

## Partnering with Families

- ☐ **Shows respect in communications with families** (e.g., by monitoring body language and tone of voice and addressing parents in respectful terms)
- ☐ **Builds relationships with families by connecting informally** (e.g., relates a positive story via phone call)
- ☐ **Ensures classroom materials and communication with families are inclusive of all families** (e.g., uses images and materials representative of families in the classroom, and includes family photos and celebrations)
- ☐ **Works with families to minimize language, cultural, emotional, and logistical barriers to partnership** (e.g., uses pictures and videos to aid communication; provides translated materials; offers virtual meetings to accommodate parent needs)
- ☐ **Uses a strengths-based approach when partnering with families** (e.g., acknowledges strengths and competence of parents first, involves parents who are good communicators to help disseminate information)

## Encouraging Play-Based Learning and Responsive Interactions at Home

- ☐ **Aligns play-based home activities to curriculum and lesson plans** (e.g., selects and plans activities to send home that reinforce skills and learning in class)
- ☐ **Uses data to select individualized play-based home activities to share with families** (e.g., selects and plans activities to send home based on interests, developmental stages, or areas of concern identified in Developmental Milestones Checklists)
- ☐ **Engages in conversations with families about the importance of play-based learning, responsiveness, and language facilitation** (e.g., explaining the benefits of play-based learning versus drill exercises)
- ☐ **Promotes responsiveness by providing families with guidance to adjust home activities based on children's signals** (e.g., simplify or challenge the activity, or discontinue the activity if frustrating for child)
- ☐ **Solicits feedback from families about play-based home activities and responds to feedback with additional support if needed** (e.g., helps families troubleshoot if activities aren't successful)

## Promoting Two-Way Conversations with Families to Individualize Support

- ☐ **Uses family observations to inform conversations about their child's development** (e.g., invites families to complete Developmental Milestones Checklists and share observations during formal and informal conversations)
- ☐ **Uses family observations to inform instruction and individualize support to children** (e.g., differentiates instruction and targets skill development by combining insights from families with other data)
- ☐ **Supports flexible conferencing to meet family needs** (e.g., offers video conference or multiple scheduling opportunities)
- ☐ **Describes child's progress in family-friendly ways** (e.g., presents data without using educational jargon)
- ☐ **Provides family-friendly explanation of why early skills are important for later success** (e.g., explains how fine motor skills are important for children to learn how to dress and feed themselves and contribute to later writing skills)
- ☐ **Partners with families to set clear goals and create action plans for supporting children at school and at home** (e.g., teachers and families decide together what steps to take to support child's development; collaboratively select home activities to meet their goals)

## Hosting Family Events to Support Children's Development

- ☐ **Engages families in playful events to build understanding of key developmental or academic skills or concepts** (e.g., events are content focused and in alignment with age-appropriate learning goals)
- ☐ **Models and explains activities using family-friendly language and materials** (e.g., uses visuals and simple instructions)
- ☐ **Builds engagement and understanding by moving around the room offering guidance and support to families** (e.g., assists families who appear unengaged)
- ☐ **Provides families with ideas or resources that extend family event content to the home** (e.g., ends event by modeling a home extension activity)

## RELATED CLI ENGAGE TOOLS

- CIRCLE ACTIVITY COLLECTION: FAMILY
- PLAY AND LEARNING STRATEGIES (PALS) SPOTLIGHTS

- DEVELOPMENTAL MILESTONES CHECKLISTS
- NAVIGATING CONCERNS ABOUT CHILDREN'S DEVELOPMENT: A ROADMAP
- UNDERSTANDING DEVELOPMENTAL SCREENING AND EARLY INTERVENTION VIDEO SERIES

- SUPPORTING SPROUTS FAMILY WORKSHOPS
- CIRCLE ACTIVITY COLLECTION: FAMILY