

Family Bingo!

Bringing the Program Home

The DECE invites you to encourage families to extend learning activities done in the program at home. These should be opportunities for families to engage in meaningful play-based interactions and enrichment opportunities that connect to or build on program activities.

The opportunities should include a variety of options and choices. One suggestion is to employ a bingo card-like format with 9 to 16 squares, each with a suggested activity that ties to your current explorations or other activities or themes in the program. Rather than requiring families to complete any of these activities, playfully encourage them. For example, you may invite families to do a bingo challenge, and circle each completed activity in colorful marker. They can see how many they can complete together with their child each week or month! Providers and families are invited to add their own ideas to the blank squares based on children's interests, activities in the program, and cultural resources. Families can also be invited to add their own activities.

Bingo cards should be translated into families' preferred languages using the resources of your network, the DOE or, where necessary and helpful, Google Translate.

All families should also be encouraged to talk, read or tell stories, and sing with their children daily in their home language and/or English, and be provided with supportive and positive information about the benefits of these activities for all young children. Please talk with your network Education Specialist if you are interested in appropriate materials to share with families. Where possible, we encourage providers and/or networks to create lending libraries from which families can borrow age-appropriate books to read to or look at with their children at home.

Note that, as per the 3K for All Policy Handbook (p. 189), worksheets are considered inappropriate assignments in 3K and PreK. If you would like additional support or suggestions regarding how to extend learning to home in your particular program or community, please speak with your Network Education Specialist.

Here are some additional and alternative resources you may wish to share with families, that also include suggested activities:

- [All the Way to K and Beyond](#)
- [Talking is Teaching](#)

Family Bingo! - November

We invite you to pick activities to do together with your child or children. The goal is for children and caregivers to spend a few minutes together with limited distractions, having fun, learning, and delighting in one other. How many can you do together this month? Which will you start with today?

<p>Let's take a walk to a supermarket and see the different types of squash (pumpkin, acorn, butternut, zucchini). Let's use as many words as we can words to describe them.</p>	<p>Let's make a drawing together! Create anything you want, and then let's make up a story together about what you drew!</p>	<p>Let's tape a few pieces of paper together to make a bigger mural together. We can invite family members or friends to join in!</p>	<p>Let's play Freeze Dance! We'll put on some of our favorite music and dance together, and when the music stops, we freeze!</p>
<p>Let's make a plan to do something as a family, or together, this week. (Let your child choose and plan at least part of the activity, and talk about what materials, if any, you need.)</p>	<p>Let's look at a few pictures of people we care about (either prints or on a mobile device). What do we notice in these photos? Tell me about these people.</p>	<p>Let's make Oobleck together! We'll pour 2 cups of cornstarch and 1 cup of water in a mixing bowl or pan. Let's mix together and explore! (This can look messy, but it cleans up very easily with water!)</p>	<p>Will you help me set the table for a family meal? Can you put a napkin at every seat? Then one fork or spoon at every seat?</p>
<p>Let's turn out the lights and use a lamp or flashlight (or the light on your mobile device) to make shadows on a wall or floor. Let's see what happens when we move our bodies or hands closer to and further from the light. How else can we play with shadows?</p>	<p>Let's take a walk around the neighborhood together. Can we find 3 natural objects, like sticks, leaves, or rocks? We'll bring them in to show your classmates.</p>	<p>Let's talk about your school friends. Who did you sit next to on the rug? Who did you play with at choice time? Does anyone in your class have a name that starts with A? With J?</p>	<p>What is your favorite place to play at our program? What do you like to do there, or what do you like about that area?</p>
<p>Let's put a loved doll or stuffed animal down for a nap, or to bed. What do they need to feel safe to sleep? How can we help them?</p>			