



FAQ for First Steps 4K's Family Engagement Workshops

1. When did Family Engagement Workshops become a requirement?

Family engagement has been a crucial part of early childhood education for several years, particularly within First Steps 4K/CERDEP (Child Early Reading Development and Education Program). **All CERDEP-funded programs must ensure that family engagement is an ongoing, integral part of the educational experience for young children.**

2. What law states that Family Engagement Workshops are mandatory?

You can access the SC Code of Laws on the SC General Assembly website (South Carolina Code of Laws (scstatehouse.gov))

South Carolina Read to Succeed Act (R2S)(Chapter 155) Code of Laws - Title 59 - Chapter 155 - South Carolina Read To Succeed Act was enacted in 2014 to create a comprehensive statewide framework for literacy instruction and assessment for students through grade 12, with an emphasis on ensuring that all students are reading on grade level by the end of 3rd grade. It requires that schools keep parents informed about their children's progress as readers and create plans for how they will help parents support their student as a reader. The law also includes recommendations for how schools can engage families and communities in literacy development. For more information visit scstatehouse.gov.

3. What are my options for the two-Family Engagement Workshops?

Family engagement can take various forms, including but not limited to Orientation, Family Conferences, and Workshops. **For the two workshops, you will use the Words Matter presentation and Math Matters presentations** located in ReadyRosie.

4. When am I supposed to hold the event? During the day? At night?

You should schedule family engagement events at times that accommodate the schedules of your families. It's important to offer flexibility. **Offering workshops at different times increases the chances of greater participation.** Surveying families for the best time is also helpful.



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5. When do I need to have the two Family Engagement Workshops completed?

The “Words Matter” workshop is due anytime between November-January. The Math Matters workshop should be held in March or April. You will submit a [reflection log](#) upon completion. **Please email your 4K Coach after your event for the Reflection Log link.**

6. How long should the workshops last?

The ReadyRosie workshop is at least 1 hour long. Family engagement events should be long enough to facilitate meaningful interaction but not so long that it becomes overwhelming. **The typical duration for a family engagement event is 1 to 2 hours.** This allows time for activities, discussions, and any questions families may have while keeping it manageable.

7. What if only a few families come?

That's ok! It's common for attendance to vary. While you can't control who attends, you can take steps to increase participation. Offer different times, send reminders, provide refreshments, and follow up with families.

8. Do I need to come up with my own activities?

Activities are already in the ReadyRosie workshops. While you may need to bring supplies or modify activities, based upon your families and their needs, you do not need to come up with your own.

9. Where do I get the content?

All ReadyRosie workshops content is available on the Ready Rosie website. Select the Resource tab, then Family workshops. **It includes a PowerPoint, Facilitator's guide, flyers to advertise, and paper surveys.**



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10. Where do I get the pre and post surveys from?

The Pre and Post Survey QR codes are available on the First Steps 4K Resource page. Your 4K Coach can also send them to you. You can add a slide to the end of your PowerPoint presentation. The electronic survey results will come to First Steps 4K to help gather feedback to improve future family engagement activities.

11. How can I share the PowerPoint presentation if I don't have a smart board?

If you do not have a way to project the PowerPoint, there's also a facilitators guide. Be creative! You can get families engaged and share your expertise without the screen. You may also print the pre and post survey QR codes and have available for families to scan. Remember, paper surveys are available in ReadyRosie.
