Blog Posts

Bringing Joyful Learning to Early Childhood Classrooms

Encouraging singing, laughter, and play in early childhood classrooms is a key priority for the U.S. Virgin Islands. This blog explores the value of joyful learning, what playful classrooms look like, and strategies to help educators bring joy to the classroom so children can learn and thrive.

Learn More

Using Data to Go Beyond Feel-Good Conversations with Families in Puerto Rico

Puerto Rico schools are using student progress data to drive meaningful and focused conversations with families to promote family support for student learning. Read this blog and our new fact sheet below to learn about the Academic Parent-Teacher Team model they piloted.

Learn More
Fact Sheets

What Are Academic Parent-Teacher Teams?

The Academic Parent-Teacher Teams (APTT) model is grounded in the idea that students can thrive when families and teachers work together as partners. In this model, teachers meet with families to discuss grade-level learning priorities, progress data, tools, and strategies that families can apply at home to reinforce student learning.

Learn More

Supporting Your Student at Home: Tips for Families with Students in Elementary Grades

When parents or caregivers and educators work together to ensure students succeed and feel supported, students can do well academically, socially, and emotionally. This fact sheet provides tips for caregivers to help students feel prepared, confident, and ready to learn.

Learn More

Multi-Tiered Systems of Support and the Importance of Promoting Student Well-being

This fact sheet provides an overview of Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS)—a framework that can support schools in implementing cohesive evidence-based programs and practices that promote student well-being.

Learn More
Using Data to Inform MTSS Efforts to Promote Student Well-being

This fact sheet explores reasons for educators to collect social-emotional learning and mental health data, including which data are needed, where to find the data, and how these data can be used to help identify equity issues in a school or district.

Webinar Recording

Making Sense of Educational Assessment: Bridging Research and Practice

This webinar recording explores the different purposes, types, and uses of educational assessment, with a specific focus on considerations for assessing learning while implementing innovative educational approaches.

New from the Regional Educational Laboratories

Joyful Early Literacy: The Teaching and Learning Cycle

This REL West infographic discusses the Teaching and Learning Cycle (TLC) and its guiding principles to provide an instructional sequence that integrates evidence-based early language and literacy instruction with culturally and linguistically sustaining and inclusive practices.
Additional REL Resources:

- REL West Infographic: Empathic Instruction: A Powerful Tool for Addressing Inequitable Disciplinary Actions in Schools
- REL Mid-Atlantic Blog: Leveraging Virtual Tools to Support Continued Learning for Absent Students

New from the Institute of Education Sciences

**Family Engagement Learning Series**

These briefs share evidence-based family engagement strategies to support student engagement and wellbeing, kindergarten readiness, multilingual families, and college and career pathway success. The briefs summarize a six-part webinar series hosted by the U.S. Department of Education in partnership with Carnegie Corporation and Overdeck Family Foundation.

Additional IES Resources:

- NCES Interactive Results: School Pulse Panel: Responses to the pandemic and efforts toward recovery
- NCES Webinar Recording: Briefing on Principal and Teacher Attrition and Mobility

The REL Northeast & Islands newsletter features new resources designed to help educators and policymakers use data and research to improve student outcomes.