to change the page to Spanish (Español).

<http://www.first5california.com/>

CARE, COPE, CONNECT

Resource to help the growing number of families in California tackling heightened community stress.

<http://first5association.org/care-cope-connect/>

Informational Resources Included Every Week

School Lunch Information: CA Meals for Kids

Parents can still pick up school lunches during COVID-19 related school closures. Use the "CA Meals for Kids" mobile app to find meals or you can contact your school district directly for more information. Some districts now offer home delivery for school lunches. Parents should contact their child's school to see if the school has opted into this optional program. News Release: CA Meals for Kids App Update. News Release: CA Meals for Kids App Update at <https://bit.ly/MealsforKidsApp>.

Getting Internet Access

If you do not have access to the internet at home, there are several companies offering service to families. Contact the companies listed on the link below to discuss available plans. Getting Internet Access: Available Plans at <https://bit.ly/InternetAccessInfo>.



Home Learning Resources

Below are free recommended resources that you can use with your children at home or they can use on their own.

Multiple Subject Areas

PBS Preschool Resources

Activities in either English or Spanish that build foundational skills with videos, lesson plans, and games. This site includes resources for physical and cognitive development, social and emotional-development, and the arts.

<https://ca.pbslearningmedia.org/subjects/preschool/>

PBS Kids Games

Games that focus on developing math, literacy, social-emotional awareness, and teamwork.

<https://pbskids.org/games/>

Literacy

First 5 Free Books

This link provides four free books for young children that you can download.

<https://bit.ly/First5Books>

Reading Rockets

Reading tips for parents by age (birth to grade 3) in multiple languages.

<https://www.readingrockets.org/article/reading-tips-parents-multiple-languages>

Screen-Free Activities

Early Edge California Screen-Free Activities

Early Edge California provided a list of activities for young children that do not require a device or screen time. The resources are available in English and Spanish. These resources can be helpful since the American Academy of Pediatrics recommends that screen time should be limited to one hour per day or less for children ages 2 to 5 years.

<https://earlyedgecalifornia.org/coronavirus-resources-for-dual-language-learners/>



Social Media and Email

To stay up to date with new resources and information, follow the CDE English Learner Support Division on Twitter @MultilingualCA.

To subscribe to the English Learner Updates Listserv, send a blank email to join-english-learner-updates@mlist.cde.ca.gov.