



Collaborative Action *for*
Family Engagement

Learning at Home



Photo by Akarawut Lohacharoe, Vecteezy

April showers bring May flowers, and this edition of Learning at Home brings new resources for families and family engagement practitioners!

In April, we celebrate Arab American Heritage Month, National Poetry Month, and National Financial Literacy Month. This newsletter shares resources related to these commemorations.

What is CAFE?

Collaborative Action for Family Engagement (CAFE) is a program of MAEC serving Maryland and Pennsylvania. We engage in high-impact, culturally responsive family engagement. By building partnerships among schools, families, and community organizations, we improve all students' development and academic achievement.

Upcoming Events



Corner CAFE: A Community of Practice for MD and PA family engagement practitioners

Building Bridges: Supporting Refugee Families and First Generation Students

April 17, 2023 1:00-2:30 pm

Join us for the next session of the Corner CAFE: Building Bridges: Supporting Refugee Families and First Generation Students. In this webinar, we will explore the challenges faced by refugee families and first-generation students and offer practical strategies to support them. Participants will hear from the founder and CEO of Hello Neighbor, Sloane Davidson, and MAEC's Senior Education Equity Specialist, Jenny Portillo-Nacu.

[Register here](#)

Resources for Our Families

You Are an Advocate!



Photo by Motion Lantern, Vecteezy

You are your child's best advocate. Need strategies to help you along the way? Check out the resources below.

[Arab American Heritage Month Resources List](#) (webpage)

MAEC

This Arab American Heritage Month, we celebrate the histories, cultures, and contributions of Arab Americans. We invite you and your family to expand your knowledge and awareness of the experiences and histories of Arab Americans. From lesson plans to movie recommendations, our resource list can help get you started.

[Parent Advocacy Handbook Guide for Fairfax County Public Schools: Resources for Parents and Guardians](#) (handbook)

Fairfax County Minority Student Achievement Oversight Committee

Though geared towards families of Fairfax County Public Schools, The Parent Advocacy Handbook offers advocacy tips for parents to support their children's academic, social, and emotional growth from preschool through high school, and beyond regardless of geographic location.

[35 Spring Break Activities and Ideas for Kids at Home](#) (webpage)

Parents.com

At home for spring break? Make the most of your time with these fun indoor and outdoor activities for the entire family.

Financial Literacy is a Family Matter!





Photo by Nontanun Chaipra, Vecteezy

April is Financial Literacy Month, a time to focus on building and strengthening financial knowledge and skills. It's important that children understand the value and importance of money at a young age. Explore these resources on how to share financial literacy with your children.

[Thinking Money for All Kids: Diverse and Inclusive Reads to Teach Young People about Money](#)

American Library Association and FINRA Investor Education Foundation

ALA and the FINRA Investor Education Foundation have collaborated with a team of librarian advisors to develop a book list that challenges stereotypes and embraces diversity in telling stories and sharing skills related to personal finance and financial capability for children.

[Financial literacy month: everything you need to know](#)

Go Henry

April is Financial Literacy month. For thirty days every year, the nation's focus is on improving Americans' financial literacy. So why is financial literacy important? How did Financial Literacy month come about? And how can you observe it?

[Family-At-Home Financial Fun Pack](#)

Council for Economic Education

The Family-At-Home Financial Fun Pack is a curated set of materials well suited for families to enjoy on their own. Explore family activities, games, worksheets, and suggested books for children or adults.

Mindfulness Corner



Photo by Benis Arapovic, Vecteezy

It's essential as a family to find peace during stressful times. These techniques build on skills to create more serenity at home.

[AI and Mindfulness: How Machine Learning Can Help Promote Mental Wellness](#)

The Next Tech

Artificial Intelligence (AI) and mindfulness may appear unconnected at first glance, but they are increasingly used to support mental wellness.

[Three Poems to Introduce Children to Mindfulness](#)

Tricycle.org

Breathe and Be uses poetry and illustrations to show children practices that can help them stay calm, regulate their emotions, and appreciate the world.

Are you on Twitter? Follow us [@CAFE_MAEC](#) for the latest CAFE news!



MAEC's [Collaborative Action for Family Engagement](#) (CAFE) program is funded by the US Department of Education under Title IV, part E of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA). CAFE is one of twelve statewide family engagement centers.

MAEC is committed to the sharing of information regarding issues of equity in education. The contents of this guide were developed under a grant from the U.S. Department of Education under the Statewide Family Engagement Centers program. However, the contents of this guide do not necessarily represent the policy or views of the Department of Education, and you should not assume endorsement by the Department of Education or federal government, generally.