

ENGAGING FAMILIES
THROUGH HOME VISITATION
BY SUPPORTING NATIVE
LANGUAGE & CULTURE

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Overview

▣ Tribal Home Visiting

- Focus on traditional family well-being
- Native Language
- Family Circles or group meetings recognize the importance of extended family
- Connections to Native Community Resources
- Culturally Adaptable Activities





- ❑ Logic model driven
- ❑ Four interrelated components
- ❑ Focus on Child Development
- ❑ Culturally competent trainings tailored to tribal communities
- ❑ Community and family needs and strengths focused
- ❑ Research-based
- ❑ Neuroscience foundation



FAMILY PERSONAL VISITS

- ❑ Parent-Child Activity
- ❑ Family Well Being
- ❑ Development Centered Parenting

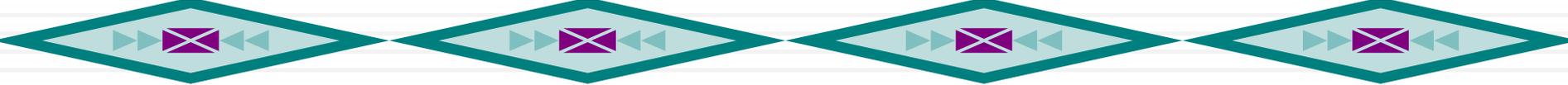


FAMILY PERSONAL VISITS

- ❑ Increase parent knowledge, improve parenting practices
- ❑ Provide early detection of delays
- ❑ Prevent child abuse and neglect
- ❑ Increase school readiness and school success



- Services delivered through
 - ▣ Weekly or bi-weekly personal visits
 - ▣ Monthly Group Connections or Family Circles
 - ▣ Periodic screening of overall health and development of child
 - ▣ Referrals to school and community services



SCREENINGS

- ❑ Developmental Screenings
 - ❑ Health, Hearing & Vision
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Measurable Outcomes

- ❑ Improved prenatal health and birth outcomes
- ❑ Improved child health and development
- ❑ Improved parent-infant attachment/relationship
- ❑ Fewer childhood injuries
- ❑ Reduced incidents of child maltreatment
- ❑ Improved parent involvement





Tribal Home Visiting

Why visit with families in the home—even before their children are born?



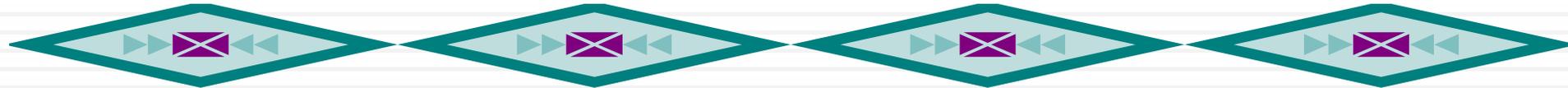


- Family strengths approach, with focus on the whole family
- Culturally relevant learning experiences engage parents, support child development, promote family welfare
- Home visitors are from the community
- Assist with transition to Head Start or Kindergarten



Cultural Enhancements

Why do we need to make Cultural Adaptations and Enhancements in our work?



Culture is a strength for AI/AN Families



Culturally based home visitation

Research has shown that culturally based education can have significant positive effects

- ❑ Improved retention rates
- ❑ Parents involved in their child's early learning experience are more likely to remain involved through their entire learning process
- ❑ Family strengths approach, with the focus on the whole family
- ❑ Culturally relevant learning experiences engage parents, support child development & promote family well-being



Adaptations to Evidenced-based models

- Meaningful adaptations using culture and language establish strong rapport with families
- Bilingual learning takes place recognizing the importance of language preservation
- Promotes self pride and identity
- Families are more likely to follow up with activities in daily life



Strengthening Family Involvement and Engagement

- Listening —meeting families where they are.
- Demonstrating respect and empathy for family members
- Developing an understanding of the family's past experiences, current situation, concerns, and strengths
- Responding to concrete needs
- Establishing involvement with the family—while dismissing our own biases and prejudices





NATIVE CURRICULA

- ❑ Positive Indian Parenting
 - ❑ Fatherhood is Sacred
 - ❑ Motherhood is Sacred
- 



PRENATAL

- ❑ Honoring the spirit in the womb ceremonies
- ❑ Honoring new life ceremonies
- ❑ Tribal welcoming to expectant & new parents



LANGUAGE



Language

- Native American Language Act (1990)



- Native American Language Preservation Act (2006)
 - ▣ Language Nests
 - ▣ Language Survival Schools
 - ▣ Language Restoration Schools



LANGUAGE

- ❑ Visits take place in Native language
- ❑ Oral history shared
- ❑ Recorded Traditional Stories
- ❑ Greetings in Native language
- ❑ Address children by their Indian name

Video and television programming

<http://www.lakotabears.com/episodes/episode-7b.html>



NATIVE ART



Painting

- Finger painting
 - ▣ Native berries

- Painting with brushes
 - ▣ Traditional Designs
 - Mountains
 - Stars



Beading

- ❑ Traditional patterns & designs
- ❑ Traditional colors
- ❑ Stringing beads



NATIVE BOOKS



Book Making

- Native language
 - Kinship
 - Colors
 - Numbers
 - Animals
 - Body Parts



Book sharing using Native books

- ❑ Children's Books written by Tribal members
- ❑ Culturally relevant representing Tribe



Adapting books into Native language

- Brown Bear Brown Bear
- Panda Bear Panda Bear
- Encourage older siblings to read books

What are some favorite books you might adapt?





□ https://youtu.be/lqPleJsy1_0



Pretend Play



Traditional Music

- ❑ Traditional Drum Groups
- ❑ Traditional Flute Music
- ❑ Traditional Dance Videos
- ❑ Exercise to traditional music
 - ▣ Men's Fancy Dance
 - ▣ Women's Fancy Shawl Dance



Traditional Dance

- ❑ Contest
- ❑ Traditional



Tribal core values passed on to our children





Cradleboards







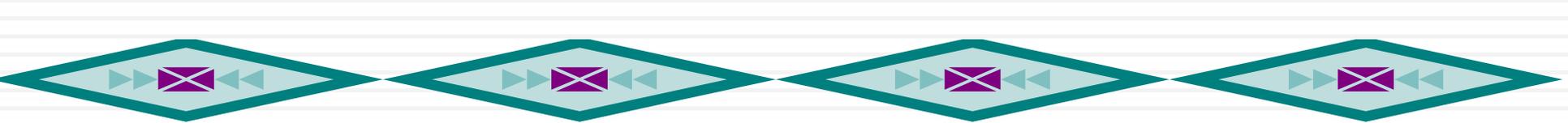
Opportunity to share with parents

- ❑ Four directions book--Medicine Wheel
- ❑ Lacing activity-How Weaving came to be
- ❑ Beading Designs-history of the design
- ❑ Drum Making-history of the drum

Community gatherings

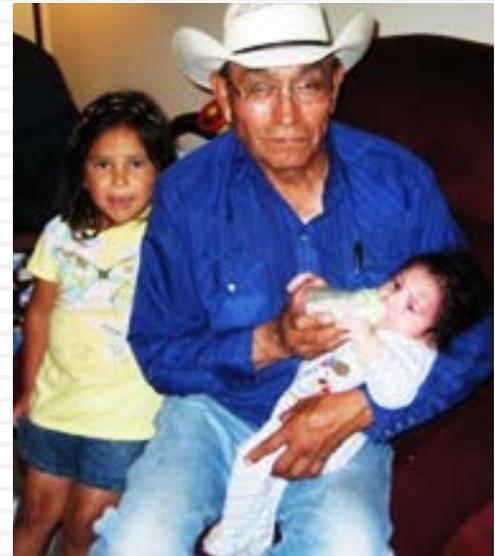
- ❑ Story Telling—Star Knowledge
- ❑ Traditional Foods
- ❑ Make & Take Projects & Art Projects
 - ▣ Musical Instruments
 - ▣ Traditional Clothing
 - ▣ Moccasins
 - ▣ Beadwork
 - ▣ Blankets & Quilts





Tribal Resource Fairs

- ❑ Early Intervention
- ❑ Indian Health Service
- ❑ Tribal Health Clinics
- ❑ Tribal Social Services





COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

- ❑ MONTHLY FAMILY GATHERINGS
- ❑ ELDER PARTICIPATION/FACILITATION
- ❑ TRADITIONAL ACTIVITIES
- ❑ NATIVE SPEAKERS SERIES

Cultural Enhancement Activity

Come up with an activity to share with families

- The possibilities for integrating cultural activities and knowledge are endless.
- Involves the connection of Home Visitor (cultural expert) and their knowledge.

Individualized Adaptation to an activity used in a home visit

Adaptable Activities

- Zip-Top Bag Book: Reading Together (Four directions book, North American Animals, Kinship)
- Body Parts
- Looking and Listening
- Parallel Talk and Self Talk: Listening and Learning New Words
- Poor Jacob: Imitating and Caring
- Beading: Using Finger Muscles and Making Patterns
- Counting: Learning Numbers and Understanding Small Quantities
- Matching Games: Noticing Patterns & Differences
- Pretend Play: Dressing Up and Acting Out Stories
- Word Book: Learning Language and Enjoying Reading Together



RESOURCES

Where can we find resources and support with incorporating culture and language?



RESOURCE NETWORKING

- ❑ Indian Health Service
- ❑ Tribal Early Intervention Programs
- ❑ Tribal Programs
- ❑ State Programs
- ❑ Federal Programs

Resources Available to Programs

- Native Book lists to share with families
 - <http://www.childrensliteraturenetwork.org/resource/readlist/favnatv.php>
 - www.oyate.org
- Elders
- Tribal Colleges
- Tribal Programs

Important conversations take place

- Lakota New Year:
Welcoming the
Thunder beings
- Quileute:
Welcoming the
Whales
- Water Walk
- Keystone XL
- Protection of
Sacred Sites
- Indian Mascots

Goal: Meaningful adaptations & enhancements will combat:

- Historical Trauma
 - ▣ Increased parenting practices
 - ▣ Enhances long term relationships
 - ▣ Shared Tribal customs
 - ▣ Knowledge of child development



Parent Involvement enhances long term relationships in the home, school, and community.



Video Presentation

<http://youtu.be/tns7z4OdXCc>

