



Each week, MAEC's Collaborative Action for Family Engagement (CAFE) Center, in collaboration with Turning the Page, curates resources on how families can educate children at home, enjoy "out-of-school" time, cope with this new normal, and plan for the next school year. If you are a parent advocate or educator, and know families who could benefit from this information, please share it and help spread the word.

THE FAMILY ROOM
WITH ANN CASPARI
NATIONAL AIR AND SPACE MUSEUM
THURSDAY | MAY 28TH | 3PM EST

Join us this week with Ann Caspari from the National Air and Space Museum as she brings to life the museum's Flights of Fancy and demonstrates how their Learning Labs can be recreated at home.

The Family Room

Thursday, May 28, 3pm ET

Join us this week with Ann Caspari from the National Air and Space Museum as she brings to life the museum's Flights of Fancy and demonstrates how their Learning Labs can be recreated at home. This webinar will also feature the **Question Corner** with child psychologist Dr. Seth Shaffer* and education expert Mariela Puentes.

Miss the webinar last week? [Check it out now.](#)

Register now

Ask Dr. Shaffer



Each week Dr. Shaffer answers the questions on the website that readers like you submit. This week:

Routines, grandparents, and self-care.

It's important to set a routine with older children and teens, monitor screen time, and create ways for grandparents and other family members to connect with kids, even if they are far away. Read more about how and submit your questions below.

1. [How do you set a routine for learning with older children and teens?](#)
2. [My husband and I both work. While we always attempt to follow a schedule for the day, calls come up, last minute work deadlines, etc. Our son has been watching way more TV than he ever has -- 3-5 hrs a day! We are trying to give ourselves grace. But what will the impact be on our son?](#)
3. [I am a grandma. My children and grandchildren are home with me. I have my own frustrations and anxieties....how can I continue to be the positive, optimistic voice they need...and that I've always been?](#)
4. [Is there any way that grandparents can help long-distance?](#)

Read the answers to these questions and [submit yours online here](#).

Read more

Reading Out Loud



Children who are read to at least three times a week by a family member are almost twice as likely to score in the top 25% in reading compared to children who are not read to as frequently.

Click on the graphic for [Read-Aloud Clues.](#)

Read-Aloud Clues

See This:	Say it this way:
Question marks ?	Like a question
Exclamation points !	With excitement, anger, or energy
UPPERCASE words	Loudly
Words in different COLORS	In different voices
Words in different SIZES	Louder (big) or softer (small)
Italicized and bolded words	With emphasis
Dashes, commas, and ellipses	Pause!

Other Read-Aloud Tips & Tricks

- Take your time**
 - Kids will wait for you!
- Connect physically**
 - Ex: If the book says "squeeze," squeeze your kiddo!
- Enjoy it!**
 - The more you enjoy reading, the more your child will.

Local Resources



Have you or your loved ones been affected by COVID-19? MAEC has compiled the most up-to-date state resources to help address the needs of families during the COVID-19 pandemic, including information from the state departments of education, child nutrition, and unemployment offices.

[Visit our site](#)



Innovation & Inspiration

We are inspired by school districts finding innovative ways to address the specific concerns of our most vulnerable students. This week we feature a story about

the Cleveland School District and their plan to ensure internet access for all families.

Distance learning has highlighted existing inequities in access to the internet. The Cleveland School District is working with a local non-profit to make internet access a public utility, like electricity, water, and sewers. Read on to find out how the school district is working to bring the internet to each of its neighborhoods and students.

[Closing the Digital Divide: Inside Cleveland's Plan to Treat Broadband Like a Public Utility Service — and to Pay for Every Student to Get Online](#)

The 74 - May 18, 2020

Voices from the Community



We believe that hearing from one another helps to create community and connection at a time when we are separated. Every week we ask families and students one question and post the answers on our website and in this newsletter. This week:

Given how COVID-19 has affected the world and the way we live, what is one hope that you have for your child when things get back to normal?



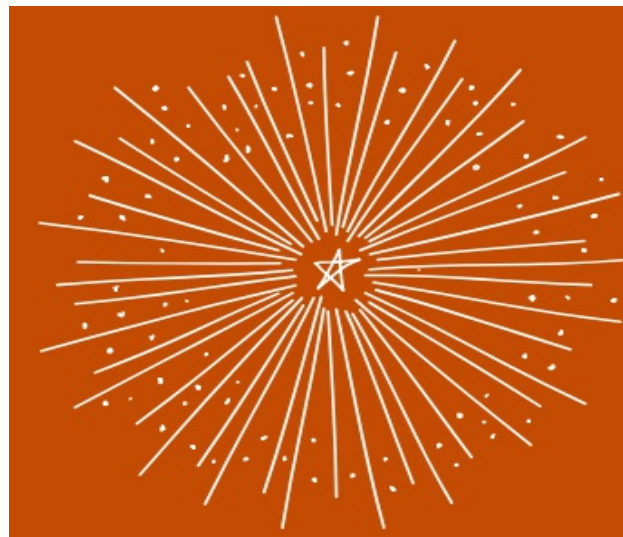
“My hope for my child is to come away from this with a deep appreciation for all the little gifts life gives. That he will develop the resilience that comes from facing challenges and adversity. Being able to appreciate what you have, in a glass half empty or half full, is a gift. Being grateful no matter the circumstance is the key to peace of mind. Acknowledging your ability to endure and

survive hard times is the key to lasting strength and sanity. These two characteristics (Gratitude and Resilience) will serve any child as they grow into adulthood. These two characteristics will help them navigate the road ahead with grace, humility and success.”

- Dawn HP

“That I will retain the closer correspondence I have with teachers right now, who are for the first time sending me personal emails requesting more effort from my daughter. Their emails are letting me know about problems before they get too advanced rather than after the fact. (They haven't yet written with praise, but I'm hoping that will come too, given her increased efforts!)”

- Heather



How have others responded?

Respond to Next Weeks Question!

What kind of support, and from whom, could you really use right now?

Submit your words, artwork, scanned letters, to be included in next week's newsletter or website.

Send us your submissions



Resources for Families

Join the National Air and Space Museum on Facebook Live!

Every Thursday they feature a different expert to answer questions from air & space enthusiasts of all ages! 12pm

CST/1pm EST.

[Learn more](#)

Free Digital Books

Unite for Literacy offers free online books about science, animals, technology, and more for primary grade students. Available in English, Spanish, and more!

[Check it out](#)

Science Journal Prompts

Combine science and creative writing with a couple of journal prompts to help your kids consider how science is all around us:

- Describe how your life would be different if the lightbulb hadn't been invented. Are humans hurting or helping our environment?
- Support your answer with evidence from your experiences. Albert Einstein famously quipped, "Necessity is the mother of all invention."
- Describe a problem in your life and an invention that would solve that problem.

Contact Us

Are you looking for information or assistance?

[Contact Us](#)

Stay in Touch!

Receive information on our latest events and news.

[Join Us](#)





Not interested in receiving the Learning at Home newsletter? [Please let us know.](#)

***Disclaimer:**

I, Seth Shaffer, Psy.D. (PSY 27492), am a licensed psychologist in the State of California. I work in outpatient clinical settings, and provide therapy to children, adolescents, and families.

Mid-Atlantic Equity Consortium (MAEC) has hired me to share general school related parenting strategies for families affected by COVID-19. **The information I provide in the MAEC webinars or website newsletters is not a mental health service or therapy. Sharing the information does not establish a therapist-client professional or confidential relationship between me and any other person who accesses or learns of the information.** All information shared is based solely on my knowledge, expertise, and clinical training. But it is not intended to be a clinical mental health service or therapy for a specific person or circumstance.

Any viewer/participant who believes that they may be experiencing psychological distress or symptoms should consult a local mental health professional right away. They may consider calling the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) 24/7 National Hotline (1-800-662-4357) or another reputable referral organization for help.

I have no conflict of interest with any organization or entity mentioned in MAEC presentation and subsequent MAEC webinars.

