Family Engagement

The VLS Core Content was designed to align across tracks which means a significant portion of each track’s content is relevant for all direct care staff. This document identifies unique age-specific content, activities, and resources by lesson and can be used as a guide for review material if a staff member moves to care for a new age-group. For example, direct care staff who move from an infant and toddler to a preschool classroom should consult the Preschool track to be aware of age-specific material that resides in that track. Use this document as a guide and remember to work with your trainer to help identify content areas in the VLS where you may need extra review and support to be knowledgeable about best practices for all children in your care.

### LESSON 1

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Infants &amp; Toddlers</th>
<th>Preschool</th>
<th>School Age</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Families: An Introduction</td>
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<td>1. <strong>Video:</strong> Respecting and Understanding Children’s Families</td>
<td>1. <strong>Section:</strong> Honoring Diversity in Families</td>
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<td>2. <strong>Bulleted List:</strong> Family-Centered Practice Guidelines</td>
<td>2. <strong>Video:</strong> Family-Centered Practice: An Introduction</td>
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<td>3. <strong>Video:</strong> Family-Centered Practice</td>
<td>3. <strong>Video:</strong> Celebrating Culture: Unique School-Age Abilities</td>
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<td>4. <strong>Video:</strong> Reflecting On My Own Experiences</td>
<td>4. <strong>Bulleted List:</strong> Family-Centered Practice Guidelines</td>
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<td>5. <strong>Attachment:</strong> Things to Consider</td>
<td>5. <strong>Attachment:</strong> Reflecting on Families</td>
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# LESSON 2

## Infants & Toddlers
Promoting Family Engagement

1. **Section**: Importance of Family Engagement
2. **Section**: Relationships With Families
3. **Section**: Helping Families Feel Welcome
4. **Section**: Encouraging Families to Be Involved
5. **Video**: Promoting Family Engagement in Your Program
6. **Video**: Learning About Families
7. **Video**: Ways to Welcome and Involve Families
8. **Attachment**: Ways to Support Family Engagement
9. **Attachment**: Getting to Know and Building Relationships With Families

## Preschool
Promoting Family Engagement

1. **Section**: Importance of Family Engagement
2. **Section**: Including Families in Preschool
3. **Section**: Helping Families Feel Welcome: Entering Preschool
4. **Section**: Encouraging Families to Be Involved
5. **Video**: Encouraging Family Participation in your Classroom
6. **Video**: Welcoming Families in your Classroom and Program
7. **Attachment**: Strategies to Promote Family Involvement in your Classroom

## School Age
Promoting Family Engagement

1. **Section**: Importance of Family Engagement
2. **Section**: Helping Families Feel Welcome
3. **Section**: Encouraging Families to Be Involved
4. **Section**: Strategies to Promote Family Involvement
5. **Video**: The Importance of Family Partnerships
6. **Video**: Parent Advisory Boards
7. **Video**: Family Involvement
8. **Attachment**: Strategies to Promote Family Involvement in your Classroom
9. **Attachment**: Apply: Planning Activity
# LESSON 3

## Infants & Toddlers
Promoting Family Engagement: Communicating With Families

1. **Section:** Importance of Communicating with Families
2. **Section:** Ways of Communicating With Families
3. **Section:** Having Difficult Conversations with Families
4. **Section:** Benefits for Infants and Toddlers
5. **Video:** Having Difficult Conversations with Families
6. **Bulleted List:** Ways to communicate with families and share information
7. **Video:** Ways to Communicate with Families
8. **Attachment:** Family Conferences
9. **Attachment:** Things I Would Like to Know
10. **Attachment:** Conversation Starters

## Preschool
Promoting Family Engagement: Communicating With Families

1. **Section:** Importance of Communicating with Families
2. **Section:** Ways of Communicating With Families
3. **Section:** Having Difficult Conversations with Families
4. **Section:** Collecting Family and Child Information
5. **Section:** Sharing Information With Families
6. **Video:** Helping Families Understand their Child’s Development
7. **Bulleted List:** Ways to communicate with families and share information
8. **Attachment:** Thinking about Communication
9. **Video:** Family-Teacher Conferences
10. **Attachment:** Jargon Busting
11. **Attachment:** Effective Communication Resources

## School Age
Promoting Family Engagement: Communicating With Families

1. **Section:** Importance of Communicating with Families
2. **Section:** Ways of Communicating With Families
3. **Section:** Informal Communication Methods
4. **Section:** Formal Communication Methods
5. **Section:** Finding the “Right” Time to Communicate with Families
6. **Section:** Creative Communication Methods
7. **Video:** Sharing Program Information
8. **Video:** Communication of Care
9. **Video:** Creative Communication
10. **Bulleted List:** Ways to communicate with families and share information
11. **Attachment:** Explore: Communication Activity
12. **Attachment:** Creative Communication Methods: Brainstorming
### LESSON 4

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