

Using Technology to Serve Children and Families

School closings due to Covid-19 forced us all to learn and implement new strategies to connect with the people we serve. Technology is a wonderful way to create and maintain connections and provide remote learning to the children and families we serve. There are many platforms and applications available for free and most are easy to use.

Types of Technology:

- Face-to-face “live” meetings using platforms such as Zoom, WebEx, Google and FaceTime.
- Facebook Groups – Private groups can be created and videos (live and pre-recorded), images and dialogue can be shared on this platform.
- Back and forth video sharing using applications like Marco Polo, or videos recorded and sent via mobile phones.
- One way video communication using YouTube (sharing activity ideas, reaching books, singing songs, etc.) or sending videos directly to recipients.
- Phone calls, texts, voice messages

Quick Tips: Concise guidance for Early Childhood Educators

Quick Tips provide early childhood educators, at all levels of practice, concise guidance on specific and relevant topics. Each Quick Tip is intentionally designed to inspire growth and learning, elicit reflection, and support best practices for all children and their families. Quick Tip content embraces inclusiveness across all topics and embeds inclusive practice throughout.



Early Educator Support Office





NC Foundations for Early Learning and Development

Guiding Principles

- Each child is unique (GP #2)
- Young children’s learning is integrated across different areas of development (GP #4)
- Many factors influence a child’s development (GP #5)
- Nurturing and responsive relationships are essential for healthy growth and development (GP #7)

Reflective Questions

- What is the best type of technology to use with the children and families I serve?
- How can I support families as they learn to implement new technologies on behalf of their children?
- How can I support children’s learning using technology?
- Are the strategies I am implementing effective? If not, how can they be adjusted?



“The hallmark of successful people is that they are always stretching themselves to learn new things.”

–Carol S. Dweck

NC Professional Teaching Standards

- **Standard 1:** Teachers demonstrate leadership
- **Standard 2, Element E:** Teachers work collaboratively with families and significant adults in the lives of their young children
- **Standard 3, Element D:** Teacher makes instruction relevant to young children
- **Standard 4, Element D:** Teachers integrate and utilize technology in their instruction
- **Standard 5, Element C:** Teachers function effectively in a complex, dynamic environment

Resources:

Staying Connected Series:

<https://ceme.uncc.edu/early-educator-support-office-unc-charlotte/early-childhood-educators/staying-connected-series>