Creating Fun and Engaging Workshops for Parents and Families

university of california

EARLY ACADEMIC OUTREACH PROGRAM

WHERE PREPARATION MEETS OPPORTUNITY.
Agenda

- Welcome
- Our Session today
- EAOP Background
- Essential Elements of a successful session
- Examples of engaging activities
- Raffle: Pass your tickets to the end of the role to be collected
Our Session Today

Today you will learn about the different strategies and activities used to create and facilitate fun, engaging and impactful workshops for parents/families.
EAOP Background

• Established in 1976 by UC in response to the State Legislature’s recommendation to expand post-secondary opportunities to all of California’s students.

• We work with students who are:
  – First-generation
  – Socioeconomically disadvantaged
  – English-language learners
More About EAOP

• Goal: To increase access to institutions of higher education for educationally disadvantaged youth

• Grounded in the philosophy that all students should have the opportunity to apply to college.
Essential Elements to Workshop Success

- Agreements
- Relationships
- Childcare
- Parent present attire
- Food (Food box)
- Location and setup
- Incentive items
- Strong recruiters for the event (incentives for the recruitment)
- Persuade to use online (bilingual) registration.
  - With option to call in.
Agreements

• What are agreements?
• Safety is key to learning.
• Confidentiality
• In vulnerability lies breakthrough!
• Let’s make some agreements.
• **Table Activity**: Make a list of 5 agreements.
• Share one of your 5.
• Initial the agreements
Relationships

A great Investment:

- It takes a great deal of time, but it pays off in the long run.
  - Ideal situation is if you have a dedicated person who works with parents.
Childcare

Focus:

• By providing childcare you allow the participants to focus on your session 100%.

• You need a room apart from where the session will take place.
Parent Present Attire

Dress to impress:

• Why dress up?

• What message do we send?
Food

It makes a difference:

• Provide good food.

• “Food box”:
  – Be ready with back up of everything.
Location

The Environment matters:

• Classroom
• Cafeteria
• Library
• Community college
Location setup

Comfort matters:

• In teams
• Comfortable chairs
• Materials boxes
• Stuffed animals
• Music
Location setup

As much open space as possible
(I understand the extra chairs and tables need to be placed along the wall)
Incentive items

Swag is important:
• It is cool to give
• People like to receive it.
Strong recruiters for the event

People give to people:

• You are asking for people’s time and they will give it to people they like/trust.

• Incentives for the recruitment.
  – Give a prize to the person who recruits the most participants.
Google Forms (bilingual)

Advance Registration helps:
• Provide the link over email.
• Post it on your webpage
• Make follow up phone calls.
• Allow registration over the phone as well.
Example time

How you deliver the content matters:

• Engagement is essential to your success.

• The following slides are activities we have delivered successfully in the past.
Numbers on card stocks

The more engaged the better:

• Engagement will drive learning.

• Even a group of 50 in lecture style can work.
Clock Appointments

Learning time:

• Invest the time to help your participants get to know each other.

• Faster paring time for later activities.

• Print on cardstock or create on paper plates.
Post It’s

Getting to know each other:

• Low cost activity which allows your participants to know each other.
Buzzers

Game on:

• A little competition or a lot, can be a good thing.

• Competition elevates the level of engagement.

• Ready?
White Boards

Showcase Your Knowledge:

• Allows everyone to show what they know

• Allows you to check for understanding.
Puzzle Activity

The pieces matter:

• Having Knowledge of all the pieces is important.

• Knowing how they fit together is essential for success.
Outburst

• Ready for the category?

• You have 30 seconds.
Early Academic Outreach Program

Snowball Challenge

• Write on the paper your favorite color.

• Make two teams: One on each side.

• Ready, Set, Go!
Octagon Hoops

• Each team or pair of teams will get a Hula Hoop. The fastest team gets the win.

• Each person must go through the hula hoop to win. You can not skip anyone.
Name Tag

- The person in the circle needs to tag the person making the circle who’s name is called before they can say the name of another person.

- Let’s model
Closing Activity and Reflection

• Share with your neighbor one thing you are taking with you from this session.
Raffle!!!
Questions

Have any questions or need assistance in developing a session similar to what you experienced today?

Contact Rogelio Villagrana at rvillagrana@ucdavis.edu or call 530-752-2527