

SUMMER RECHARGE

ELEVATING PARENT VOICE & PARTNERING WITH FAMILIES
IN SUPPORT OF STUDENT SUCCESS

Facilitator's Guide for NYC DOE Parent Coordinators

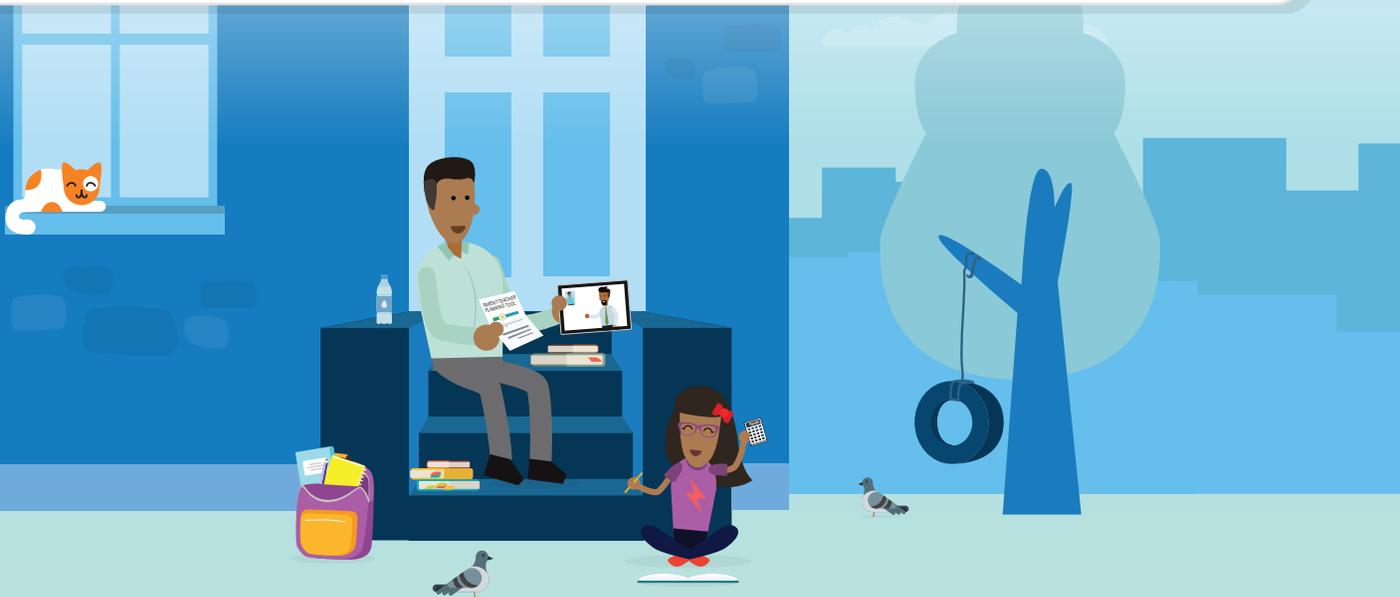


GOALS:

- 1 Elevate parent voice and equip families in support of accelerated and more equitable summer learning for all students.
- 2 Support schools by providing additional end of year/summer research-based resources to parents in multiple languages.
- 3 Ensure that NYC students have access to fun and engaging social/emotional and academic resources designed to set them up for success next school year.

TOOLKIT (ENGLISH/SPANISH) ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:

- Example parent letter (for summer outreach)
- Workshop in a Box: Facilitator's Guide for Parent Coordinators
- Workshop in a Box: Short Powerpoint
- Summer REcharge Family Flyer and Website with additional NYC resources including the Readiness Check and Summer Parent-Teacher Planning Tool



EXAMPLE PARENT LETTER (FOR SUMMER OUTREACH)

Dear Parents and Guardians,

My name is *(Insert Name)* and I am the parent coordinator at your child's school. As the school year comes to a close, we are reflecting on all that we've overcome and experienced together this year. I can't thank you enough for your resilience and commitment to your child's education. I wanted to let you know that our relationship is not ending. We value your partnership and look forward to a fun summer together! This summer, it's all about recharging and planning ahead for a successful 2021-2022 school year together.

Below are a few virtual meet-ups for us to stay connected.

Summer Recharge Watch Party: At this interactive meet up, we will share fun summer learning resources, videos and more.

An informational session on what to expect for September.

Join our Summer Recharge scavenger hunt. Take photos at a cultural museum, zoo, park, etc or take a picture of what your child is reading this summer. Post on social media using #NYCSummerRecharge.

Here's how you can reach me this summer:

1. You can email me at *(Insert Email)*
2. You can call or text me at *(Insert number)*

My office hours are: *(Insert hours)*

Thank you for your partnership!

(Insert Name)

WORKSHOP SUGGESTED TIME:

30 to 45 minutes (can be adapted depending on parent schedules)

Facilitator Note:

The following is meant to be a guide but can be adapted to best suit the parent audience.

INTRO AND WELCOME *(7-10 minutes)*

- Welcome families, thank them for making time to join and for all they have done this year to partner with schools and support their child's learning.
- Introduce yourself and then invite parents/caregivers to introduce themselves to build a sense of community. For example, you can say:

Please share your name; how many children you have (ages or grades); and 1) One thing you are looking forward to for your child/family this summer 2) One thing you need support with for summer learning.

- Thank families for sharing and let them know the goal is to address some of these topics and connect them with resources to use over the summer.

REVIEWING KEY SKILLS (10 minutes)

Share with families:

- After the past year, families deserve (and need) a recharge! The good news is that—from your child finally getting to see friends and loved ones to finding ways to refuel their passions...learning can be at the center.
- It's helpful for us to find out what's most important to focus on over the summer to keep our kids happy and learning. There are a couple ways you can do this:
 - » Before school is out, be proactive and ask the teacher which skills are most important for your child to work on over the summer. To help with this, we have a summer [parent-teacher planning tool](#) which prompts you with what kinds of questions to ask and provides an area for you to take notes.

Facilitator Note: Show tool as you're discussing.



Parent Reflection:

Ask parents to think about:

*What other questions do you have for your child's teacher about summer learning?
Please share in the chat box or raise your hand to share.*

Thank parents for sharing and encourage them to ask these questions.

- » In addition to connecting with the teacher, you can also use the [Readiness Check](#) to know how your child is doing with grade level math and reading skills and get connected to fun, easy-to-use summer learning resources to help your child practice these skills.
 - Your child answers 3-5 short questions and you get to see how they have learned key grade level skills that are important for their success next year.
 - At the end, you get connected to free videos and activities to support these skills over the summer.
- » Let's take a look at some NYC parents using the tool to see how it works.

Facilitator Note: Show [Parenting Minutes video](#) and [Summer Recharge](#) where they can find these resources.

- By knowing which skills to focus on you can make sure your child is having fun, taking a break but also still reviewing and practicing key skills during the summer.

RECONNECT WITH WHAT MATTERS MOST (10 minutes)

Share with families:

- Who is your child most excited to spend time with? What interests your child? What makes them light up with confidence? Find out and lean into it this summer. This will help keep your child motivated to learn. For example, to build communication skills, invite your child and their friends to do a “write and tell” to share what they missed most about each other.
- Let's talk about what else we want for our children this summer, especially after the past year. Many families nationally for example have struggled with keeping their kids motivated and excited about learning. If you have felt this, you are not alone.

- The good news is that kids thrive when they feel connected to who they are learning with and what they are learning. To help keep your child interested in learning over the summer you can:
 - » Help your child feel and see that they can be successful at what they are learning. Celebrate small milestones and accomplishments to help them see their progress.
 - » Help make learning meaningful by connecting it back to their interests. Let them lead summer learning by choosing topics or areas they want to learn more about. There are so many places in NY to explore and learn about different topics as well as experience our cultures and other cultures through fun activities and events.



Parent Reflection:

Ask parents to think about:

*What other life skills (social-emotional) do we want to support this summer?
Please share in the chat box or raise your hand to share.*

REFLECT ON PROGRESS (5 minutes)

Share with families:

- You are the expert on your child. Teachers and program leaders need your insights and questions in order to best connect with your child and partner with you.
- Share what you notice about your child’s progress, habits and interests with tutors, summer program leaders and new teachers in the fall. For example, “my 4th grader needs support with word problems that involve multiplication and division.”



Parent Reflection:

Ask parents to think about:

What are some of your child’s interests, strengths and areas for support that you’ll want to share with summer program leaders or new teachers in fall?

Facilitator Note: *Since this might be personal, parents can take a moment to think about it and share if they want to, if not they can keep note themselves.*

CLOSE AND THANKS (5 minutes)

- Share additional summer resources that can be found at: [Summer Recharge NYC](#). Provide any additional information about summer PC workshops

Share with families as a final close:

- Thank you for helping your child this year and partnering with our school and teachers. As we close today, we want to end with a reflection and celebrate you! This is the summer of Re-words! REcharge, Renew, Refuel, Revive and the list goes on after all we've been through.



Parent Reflection:

Ask parents:

Which RE-word captures how you are feeling about this summer?

Please share in the chat box or you can also share on [Facebook here](#).



Thank You!

*For more tips and resources, visit [BeALearningHero.org](#)
and Parent University at [parentu.schools.nyc](#)*

