Planning for a Successful Year:
A Co-Teaching Workbook





Fostering a Collaborative Approach to Teaching

Melissa Carter

"That's not MY job!"



Collaboration

benefits interaction learning organizations working teaming decision-making decision-making success sharing knowledge skill goal peer parents cooperation time students cooperation teachers interest practice consultation performance team interdisciplinary communication multidisciplinary school leadership standards

What is a collaborative approach?

- o Includes:
 - Teaching staff
 - Family Advocates
 - Families
- Everyone being on the "same page"
- Removing the hierarchy within the classroom
- A TEAM effort







Teaching Teams

Why Co-Teach?

- Everybody brings their own expertise and skill sets to the classroom
- Opportunity to learn from each other
- Able to better meet the needs of ALL of our children
- Consistency in the classroom

"It's more important than ever that educators collaborate to continually improve and support the success of each learner."

Dr. Gone Carter, CEO and Executive Director of ASCD





HOW TO MAKE THE MOST OF A CO-TEACHING PARTNERSHIP

Respect each other.

It's fine to disagree with someone's ideas, but don't make the disagreement about the person.

Clearly define roles and responsibilities.

Co-teaching works better when the partners agree on who does what and when.

Be flexible.

Sometimes this means putting aside a favorite strategy to try something different.

Plan together.

A minimum of 15 minutes per day is ideal. Be sure to plan for instruction AND assessment!

Don't take yourself too seriously.

A little bit of humor goes a long way.

Communicate.

Set up systems for communicating throughout the day and for occasional fine-tuning.

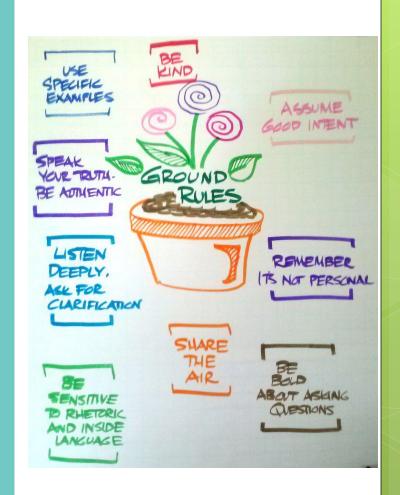
Seek administrative support.

A trusted administrator can observe and help you find areas for improvement.









Using a Teaching Skills Inventory

Teaching Skills Inventory

Please read each of the skills/tasks and indicate your comfort level with each item. To determine your comfort level, please consider your experience with similar tasks, and your interests. This is intended to be used to identify the strengths of each member of your team and will help develop a co-teaching plan for each individual classroom.

- 1- I have little to no experience and/or this is not something I enjoy doing
 - 2- I have some experience and/or I feel neutral about doing this
 - 3- I have a great deal of experience and/or I enjoy doing this

ORGANIZATIONAL SKILLS	Tota	d:	
Paperwork organizing-for example, filing or maintaining child files	1	2	3
Faxing and scanning paperwork to Central Office	1	2	3
Organizing classroom materials – this includes items in storage, and items that are on display in the classroom	1	2	3
Scheduling - this includes IEP mtgs, parent mtgs, team mtgs, home visits, field trips	1	2	3
Organizing special events, field trips, and visitors	1	2	3
Prioritizing tasks for completion	1	2	3
Able to meet deadlines consistently	1	2	3
Checking work email at least once every day	1	2	3

CREATIVITY	To	al:	
Making materials for classroom activities	1	2	3
Designing a monthly class newsletter	1	2	3
Planning and creating classroom bulletin boards	1	2	3
Planning art projects	1	2	3
Enhancing learning centers	1	2	3
Thinking of new ways to use items- such as recyclables, multipurpose items	1	2	3

CLASSROOM MANAGEMENT	Total	:	
Planning/Creating a behavior management system	1	2	3
Planning for transition	1	2	3
Planning the daily class schedule	1	2	3
Planning a map for cot/mat layout	1	2	3
Planning classroom arrangement-keeping in mind adequate space for learning centers, noise level of certain centers,	1	2	3
traffic flow, etc			
Seating arrangement- fixed vs. flexible, meal times, circle time, small group	1	2	3
Labeling classroom materials, cubbies, etc	1	2	3
Planning for behavior issues, "wiggly" kids and non-nappers	1	2	3

DATA ENTRY- Online & Paper	Total:		
Entering attendance (ChildPlus and paper)	1	2	3
Maintaining Transportation log (paper)	1	2	3
Maintaining Sign In/Sign Out sheets (paper)	1	2	3
Entering educational observations (TSG)	1	2	3
Entering documentation about behavior, interactions with child/family, health & education concerns, interactions with	1	2	3
CPS, social workers, TDT and SPED (ChildPlus)			
Completing Checkpoints in the fall, spring and winter (TSG)	1	2	3
Entering lesson plan into appropriate template and uploading to TSG	1	2	3
Entering Individualizations into appropriate template and uploading to TSG	1	2	3
Uploading class newsletter to TSG	1	2	3



INSTRUCTIONALPLANNING	Total	:	
Identifying objectives (Creative Curriculum and Head Start Early Learning Outcomes Framework)	1	2	3
Aligning content to objectives	1	2	3
Planning individualized instruction to meet needs of individual students (including incorporation of IEP goals)	1	2	3
Planning for cross-curricular integration	1	2	3
Planning with a variety of learning styles in mind	1	2	3

TEACHING (LEADING) LESSONS & ACTIVITES	Total		
Circle Time/ Morning Meeting	1	2	3
Read-a-louds	1	2	3
Music and Movement	1	2	3
Health and Nutrition	1	2	3
Science	1	2	3
Math	1	2	3
Literacy	1	2	3
Art	1	2	3
Outdoor Activities- Directed	1	2	3
Sensory	1	2	3
Journals/ Writing	1	2	3

PLANNING LESSONS & ACTIVITES	Total	l:	
Circle Time/ Morning Meeting	1	2	3
Read-a-louds	1	2	3
Music and Movement	1	2	3
Health and Nutrition	1	2	3
Science	1	2	3
Math	1	2	3
Literacy	1	2	3
Art	1	2	3
Outdoor Activities- Directed	1	2	3
Sensory	1	2	3
Journals/ Writing	1	2	3

CONTINUING EDUCATION (In this section, <u>resources</u> can be interpreted as books, journals, online sources,	Total		
mentor/coach, other educators and consultants)			
Using resources to create better lessons and activities	1	2	3
Using resources to find new ideas	1	2	3
Using resources to problem solve (time management, behavior management, transitions, etc)	1	2	3

NEXT: Think about the categories and tasks included above. Complete the chart keeping in mind the tasks that YOU would <u>most</u> and <u>least enjoy</u> doing.

+			
	Categories or Tasks I would MOST like to be responsible for	Categories or Tasks I would like to SHARE with my partner	Categories or Tasks I would LEAST like to be responsible for

Why use a teaching skills inventory?



- Non-evaluative
- Staff are able to clearly identify their strengths and weaknesses (based upon comfort, experience, enjoyment, personal style)
- Staff are able to easily have a conversation about what tasks they are most comfortable with & are best at

Getting to Know Each Other

Getting to Know your Co-Teacher

If you don't already know each other, take 15 minutes to introduce yourselves. Talk about who you are, how you came to be in the field of education, and what are your interests.

If you do know each other, take the time to catch up! What have you done over the summer?

Now, it's time to exchange contact information:

What is the BEST way to contact your co-teacher when you are not at school?

Phone Number	Email	Other

What times are acceptable or off limits for phone calls to your co-teacher when not in school?

Using your Teaching Skills Inventory, discuss your strengths and weaknesses. Use the space below to take some notes about things your co-teacher does and does not like to do, their strengths and weaknesses.

What "pushes your buttons" when working with a team mate? What are your pet peeves? Include information regarding your interactions with adults and with children.

Discuss with your co-teacher and take notes below.

My co-teacher REALLY does not like it when			

Setting Goals as a Team

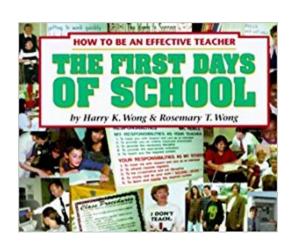
Discuss the things that you both would like to accomplish over the course of the year. What would you like to see happen in your classroom? How will you work together to accomplish those goals?

Brainstorm some goals in the chart below.



Next, choose 2-3 of the goals to create SMART goals. There are 3 copies of the SMART goals worksheet attached. Complete at least 2 of them with agreed upon goals.

Classroom Expectations



Identifying classroom expectations & teaching them will allow teachers to manage their classroom more efficiently.



Step 1: Identify & Plan Together

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Classroom Management

Setting Class Rules

Guidelines and suggestions for setting classroom rules:

- > Emphasize the action you want, rather than the action you do not want
- Keep rules short and easy to remember
- Use age-appropriate language (avoid big words)
- Create 3-5 rules
- Use "umbrella" rules (Be kind to others)
- > Post rules with photos or pictures to give children a visual reminder
- > Create a book of your rules or procedures, with photos, and place in your reading center

Samples of preschool class rules:

Sample 1	Sample 2	Sample 3
We are nice to each other We listen to the teachers We help keep our classroom clean We play safely	Use your walking feet Use your inside voice Be kind to each other	Hands to self Listening ears Walking feet Inside voices Be kind to others

What is important to you as a team? Think about how various rules can fit under one "umbrella rule." For example: Rules about hitting, pushing or running can all fall under a rule about

What will be your classroom rules? Come up with 3-5 rules that you will have in your class this

Our Class Rules			
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			

Setting Classroom Expectations

As a team determine and write out your expectations for the following:

Noise Level
Circle time/morning meeting
Learning centers
Meal times
Outdoor play
Rest <u>time</u>
Walking in the <u>hallway</u>
Small group activities.
Read-a-louds
Movement/Wiggling
Circle time/morning meeting
Meal time
Rest time
Walking in hallway
Small group activities
Read-a-louds
RestTime
What is the role of each teacher during rest time?
Jsing the restroom at the start of rest time.
Getting out cots/mats

What is the role of the children at the start and end of rest time (mats, blankets, etc)?



During the first 15 minutes of rest time, BOTH teachers should be actively involved in helping children settle.

Vhat will your rest time procedure be for helping children settle down and relax? Iow will you handle children who do not sleep? (extra help relaxing, activities/quiet toys, etc) Meal Time What is the role of each teacher during meal times? Ileaning tables Jointoring handwashing Jointoring containers Jointoring clean-up Jow will you determine where children will sit?	
Meal Time What is the role of each teacher during meal times? Jeaning tables Monitoring handwashing Jeaning out trays/food Joening containers	hat will your rest time procedure be for helping children settle down and relax?
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pening containers Monitoring clean-up	onitoring handwashing
pening containers Monitoring clean-up	anding out trays/food
Monitoring clean-up	
low will you determine where children will sit?	
	ow will you determine where children will sit?
	·
low will you determine where each teacher will sit?	ow will you determine where each teacher will sit?

Transition

This might include the transition from the involve leaving the classroom (wall	rom one activity (in the classroom) to another OR it migh lking down the hallway).
What do you want children to do w	when standing in a line? What should it look like?
What is the role of each teacher in	lining up?
Is/are there songs, rhymes, motion while in line?	ns that you will implement to encourage correct behavior
What will you do when a child does	s not comply with the expectations for walking in a line?
How will you incorporate learning i implement this year.	into your transitions? Jot down a few ideas that you will



rriva		

What do you expect children to do upon arrival in the morning? What is their routine? Consider coats and backpacks, sign in, available activities, etc.				
What is the FIRST thing children should do when they arrive in your classroom each morning?				
Where should they place their belongings?				
Is there a sign-in procedure for children? If so, v	what is it?			
What activities are available for children at arriv	val?			
What is the role of each teacher during arrival (i monitoring sign-in procedures for children and pmaterials for provocation/opening activities)?				
Name:	Name:			

Departure Procedures

As above, consider the procedure at the end of the day. If students leave at different times, what activities will be available to those that leave later? It is necessary to provide activities and educational opportunities from arrival to departure. Also consider procedures regarding transportation.

H		
	Name:	Name:

Learning Centers

Children should be allowed to freely change centers, at will, during this time. Some guidelines are necessary to support them in making good choices. Consider the following:

- How will they choose a center to start?
- > How will children keep track of centers that are open (for the day, or have space)?
- What must they do before leaving one center and moving to another center?
- How will they indicate what center they are in? (Center board, popsicle sticks, name tag)
- Are children allowed to get materials from one center to enhance their play in another? If so, are their guidelines for this?
- What if a child or children are in the middle of something when center time ends? Is there a way to save their work? Will you take a photo?
- How will you alert children that center time is almost over? At what intervals will you provide an alert? (Most children need advanced warning that clean-up time is coming. Consider, at least, a 10, 5 and 2 minute warning. Will you use a bell, a light, a particular song?
- What is the clean-up procedure for centers? Is there a song? What do children do/where do they go, when their center is clean?

- > What support will each teacher provide during clean-up time?
- What is the role of each teacher during center time? Engaging with children, small group activities, etc.

١	
ı	Our Learning Center Plan
Ī	Choosing a Center:
J	
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ŀ	Center Management:
	Center Management.
ł	Role of Teachers:
ſ	Warning Procedures:
ŀ	Class Ha Brassdones
	Clean-Up Procedures:
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ł	Other:
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	Other:
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Classroom Jobs

Having classroom jobs helps to create a sense of community and responsibility. Just like everything else, these jobs need to be taught through modeling and reinforcement.

On the following pages, find a list of 25 classroom jobs. Each job gives a job description. You may choose to use this list, or not.

How will you assign jobs? <u>Daily or Weekly?</u> Will it depend upon the job? How will assigned jobs be displayed visually? Will you use a pocket chart or display on a magnetic board?

Outline your plan for assigning and displaying jobs below.

What jobs will you have in your classroom? List the jobs, and your expectations for each job below.

Classroom Job	Description/Expectation

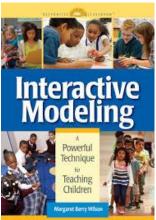
Step 2: Plan to Teach Expectations

- Discuss strategies:
 - Interactive Modeling
 - Anchor Charts
 - Explain, Rehearse, Reinforce

Write a plan for teaching expectations to

the children





Planning for Behavior Management

- Review of our policies and procedures regarding appropriate behavior management
- Discussion of various behavior management strategy options
- Teaching teams identify the strategies that work the best for their teaching style
- Write out a plan for behavior management



Co-Planning as a Team

Co-Planning

Time/ Place for weekly collaborative planning:



In the box below, mark who will be responsible for PLANNING the instruction:

Name:	Name:
□ Circle Time/ Morning meeting	□ Circle Time/ Morning meeting
□ Center Enhancements	□ Center Enhancements
□ Read-a-louds	☐ Read-a-louds
 Music and Movement 	☐ Music and Movement
☐ Health and Nutrition	☐ Health and Nutrition
□ Science	□ Science
□ Math	☐ Math
□ Literacy	☐ Literacy
□ Art	□ Art
 Outdoor Activities- Directed 	□ Outdoor Activities- Directed
□ Sensory	□ Sensory
□ Journals/Writing	□ Journals/Writing
 Individualized Instruction 	□ Individualized Instruction
□ Other	□ Other
□ Other	□ Other
□ Other	☐ Other

Planning sessions will require that teaching teams are using the Creative Curriculum Objectives for Development and Learning, along with the Head Start Early Learning Outcomes Framework. These resources are necessary for aligning instruction to the objectives.

What other materials will our teaching team bring to our co-planning sessions? Please list agreed upon materials/resources:

The 'art' of
TEACHing
is the art of
ASSISTING DISCOVERY
DISCOVERY

Once we have finished planning the lessons, who will complete the following tasks?

Tasks	Name:	Name:
Typing the lesson into the required template		
Submitting lesson plan to TSG		
Posting lesson plan on parent resource board		
Gathering and/or creating materials needed for the lesson plan		

Whov	vill design and create the monthly newsletter?
both t	responsibility will be shared, what is your plan? Will you take turns each month? Will eachers sit down together to design and create the newsletter monthly? If so, when will be meeting to do this? Please outline your plan below.
	month the teaching team will submit a <u>MonthlyEducation Report</u> (via email) to the tion Manager. This report is intended to be discussed and completed as a team.
Educa	
Educa Consid	tion Manager. This report is intended to be discussed and completed as a team. der the following questions when writing your plan: Will you complete the report at the end of the month OR will you add to it each week?
Educa Consid	tion Manager. This report is intended to be discussed and completed as a team. der the following questions when writing your plan: Will you complete the report at the end of the month OR will you add to it each week? Will you discuss the report during a lesson planning meeting OR will you have a specific
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Planning for Co-Instruction

Planning for Co-Instruction

Discuss the strengths of each teacher regarding leading instruction. One person should not be the only person to lead instruction for all activities throughout the day or week. Consider who is most comfortable leading activities such as science experiments, reading aloud, leading music and movement or directed outdoor activities. Check who will typically lead each activity.

Name:	Name:
☐ Circle Time/ Morning meeting	□ Circle Time/ Morning meeting
□ Center Questioning**	□ Center Questioning**
☐ Read-a-louds	□ Read-a-louds
☐ Music and Movement	 Music and Movement
☐ Health and Nutrition	☐ Health and Nutrition
□ Science	□ Science
□ Math	☐ Math
□ Literacy	□ Literacy
□ Art	□ Art
□ Outdoor Activities- Directed	□ Outdoor Activities- Directed
□ Sensory	□ Sensory
□ Journals/Writing	□ Journals/Writing
□ Individualized Instruction	□ Individualized Instruction
☐ Other	☐ Other
□ Other	□ Other
□ Other	□ Other

**Questioning done during learning centers MUST be done by BOTH teachers. You may choose to divide up the planning of some question starters for each center to make it easier to come up with questions in the moment.

Consider the <u>role</u> of the co-teacher during all parts of the day. If teacher A is leading a lesson, what is teacher B doing? Discuss together and write your plan in the space provided.

Some possible roles are:

- . Monitoring the restroom, handwashing, tooth brushing
- . Entering attendance into Child Plus
- · Assisting by sitting near children needing extra support
- · Leading a small group activity
- . Setting up a provocation/ getting materials for an activity ready





Morning Meeting/Circle Time	
Small Group Activities	
Whole Group Activities	
Learning Centers	
Al's Pals (what is the role of EACH classroom teacher during this program)	
Rest Time (y)figh is the role of EACH teacher during rest time. Keep in mind that BOTH teachers are expected to help settle children during the first 15 minutes)	
Other:	
Other:	

Things to Avoid

- Having one teacher do all planning and instruction while the other does all the paperwork. <u>TEAM Planning and Co-teaching is required</u>.
- √ Showing movies or TV shows is NOT acceptable during any part of the day.
- Teachers should NOT be sitting at the teacher desk, on the computer for more than 10 minutes at any part of the day
 - EXCEPTION: It is acceptable to be on the computer during rest time, once the majority of children are settled and quiet
- √ Teachers should NOT be doing outside work of any kind during the school day.
 - EXCEPTION: Staff that are writing lesson plans, etc., for the Head Start class that
 may also be used as a school assignment (those attending school for
 credentialing)

Evaluating Student Performance



Evaluating Student Performance

All program sites will use Teaching Strategies Gold for evaluating student performance. Checkpoints will be done in the fall, Winter and Spring each year. Teachers are expected to use the data from TSG to determine individual instruction for children.

Our children that are 4 and will attend Kindergarten next year will also be assessed using PALS. The Assistant Education Manager will visit program sites in the Fall, Winter and Spring to assess those students. Teachers are expected to use the data from the PALs to determine necessary individual instruction.

All teaching staff are required to document their observations of children working on and mastering the objectives. Those observations will go into TSG to be used for Checkpoints.

As a team, discuss who will complete the following tasks regarding evaluation and data.

It is recommended that teachers plan to divide the observations. Some suggestions are:

- Split the class and each teacher is responsible for documenting observations for a set of students
- Split the objectives or subjects and determine which teacher is responsible for documenting which objectives.

How will observations be recorded? Will you keep a notebook to write observations throughout the day? Will someone use the iPad to document photos and observations throughout the day? When will observations be entered into TSG? Who will enter observations into TSG? Write out your plan for how observations will be recorded during the day.	throughout the day? Will someone use the iPad to document photos and observation throughout the day? When will observations be entered into TSG? Who will enter observations into TSG?	
throughout the day? When will observations be entered into TSG? Who will enter observations into TSG?	throughout the day? When will observations be entered into TSG? Who will enter observations into TSG?	flow will observations be recorded? Will you keep a notebook to write observations
Write out your plan for how observations will be recorded during the day.	Write out your plan for how observations will be recorded during the day.	hroughout the day? When will observations be entered into TSG? Who will enter
		Write out your plan for how observations will be recorded during the day.

Who will complete C	Who will complete Checkpoints in the Fall, Spring and Winter?		
upon how you divide	eckpoint and PALS data to determine individualization? Will it be based of the observations up above? Will you have a meeting to discuss areas of o the data, and identify individualization together? If you are meeting,		
Write your plan for d	etermining the individual needs of each child.		
will require some wo	use Task Kits/Goal Kits to individualize instruction for each child. These rk creating and putting together materials. <u>These need to be incorporated as per week, 20 minutes each time.</u>		
Resources for Task Kit/ Task Box/ Goal Box Ideas and	http://theautismhelper.com/work-box-task-ideas/ http://www.buildingblox.net/taskideasandfreebies.html		
Information	https://www.pinterest.com/explore/task-boxes/		
	http://www.autismadventures.com/2013/04/teacch-task-boxes.html		
	http://www.breezyspecialed.com/2014/08/work-box-ideas-cheap- andor-free.html		
Who will be responsi	ble for finding ideas and creating the materials for this individualized		

Managing Classroom Operations

Classroom Operations

Use the chart below to document which teacher will be responsible for each task listed.

TASKS		Name:	Name:
Maintain and monitor Sign	In/Sign Outforms		
	Maintain and submit transportation log		
Maintain Attendance	Paper Copy		
Record	Enter into Child Plus		
Maintain Meal Count Data	Paper Copy		
	Cross-checking with		
	attendance records		
	Cross-checking with cafeteria		
	manager		
	Submitting to MACAA		
	monthly		
Checking Medication and	Check meds-		
MAT forms monthly	expired, running low		
(must be MAT certified)	Informing parents of nearly		
	expired or empty meds		
	Communicating with Health &		
	Nutrition Coordinator		
Maintain list of child allerg			
Provide first aid needs (bar packs, etc)	ıd-aids, medications, ice		
Complete incident reports	Complete the form		
	Submit the form to MACAA		
Conduct Daily Health	Complete the form		
Checks (as needed)	Submit the form		
	Document concerns into Child		
	Plus		
	Contact family with questions		
	Communicate immediate		
	concerns or patterns to the		
	Education Manager		
Communicate child-	Abuse/Trauma Concerns:		
related concerns to	Patterns of injuries		
Education Manager	discovered at arrival to school		
	Statements made by child		
	in class		

	 Concerns about family 		
	Referral Services:		
	Disability- delays, speech,		
	motor skills		
	 Mental health- behavior, 		
	non-medical trauma		
Maintaining and monitoring the first aid	Carrying bag to playground,		
bag	on field trips, etc		
bag	Ensuring the bag is fully		
	supplied		
	Communicating with Health &		
	Nutrition Coordinator when		
Futuring de	supplies are needed		
	nto Child Plus- this should be ote: if it is an interaction you	✓	✓
	ved in, you are the one that		
enters the documentation			
Clean tables before/after meal times			
Monitor teeth brushing			
Monitor bathroom			
Monitor handwashing			
Create and send home ren	ninders: parent meetings.		
early dismissal, holiday, field trips			
	ion needs (early dismissals,		
etc) with bus drivers			
Monitor children with	Communicate needs to Health		
special meal needs	& Nutrition Coordinator		
	Communicate needs to		
	cafeteria workers		
Monitor the Monthly Educ			
items have been submitted by deadline			
Maintain child files			
Conduct Fire Drills	Plan monthly fire drills		
	Complete form		
	Submit and post form		
Contact parents regarding student absence			
Attend IEP meetings			



Collaborating with Family Advocates

The relationship the FA has with the family is often <u>different</u> from the one a teacher has with a family.

- Another source of information
- Fresh eyes

It is essential that teachers build a positive relationship with their family advocate!!!



Collaboration between Teaching Teams and Family Advocates

- FAs spend one day a week in assigned classrooms
 - First-hand knowledge of what is happening in the classroom
 - Common language

- Monthly team meetings to discuss children & their families
- Frequent
 communication
 between Teaching
 Teams and FA

Collaborating with Families



The Family Partnership

- Monthly parent meetings
- Parent Conferences
- Field Trips

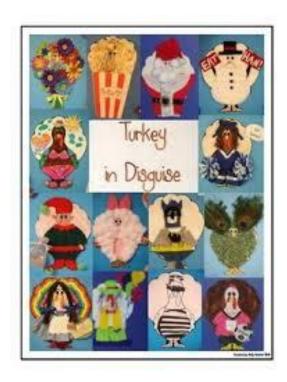


- ClassroomShowcase Events
- FamilyEngagementActivities
- Bloomz
- Monthly Newsletters
- Parent Volunteers
- Home Visits

Family Engagement Activities



Take Home Activities



Family Engagement Activities





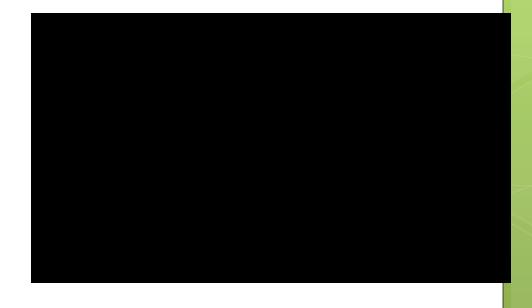
Interactive Parent Meetings & Classroom Showcase





- Teachers, FAs & Families stay connected
- Share class videos and photos
- Message both privately and publicly
- Updates & Reminders to Families
- Access limited





Our job at Head Start is to support the children and their families throughout the year.



- Getting forms turned in
- Family Engagement Activities
- Educating Children& their Families
- Referral Support Services



Connect with ME!

Melissa Carter

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