

**DECEMBER
2020**

Upcoming Events

*December 4, 2020;
1:00 PM EST
Webinar: Celebrating Culture
in the Classroom*

*December 5, 2020
November Monthly Report
Due*

*December 24, 2020 through
January 3, 2020
NCFL Offices Closed*

FACE Updates

We have added something new to the [FACE website](#). Check out the [Play Toolkit](#)!

The Play Toolkit explores ways that parents can support their child's play as a part of their everyday routines. It develops these ideas of play using resources that families have at home.

The toolkit is made up of six sections:

- [Parent and Child Together \(PACT\) Time® at Home](#),
- [Visual Schedule](#),
- [The Play Cycle](#),
- [A Comfy Place to Read](#),
- [Art Together](#), and
- [Open-Ended Materials](#).

To explain each section, there are handouts, Learning Snapshots, pictures, and video examples. The ideas and tips from each section allow teachers to work these play concepts into their classroom routines as well as providing ideas and tips for families to use them at home. These materials can be introduced and discussed in Parent Time and incorporated into PACT Time, at home or in the classroom.

After you watch the prerecorded webinar [here](#), be sure to provide feedback about the webinar at the survey link [here](#). You have until Monday, December 7th, to complete the survey.



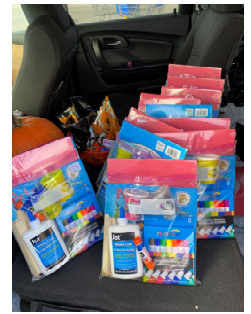
A student at Tate Topa Tribal School practices painting the letters of his name.

Site Spotlights

Hannahville Indian School

Holly Lovell, from Hannahville Indian School, shared an idea that their center-based staff have utilized this year:

Before school began, our FACE center-based team got together and decided to provide at-home crates for each parent and child. This at-home crate was filled with file folders that would help them stay organized and have a place to store paperwork. Also, the FACE children received a smaller crate that they could store their books [in] (their own mini-library). Each week we deliver learning packets for the adult/child to their doorstep/mailbox. Sometimes the parents will come out to the porch (while practicing social distancing) to talk about the learning packets and what they are working on at home. At the start of the school year, we included, with the crates, school essentials including glue, markers, crayons, rulers, notebooks, paper, etc. Every other month we restock the learning tools they need.



Dunseith Indian Day School

Jerilyn Longie from Dunseith Indian Day School FACE Program shared an update from her adult education classroom!

Greetings from the FACE Program at Dunseith Indian Day School in Dunseith, North Dakota. My name is Jerilyn Longie. I am the Adult Educator for the FACE Program at our site. The attached photos (right) are snapshots of several virtual classrooms that I have created using Google Classroom during Distance Learning. To make the classrooms inviting, I created a Google Slide and added a floor and wall background. I then searched for transparent objects such as the plant, Smart Board, bookcase, clock, and chalkboard. The Avatar is a creation from the Bitmoji I use in Snapchat. I like to change the Avatar weekly to give my classroom a realistic vibe while creating an appealing atmosphere for students. Additionally, Google Classroom allows me to attach links for YouTube videos, websites, articles, and other activities. Once invited, parents can navigate the classroom and access the videos or articles by clicking the said icons—for instance, the stack of books in the first picture or the SMART icon in the second picture. I have joined forces with the Preschool Teacher in efforts to address essential topics we deem necessary for our parents and preschoolers. In our experience thus far, we have acknowledged that Distance Learning can be challenging for all involved. However, we at the Dunseith Indian Day School have discovered ways to make Distance Learning engaging and enjoyable for parents, preschoolers, and teachers as well.



Parent Engagement Ideas

Below is a Parent Engagement activity that is ready to be shared with families!

Silly Stories

This storytelling activity builds imagination, increases children's vocabulary, and is absolutely fun! Here is what you need to get started:

- A collection of small items from around your home or pictures cut from magazines.
- A small box, cup, or container big enough to hold the items or pictures collected.

Put the pictures or objects in the box or cup. Let your child go first by choosing one item from the box and starting a story about the object chosen. If they need help getting started, have them repeat and fill in the blanks to this story starter.

"Once upon a time there was a _____. One day it _____." Let your child tell a sentence or two. Then it is your turn to choose an object from the box. Tell one or two sentences about the item you chose that builds onto and continues your child's story—but make it silly! Continue to take turns choosing from the box and building the story. After a few rounds of listening to your silly storytelling, your child will begin to tell silly stories on their turn, too! Be creative, be silly, and have fun laughing together!

FACE Celebrations

Check out an article, [linked here](#), about Little Singer Community School!

Harry Singer, owner of Keyah Construction, filled two roles during the October 28 dedication of the new Little Singer School, located south of Birdsprings, Arizona.

"I was there wearing two hats, one representing a family and the other as a general contractor," Singer said.

Singer said it was his paternal grandfather, Hátááíí Yázhí, or Little Singer, who first envisioned the school in that area of the reservation—a vision that Singer was able to fulfill with the completion of the new 35,000-square-foot school.



"The real visionary behind this whole school concept was my grandfather on my dad's side," Singer said. "He had the whole idea of having a school in the community of Bird Springs back in the 1950s and 60s—they have slowly worked toward it."



Professional Development

Join us for the upcoming professional development opportunity below. Zoom information will be shared out via email.

Webinar: Celebrating Culture in the Classroom

Friday, December 4, 2020; 1:00 PM EST

This webinar will focus on facilitation techniques to engage participants in authentic activities around language and culture in the classroom. Examples from FACE sites will be shared.

Learning Snapshots

Below are two new Learning Snapshots that have been added to the FACE website (face.familieslearning.org.)

Using Parent Feedback to Plan Parent Time:

- Parent Time is successful when it responds to the strengths, interests, needs, and goals of parents in your program. This snapshot presents strategies and tools that you can use to incorporate parent feedback into planning parent-driven Parent Time sessions.

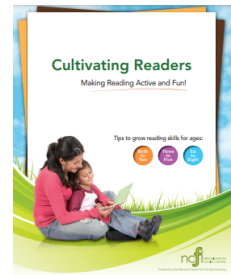
Active Learning in Preschool:

- Active Learning in Preschool explores the concept of active learning and identifies how it supports preschool learners. Practical examples of active learning strategies applied throughout a typical preschool day are shared along with tips for supporting and encouraging families to practice active learning at home.

Resources

Check out the Cultivating Readers Family Guide on the NCFL website [here!](#)

The Cultivating Readers Family Guide provides tips to grow reading skills from birth to age eight. The guide will help parents keep their shared learning activities with their children fun and part of their everyday routine. Children will learn without even realizing it!



During Indigenous Peoples' Week (October 12-October 16), students at Alamo Navajo Community School celebrated by making fry bread with their parents (left) and Hogans with found materials like mud, grass, and sticks (right.)



Thank you for reading our December center-based FACE newsletter! Newsletters will be sent out via email at the beginning of every month. A complete archive of previous newsletters will be added to the FACE website soon!

If you have any news to share from your site, please send to your technical assistant or directly to face@familieslearning.org!