

Fostering Connections

Tips for Families

Relationships and connections help your child learn.

All children need someone who cares deeply about them. Relationships support your child's learning.

You and your child strengthen your relationship when you spend time together.

A close connection helps your child to:

- Manage emotions, solve problems, and develop social skills.
- Practice communication and expressions.
- Develop a strong sense of self and cultural identity.
- Recognize their unique strengths and interests.
- Focus on learning.

Tips

- Move to your child's level.
- Make eye contact, if culturally appropriate.
- Listen.
- Play together.
- Share activities.
- Show affection.
- Encourage effort.
- Laugh together.
- Empathize with their feelings.
- Acknowledge effort.
- Support your child's interests.
- Give warm greetings and goodbyes.



National Center on
Early Childhood Development, Teaching, and Learning



National Center on
Parent, Family, and Community Engagement

Summer 2023

The National Center on Quality Teaching and Learning, under Grant #90HC0002, and the National Center on Parent, Family and Community Engagement under Grant #90HC0003, created this document. The National Center on Early Childhood Development, Teaching, and Learning updated this document for the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) of the United States (U.S.) Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) as part of a financial assistance award, under Grant #90HC00002, totaling \$10,200,000 with 100% funded by ACF. The contents are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the official views of, nor an endorsement, by ACF/HHS, or the U.S. Government. This resource may be duplicated for noncommercial uses without permission.