

Resource Coordinator Toolkit to Expand School/Community Progress



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Activities listed in this guide were recommended by Resource Coordinators during a Workshop on August 25, 2016. This guide is a collaboration of Resource Coordinators through a partnership of the Chicago Public Schools Community Schools Initiative and the Polk Bros. Foundation Center for Urban Education.



PARENT INVOLVEMENT ACTIVITIES

- Adult “Café”
- Art Workshops
- Awareness Education (DV, Diabetes, Breast Cancer, Sexual Abuse)
- Build A Model Together
- Community Garden Potluck
- Cooking Workshops
- Craft Workshops
- Daughter & Mom Talk
- Do It Yourself Game-Making Session
- Draw/Paint, Sip (juice boxes) & Talk
- Family Computer Night
- Family Fridays—Monthly End of School Day Classroom Visit—What We’re Learning
- Father Mother & Son or Daughter Day
- Financial Literacy Night
- Fitness Time
- Game Night
- GED Classes
- Have a Parent Lead a Class/Workshop
- Hip-Hop Dance
- Leadership Workshop
- Math Night—including “Make and Take” activities.
- Mentor Parent
- Parent Art Workshop
- Parent Cafes
- Parent Club
- Parent Cooking Workshop; Cooking Class Parent & Child
- Parent Leadership
- Parent Painting Night; Family Painting Night
- Parents Make the Difference—Bulletin Board with Photos at School Entry
- Peace Circles
- Parent Volunteer Corps—After School and During School Day
- Reading Night—including “Make and Take” activities.
- Report Card Pickup PLUS: Workshops and student presentations.
- Self Esteem workshops
- Sewing Class
- Share Advice Support Group
- Share Favorite Quotes
- Tai Chi
- Tournament Chess
- Yoga



SOCIAL EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- Arts Activities—Most arts activities are opportunities for self-expression and can be opportunities for collaboration.
- Book Clubs
- Charades
- Chess
- Community Service
- Cooking Club
- Create an artwork for someone else.
- Daily Affirmations
- Family Cooking
- Family Painting
- Games—All games are opportunities for positive interaction.
- Group check-ins, check-outs
- Group Dance
- Journaling
- Listen & Talk
- Make a Pie Together
- Me in the future: Picture, write about yourself in college, career.
- Meditation
- Mock Job Search
- Open Mic
- Peace Circles
- Photos of Values—Photos showing students taking positive actions.
- Positive Traits “Star” for each student
- Positive “Fame” Wall/Display
- Restorative Justice Circles
- Self-Esteem Workshops
- Show and Share—Bring an object of importance to you, discuss it.
- Showcase
- Sports!
- Sports—Kids vs. Adults
- Tai Chi
- Teams and Team Captains
- Thank You—send someone in the school a thank you card
- Tootles (Instead of “tattling” students write notes praising another student.)
- Vision Board
- Warm Fuzzies (positive notes to each other)
- WOW/BAM groups

Community Schools Expand Possibilities



ARTS ACTIVITIES

These activities reinforce and expand **literacy progress**.

Dance:

- Choreograph a dance.
- Make up a dance to express emotions.
- Perform dances of different cultures.

Drama:

- Dramatize a Story.
- Make a puppet show for younger children.
- Put on a short play.
- Write an original play.

Music:

- Create music with technology.
- Play Musical Instruments.
- Sing—chorus, group, individual
- Write a song.
- Write music.

Visual Arts:

- Construct a collage to communicate a theme
- Create exhibits or booklets that explain a topic.
- Create self-portraits showing you now and in the future
- Make a display based on a theme
- Make a mural
- Make Your Own Coloring Book



LITERACY ACTIVITIES

Reading Fiction and Nonfiction

- “Battle of the Books”
- Cartoon a story.
- Illustrate a story.
- Illustrate nonfiction topic—including making an exhibit
- Turn a TV Show into a Scenario
- Write ad for your favorite story

Poems:

- Collaborate to write a shared poem
- Present poems relating to events and themes
- Spoken Word
- Write a poem individually

Writing:

- Digital Story Exchange
- Draw Your Own Story
- Story starter—you get the beginning of a story, you tell the rest.
- Storytelling “Circles”—take turns to tell what happens next...
- Write a children’s book that explains _____
- Write a play that communicates a message
- Write letters.
- Write your biography.

Vocabulary:

- Bingo
- Boggle
- Match words in two languages
- Pictionary
- Scrabble
- Sight Word Games
- Synonym-Antonym Games

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MATH ACTIVITIES

- Bingo
- Connect Four
- Gardening
- Lego Math
- Make a math exhibit—"how to..." on a hallway bulletin board.
- Math Teams (competition)
- Make math booklets.
- Make up and trade math problems.
- Math Club
- Math Games—UNO and others
- Math Team Competition
- Monopoly

SCIENCE ACTIVITIES

- Aquarium—Set one up, keep track of changes, care for it.
- Coding—do it!
- Create a website with links to science sources
- Design a way to improve something people use.
- DIY—Google DIY to get projects.
- Gardening—Design, plan, care for it.
- Invent _____
- K'NEX—online source of relatively inexpensive science materials.
- Make a "virtual" science field trip—visit on the web.
- Make your own science museum.
- Kidz Science
- Make a science display on a hallway bulletin board.
- Robotics
- Tech Crew
- Terrarium—Set one up, keep track of changes, care for it.



Share Progress

This section includes guides you can use to organize displays on school bulletin boards, booklets, and arts activities that show progress.

You can create an exhibit or booklet about any topic or theme.

Start with a BIG question. Students collect and use pictures and labels to explain it.

Here's an example: **What is important to appreciate about Mexico?**

Go to the exhibit.

Choose one aspect of Mexican heritage that you think is important.

Name it and/or draw it on a postit.

When you return to the workshop room, share your postit—create a small-size exhibit.

Community Schools Expand Possibilities



Here's an Example to Inspire and Recognize Progress

We listed some categories.

Choose the categories that would focus on your program's activities.

You can turn this into a display if you put photos and with drawings on a school bulletin board.

We Expand Community School Progress!

Parents Work Together	Families Join After-School Programs	Students Learn more Math when they play Math Games	Students improve reading skills when they read books they choose.
Students learn more when they collaborate.	Sports develops skills and character.	Games develop collaboration and thinking!	We make science hands-on and minds-on in projects.

Come to the next Community School Parent Workshop on

_____ **to learn about** _____.



Choose an Idea; Show it.

Then make it your own—Tell a story that supports your idea.

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Choose one proverb or saying.

Draw a picture to show the idea.

Show your picture to someone. Ask them which idea you pictured.

If you wish to learn the highest truths, begin with the alphabet. (Japan)	Si deseas aprender las grandes verdades, comienza con el alfabeto. (Japón)
Never be afraid to sit awhile and think. (Lorraine Hansberry, US)	Nunca temas sentarte un largo rato y pensar. (Lorraine Hansberry, EUA)
A book is a garden carried in the pocket. (Saudi Arabia)	Un libro es un jardín que cargas en el bolsillo. (Arabia Saudita)
He who does not know one thing knows another. (Kenya)	Aquel que no sabe una cosa sabe otra. (Kenya)
By learning you will teach, by teaching you will learn. (Latino)	Al aprender enseñas, al enseñar aprendes. (Latino)
If you cannot serve, you cannot lead. (Bulgaria)	Si no puedes servir, no puedes guiar. (Bulgaria)
A gentle hand may lead even an elephant by a single hair. (Iran)	Una mano gentil puede guiar aun a un elefante por un pelo. (Irán)
The best leader is never recognized. People turn to one another and say, "We did it ourselves." (Zen)	El mejor líder nunca es reconocido. Las personas se miran una a la otra y dicen "Lo hicimos nosotros mismos." (Zen)
She that would lead must be a bridge. (Wales)	Aquella que guía debe ser un puente. (Wales)
Do good, and don't worry to whom. (Mexico)	Haz el bien, y no te preocupes a quien. (México)
Lower your voice and strengthen your argument. (Lebanon)	Baja la voz y fortalece tu argumento. (Líbano)
A clever person turns big troubles into little ones and little ones into none at all. (China)	Una persona astuta vuelve grandes problemas en pequeños y pequeños en inexistentes. (China)
Everyone is the age of her heart. (Guatemala)	Todos son la edad de su corazón. (Guatemala)
You must be the change you wish to see in the world. (Mahatma Gandhi)	Debes ser el cambio que deseas ver en el mundo. (Mahatma Gandhi)

Writers communicate ideas just like these when they write a story.

Write a story or history that would help people understand this idea.

The message of your story is the proverb or saying you chose.