



Each week, MAEC's Collaborative Action for Family Engagement (CAFE) Center 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.

In this newsletter:

- What's Next for the Family Table?
- Ask Dr. Shaffer
- Weekly Tip
- Local Resources
- Innovation & Inspiration
- Resources for Families



What should come next?

We want to hear your thoughts. Please fill out this short survey to assist us with planning future Family Table webinars. We are taking a short break and will be back soon with content that is suited to your needs.

Take the Survey

Ask Dr. Shaffer



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

My child does not do well with online classes. How can I help my child?

Many children struggle with online learning, so your child is not alone.

Setting reasonable expectations for your child's learning and remaining open-minded due to the current circumstances is important. Your expectations will depend on the age of your children, learning styles, internet capability, work schedules, special needs, language proficiency, and the information and relationship that you have with your child's school. It is very possible that children across the nation will have a tough time staying on track to meet academic requirements this coming school year. Set manageable goals for YOUR child, and try to keep him or her motivated to learn. Success is more likely if educators and families work together in the best interest of children and schools ensure that every child is learning and preparing for successful careers and lives. I would suggest you also consider the following.

[Read more](#)

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



Family History Project

Wondering how to spend quality time with your children and support one another's growth? A family history project can be a great start. These project-based learning activities bring meaningful real-world connections to academic skills. Here's how to get started:

- Create a family tree
- Review family photos
- Video chat or call family members to interview them about your family's history
- Record your findings and grow your family archives by writing a book or putting together a drawing or performance piece.

[Click here for more ideas.](#)

Local Resources



Now updated with local school re-opening information!

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

[Visit our site](#)



Innovation & Inspiration

We are inspired by school districts finding innovative ways to address the concerns of our most vulnerable students. This week we feature the efforts of a diverse group of four school districts and their commitment to partner with families during the pandemic.

Through a collaboration with the educational non-profit, The New Teacher Project (TNTP), four school districts in Louisiana, Connecticut, Tennessee, and Florida, are strengthening their partnerships with families. Each school district is creating a shared vision for authentic family engagement, surveying the needs and priorities of all stakeholders, hosting community conversations and advisory boards to receive feedback, and partnering with families to accelerate student learning and achievement. Read more about their family engagement efforts below.

[How Four Districts are Partnering With Families During the COVID-19 Crisis](#)

TNTP, July 27, 2020



Resources for Families

Get Creative

Try Hirshhorn Kids hands-on art projects. Each week, you can try a new project inspired by artwork at the Hirshhorn Museum. Check out the projects on the website or follow them on social media using #HirshhornInsideOut.

Create

Visit Virtually

Take a virtual tour of Frida Kahlo's Casa Azul (The Blue House). Her former home, now a museum, is located in Coyoacán, Mexico. It preserves many of her personal belongings to provide insight into the renowned artist's world.

Explore

Artists' Stories

Learn about five amazing women who changed the art world. They are: Sonia Boyce, Barbara Hepworth, Yayoi Kusama, Dayanita Singh, and Georgia O'Keeffe. Learn

more about their creative journeys.

Watch

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.

