

On Our Way: Educational Toolkit for Families

En Camino: Herramientas educativas para familias

Audience

Adult education and family literacy field In-House Professional Development Specialists, teachers and tutor coordinators

Purpose

- Exploration of the ***On Our Way Toolkit for Families***
- To assist in deciding if the ***On Our Way Toolkit for Families*** is an appropriate match for the instructional goals of your program

Context

- ELL
- Parent Education
- Interactive Literacy Activities
- Adult Education

Getting started

This multimedia toolkit, created by the National Center for Families Learning with support from the MetLife Foundation, is located at: http://familieslearning.org/interactive_tools/en_camino. The toolkit can also be found on the [PA Family Literacy resource website](#).

- Distribute a copy of ***On Our Way Toolkit for Families*** to participants.
- Introduce the various sections of the guide.

Keep in mind... ***On Our Way Toolkit for Families*** was designed to support the educational aspirations of Latino families and prepare them for entering and completing postsecondary education. The resource, available in both English and Spanish, serves two generations simultaneously with opportunities for parent education and intergenerational literacy activities. The guide can be downloaded in its entirety or in individual sections. ***While materials are available in English and Spanish, instruction is only allowable in English.***

Guiding questions

- In what ways are the modules (**Investing in Education Making Education a Family Goal, Parent Involvement in Education, Planting the Seed of College and On Our Way**) of value to you as a teacher?

- How will the intergenerational approach benefit your learners?
- How does this information relate to students' goals and program outcomes?
- How would you integrate the individual modules, or the entire guide, into your classrooms?
- Do you have the available technology necessary to integrate the suggested online activities into your programming? If yes, how will you integrate the online activities into your lessons? What prerequisites should students know before we introduce this material?
- What materials would you develop or data would you collect to document the effectiveness of this resource?

Opening activity

- Have participants reflect on the demographics and goals of the learners in their program. Discuss how many of their learners are familiar with the local school system?
- Review **Module 1: Investing in Education**.
<http://archive.familieslearning.org/flash/myfamilygoestocollege/eng/m1/index.html>
- Discuss from a local perspective. For example... What preschool opportunities exist in the local community? Does this surprise you? What is the kindergarten cut off age and date in the school district your families attend? What grades are considered middle school? How many students attend the local high school?

Discussion topics and activities

Module 2: Making Education a Family Goal

- Ask participants to read and discuss the main ideas in Making Dreams Come True.
<http://archive.familieslearning.org/flash/myfamilygoestocollege/eng/m2/index.html>
- Examine the activities and determine if/how they could be used as supplemental activities.

Module 3: Parent Involvement in Education

- Ask participants to define parent involvement and the benefits of children's success.
- Ask participants to explore the Guide for Parent-Teacher Conferences.
<http://archive.familieslearning.org/flash/myfamilygoestocollege/eng/m3/index.html>
- Discuss how this guide could help parents understand their important role and prepare for talking with their children's teacher?
- Ask for two volunteers to pair up and model what a successful parent teacher conference might look like. Ask participants to document elements of success.

Module 4: Planting the Seed of College

- Ask participants to identify the benefits of teaching key vocabulary before each module.
- Ask participants to explore How Much Education Does it Take?
<http://archive.familieslearning.org/flash/myfamilygoestocollege/eng/m4/index.html>

- Discuss how the above online activity could be extended with various career examples.
- Ask participants to discuss the possibilities of how learners with leadership abilities might organize a trip to a local college or postsecondary institute. What steps would need to be taken to make this happen?
- Ask participants to explore resources on page 13 and present key features on one site to the group.

Module 5: On Our Way

- Ask participants to summarize the information presented on pages 17-19. Participants should identify ways this content could be used in the classroom to teach a basic academic skill or informally assess the basic knowledge of a student.
- Ask participants to determine if the parent education and intergenerational activities could be delivered as presented and explain why or why not.
- If adaptations are needed, have participants identify what they might be.

Plans for an intergenerational approach to career awareness, integration and implementation

How can you use the *On Our Way Toolkit for Families* to teach the skills and competencies addressed in the College and Career Readiness Standards? The College and Career Readiness Standards can be found at <http://lincs.ed.gov/publications/pdf/CCRStandardsAdultEd.pdf>

Reading Standards

CCR Anchor 1: Read closely to determine what the text says explicitly and to make logical inferences from it; cite specific textual evidence when writing or speaking to support conclusions drawn from the text. (Apply this standard to texts of appropriate complexity as outlined by Standard 10) (Pimentel, 2013)

Writing Standards

CCR Anchor 7: Integrate and evaluate content presented in diverse media and formats, including visually and quantitatively, as well as in words. (Apply this standard to texts of appropriate complexity as outline by Standard 10) (Pimentel, 2013)

Ask participants to discuss these questions in realtions to the reading and writing standards above.

- What skills could be taught or assessed using this toolkit?
- How can you connect these skills to the skills performed by their children and the PA Core Standards?

- How will the intergenerational approach of this toolkit benefit learners, both adults and their children?

Assign participants or groups of participants a section to develop a lesson or series of lessons using the ***On Our Way Toolkit for Families***. Items to address in their lesson may include:

- Alignment to Career and College Readiness Standards and PA Core Standards. The PA Core Standards can be found at <http://www.pdesas.org/standard/PACore>
- Prerequisite skills needed for the lesson
- Use of technology by learners to create a product
- Academic skills are used or being taught
- Ideas for informally assessing students' knowledge
- Usefulness with native English speakers

Reflection/discussion for follow-up

Compile a list of ideas for extending the learning by using the ***On Our Way Toolkit for Families***. Examples other teachers have tried include:

- | | |
|--|--|
| • Concept mapping | • Goal setting and statement using PowerPoint |
| • Career pathway planning | • Organizing educational trip to local college |
| • Budgeting | • Graphing |
| • Essay on what parenting skills transfer to the workplace | • Numeracy |

References

National Center for Family Literacy. (2011). On our way: educational toolkit for families.

Retrieved from <http://pafamilyliteracyresources.weebly.com/curricula.html>

Pennsylvania Department of Education. (2013) PA core standards. Retrieved from

<http://www.pdesas.org/Standard/StandardsDownloads>

Pimentel, S. (2013). Career and college readiness standards for adult education. Retrieved from

<http://lincs.ed.gov/publications/pdf/CCRStandardsAdultEd.pdf>