

Connecting with Young Children on Virtual Platforms

NY MEP, October 15, 2020
Ellen Leopold, Presenter

Whole Child CONNECTION
Training • Resources • Coaching

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Help the Presenter Understand Your Communities....

Please write into the chat or just say aloud one challenge that your families face.

What are some strengths you see in families?

Our Commitment

Whole Child Connection at Children's Institute stands with the Black community in calling for an end to systemic racism—a system which can and does exist without intentional racists.

Whole Child Connection acknowledges past failures to create inclusive and anti-racist content in our social and emotional learning (SEL) trainings and consultation.

We accept responsibility for unknowingly preserving racialized frameworks that have not included, or addressed, or have misaddressed, the strengths and needs of communities of color.

Going forward, we are intentionally focusing on equity and positive identity by reframing the dialogue within SEL to reflect anti-racist tenets. We do not have all the answers, but our team is listening, asking questions, unlearning and relearning so that we can strengthen supports for children—all children!

 **Welcoming Ritual:** 
Terrific Teacher Traits

**List your top 3-5
terrific teacher
traits!
Share three**

 **Workshop Objectives** 

- Strengthening relationships across—and despite— digital platform connections
 - *It's not just what we do, but how we do it!*
- Imbedding a positive identity/ anti-racist lens
- Building a toolbox of strategies for gaining and sustaining young children's attention
- Covering academics through engaging practices

 **Virtual Learning: Shared Agreements**

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Virtual 'Etiquette'
Patience
Perspective Taking
Take Care of Yourself
Have Fun
Anything else?


TRAINING




 **Creating Virtual Shared Agreements with Your Kiddos**


Have you talked about or established virtual Shared Agreements i.e. Rules with children?
What should guiding principles regarding this be?



 **What Should the Presenter Know....**

Please write into the chat a success and a challenge of teaching virtually.
What are some limitations or benefits?





 **@principalpease Dr. Iyanna Pease**

MY CHECK LIST FOR EVERY CLASS THIS YEAR

1. Keep them safe
2. Lower their anxiety about the current situation
3. Make them laugh
4. Make them feel loved
5. Teach them something


All in that order




 chalkoneupfortheteacher.com

The 3 Most Important School Supplies for the New Year

1. Patience
2. Flexibility
3. and Grace




 **Three Signature Practices for Daily Use**



WELCOMING RITUALS: *Activities for Inclusion*
 *carefully chosen & modeled *connected to the work day *debriefed
 *safe and predictable *promote participation, listening, & a sense of belonging

ENGAGING PRACTICES: *"Brain Breaks" for Comprehension*
 *information delivered in fun, different or active ways
 *fosters relationships & collaboration *concept practice & integration

OPTIMISTIC CLOSURE: *Reflections & Looking Forward*
 *carefully chosen & engaging *connected to content and one another *debriefed
 *predictable *strengthen connections *reinforce the topic *create forward momentum

 **Welcoming Ritual Greeting**

Always...

- Greet each child warmly, individually and by name-- regardless of when they arrive.
- If a child arrives late, or has been absent, remind them that they were missed... you may also want to check in later.

 **Welcoming Ritual Songs** 


**“It’s so good to see you, I really couldn’t wait,
can you clap your hands and count to eight...”**

“Here comes Juana, Juana, Juana... all day long”

“Where is thumbkin (or Josado)?...”

“Hello, hello, hello and how are you?...”

“We are the dinosaurs marching...”
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vPrmY7labLA>

 **Welcoming Ritual Games**


This or That (can use any gesture or movement)

- Raise your hand if you are choosing the first item (*this*).
- Give a thumbs up if you are choosing the other item (*that*).
- Be prepared to explain your choice.

Would you rather (this) take a walk, or (that) ride a bike?

Would you rather pet (this) a cat, or (that) a dog?

Would you rather (this) be able to fly like a bird or (that) climb the walls like a (that) lizard?

 **Welcoming Ritual Questions**

- What is your favorite food? When do you get to eat it?
- What is your favorite book? Why?
- When was a time when you felt surprised (or proud, or scared, or curious)? What happened?
- When is a time that you helped someone else?
- When you feel mad or frustrated, how do you calm down?

Welcoming Ritual & You!

What are some virtual ways that you show children that they are welcomed and cared about?

In what ways have you been able to virtually coax a child closer to you?



Engaging Practice: Mix it Up



Ask the children to...

- Act out something from a animal/ character/ person
- Draw something from the lesson/ story
- Find something in the house, or outside that connects to the lesson/ story in some way...
- Tell an adult, or sibling what you just learned, or ask if they ever had a problem like the character in the book...
- Use a Magic Bag to introduce something new

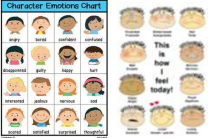
Ask the children to... dance it out (gonoodle.com), sing it out, chant it out, use manipulatives (or PUPPETS)... mindfulness, do anything that is gross or small motor- just mix it up!

How are you feeling?



 **SEL and ELA** 

Character Emotions Chart



Prompt children to think about a character's facial expression, body language, tone of voice, and any problem the character is facing.

Ask children to find the feelings faces (reverse side) that match the character's-- or their own feelings.

Invite children to act out a character's facial expression, body language, tone of voice.

Stories offer a rich opportunity to talk with children about feelings!

- How do you think ____ [character] is feeling?
 - Why do you think that ____ is feeling that way?
 - Is there anything about the way ____ looks or sounds that is a clue?
- Have you ever felt the way ____ does now?
 - What happened?
- When did ____'s feelings change? What happened?
 - Can you remember a time when you felt like ____ [e.g. scared] but later your feelings changed [e.g. to safe or calm]?
 - Turn to a friend and tell the story.

 **Engaging Practice: SEL and ELA**

For ideas and support, visit the following websites:

- ✓ MEP M-TASC website SEL and ELA
- ✓ getepic.com (you read, see others on Zoom)
- ✓ BLM Instructional Library (audio & pix)

 **epic!** 


Are you a Parent or Educator?

 BLM Instructional Library:
https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1SpOK3rowPQ9WFTD2w4bJ7k59k4u4z2m-o60iST_Yimobilepresent?fbclid=IwAR0Vms3KwshjwLd9SLWVNEZmfP7TL0o-NWYkYjYMIeExpOXaNVG_c&slideid.p

Epic! offers unlimited access to a library of thousands of great children's books


 Family Account
For Home & Individual Use


 Educator Account
FREE for all Verified Educators

 **Engaging Practices & You!**


How can you tell if it is time to "mix it up"?


What are some virtual engaging practices that you have used to connect children to new ideas/ materials?



 **What we've covered...**

1. *Shared Agreements should be "shared"*
2. *Positive identity brings the child's family & community to the virtual classroom*
3. *Welcoming Ritual: Top Ten, Greetings, Songs, Games, Questions*
4. *Engaging Practices: Sing, Dance, Point, Draw, Find, Ask, SEL & ELA*
5. *Optimistic Closure:*




 **Optimistic Closure: In Action**

Roll and Reflect

Roll a large die (virtually or in person) and reflect on your time together based on their roll (*different prompts*)

- 1: What surprised you today?
- 2: What do you want to learn more about?
- 3: What was the most fun today?
- 4: What made you curious today?
- 5: What was your favorite part of the day?
- 6: I wish my teacher knew that...

 **Optimistic Closure**

Always...

- Say goodbye to each child warmly & by name.
- You can add a:
 - **Fact and Positive Function** (recall something and describe the positive function, eg. "Natania, I remember that when you told your sister which colors we mixed to make green, you came back and reminded me how to make pink! Wow, should we do that tomorrow?")
 - "teaser" about "coming attractions"

Optimistic Closure: Song or Chant

Miss Rita... Miss Nancy... Miss Molly...

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BSuWW-m2UzY>

- “Romper, Bomper, Stomper Boo, tell me magic mirror, do. Tell me, tell me, tell me today, did my friend(s) have fun at play. I see...”



“Goodbye friends, goodbye friends, goodbye friends, I’ll see you on _____ day.”



AB10



Thank You

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take our
survey



<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ZoomTrainingEval>

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AB10 <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ZoomTrainingEval>
Andrea Bertucci, 4/21/2020