

# Five Free Resources for Family Engagement: Supporting Student Learning at Home

Engaging families to support student learning is an important role for 21st Century Community Learning Centers (21st CCLC). These five free resources will provide educators a tool to use when engaging families and can be used to give families a way to support student learning and development at home.

1. **Boston Public Schools, Family Guides to Learning** are booklets designed to help parents understand what their children should know and be able to do at each grade level. They provide tips on talking about student learning with both the child and the child's teacher and offers specific activities for supporting learning at home. Teachers are encouraged to use the guides as a tool to build relationships with students' families, engaging in an ongoing conversation about student learning. Available in 7 languages, they can be downloaded in grades K1-8 and high school (9-12). <http://www.bpsfamilies.org/families/resources-for-families/family-learning-guides>
2. **Parent Toolkit, produced by NBC News Education Nation and sponsored by Pearson** is a website designed to help parents navigate their child's journey from pre-kindergarten through high school, tracking and supporting progress at every stage. Organized by grade level, it offers information on academics, health & wellness and social & emotional development. There are tips and guides with videos and links to a wide range of national organizations that support child development and success. <http://www.parenttoolkit.com/>
3. **Council of the Great City Schools' Parent Roadmaps to the Common Core Standards** are booklets available in English and Spanish for both English language arts/literacy and math for grades K-8 and high school (9-12). Each roadmap provides guidance to parents about what their children will be learning and how to support that learning at home. There are three-year snapshots showing how selected standards progress from year to year so that students will be college and career ready upon graduation. <http://www.cgcs.org/site/Default.aspx?PageID=328>
4. **ReadWriteThink, published by the International Literacy Association and National Council for English Teachers** is a website offering engaging ways to introduce children and teens to reading and writing with fun, educational, and easy to use materials. There are strategies on finding age-appropriate book suggestions or rainy day activities, a wide range of resources designed for afterschool programs and parents, as well as tips on how to help a child choose a book, a tool for building a resume and templates including word bingo and story maps/graphic organizers. <http://www.readwritethink.org/parent-afterschool-resources/>
5. **Khan Academy** is a web resource and personalize learning resource for all ages offering practice exercises, instructional videos, and a personalized learning dashboard that empower learners to study at their own pace in and outside of the classroom. Covering math, science, computer programming, history, art history, economics, and more. Our math missions guide learners from kindergarten to calculus using state-of-the-art, adaptive technology that identifies strengths and learning gaps. <https://www.khanacademy.org/>