



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

Join us in the Family Room

NEXT Thursday, July 9, 3pm ET
(no Family Room this week)

Next week in the Family Room we discover ways to have fun with science and math this summer by using what you have at home.

We are pleased to be joined by Alecia Gabriel from [Motor City S.T.E.A.M.](#), a nonprofit organization dedicated to providing STEAM (Science. Technology. Engineering. Art, Mathematics) related educational programs and opportunities for culturally diverse and vulnerable students. Alecia will be sharing ways that families can have fun with science and math this summer by using everyday objects and materials.

This webinar will also feature the **Question Corner** with child psychologist, Dr. Seth Shaffer*, and education expert, Mariela Puentes.

Did you miss the webinar last week? [Check it out now.](#)

[Register now](#)

Ask Dr. Shaffer



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

Do you have tips for parents whose children's friends' parents or other adult caretakers may have different political views?

I think we can agree that as individuals, we frequently have different experiences, ideas, beliefs, religions, and political affiliations. I think we can also agree that we all want the best for our children. We all want to spend time with loved ones, enjoy good times, and do the best we can to care for our children. We have a lot more in common with each other than it seems at times. Currently, politics are in the forefront, and it can be challenging to figure out a way to interact with folks whose views are in conflict with your own beliefs.

[Here are some things to keep in mind.](#)

[Read more](#)

Do you have questions for Dr. Shaffer? [Submit them online here.](#)



Fourth of July Children's Books

Check out these three books to integrate the 4th of July holiday into your reading time:

- [Uncle Chente's Picnic/El Picnic De Tio Chente](#) by Diane Gonzales Bertrand, Pauline Rodriguez Howard, and Julia Mercedes Castilla
- [Judy Moody Declares Independence](#) by Megan McDonald
- [Apple Pie on the 4th of July](#) by Janet S. Wong and Illustrated by Margaret Chodos-Irvine

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 students across the country finding innovative ways to address the changes they want to see reflected in society. This week we feature a story about five student activists and how they are advocating for Black lives, ending police brutality, and addressing systemic racism.

Five students from four cities across the country: Washington, DC, New York City, Los Angeles, and Ohio, protest in various ways and wrestle with what it currently means to be a student activist. One student activist, for example, has focused on using augmented reality technology as a tool to protest and speak out against

systemic racism and police violence. Read further to find out how other student activists are protesting for change.

[5 Students Protesting For Black Lives Matter Amid Coronavirus](#)

NPR, June 19, 2020



Resources for Families

Frederick Douglass's Historic Speech

On July 5, 1852, Frederick Douglass gave a keynote address at an Independence Day celebration and asked, "What to the Slave is the Fourth of July?" It was a scathing speech in which Douglass stated, "This Fourth of July is yours, not mine, You may rejoice, I must mourn." James Earl Jones reads excerpts of the famous speech.

[Listen](#)

Independence Day Themed Crafts

Check out Life Hacks for Kids to try out some Independence Day themed crafts using things you probably already have around your house!

[Create](#)

Surface Tension Experiment

Looking for something to do with the kids that has a 4th of July theme? Grab some blue and red food coloring, milk or water, and dish soap and you're ready to create your own fireworks on a plate. This surface tension experiment is fun and so simple!

[Learn](#)

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.

