

# Welcome

to the

## South Panola School District Virtual Parent Center Workshop



Workshops can be found on the South Panola School  
District website: [spsd.k12.ms.us](http://spsd.k12.ms.us)  
or for more information contact:

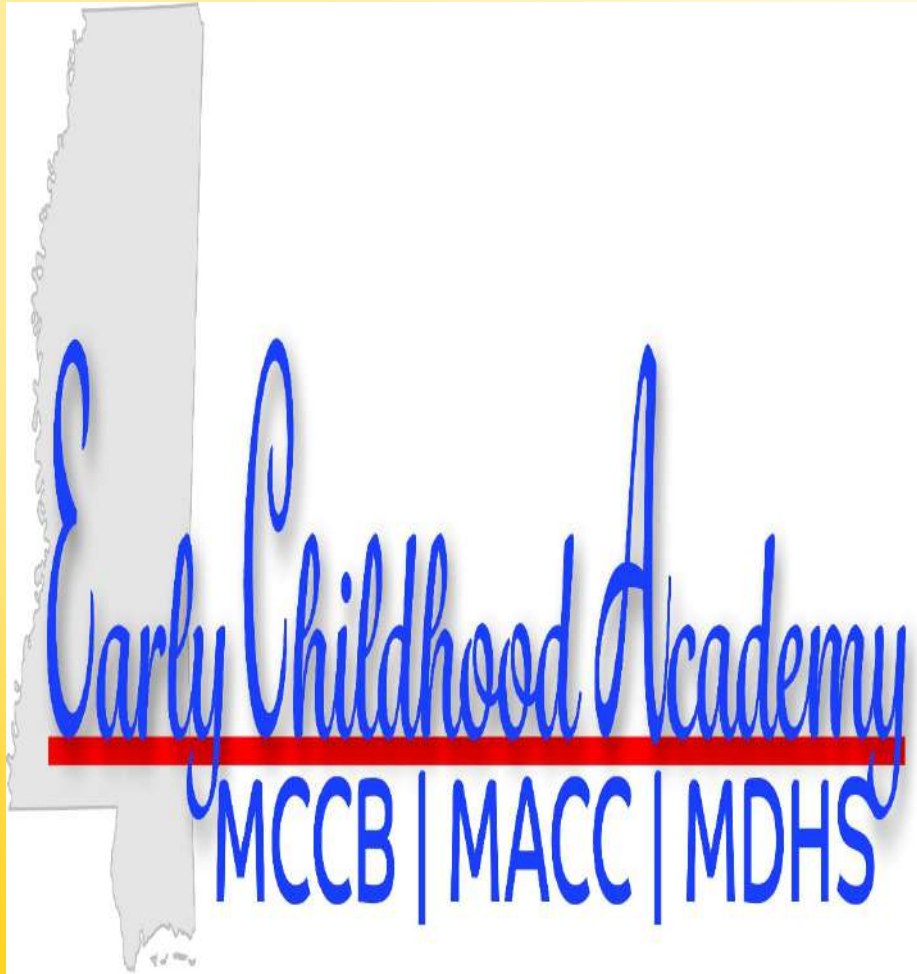
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The South Panola Parent Center  
Presents a Virtual Workshop  
On  
**Teaching Your Children  
at Home**



# Who Am I



# Presenter:

**Ms. Tunga Otis** Family Engagement Specialists with the Mississippi Community College Board (MCCB)/Early Childhood Academy

[totis@mccb.edu](mailto:totis@mccb.edu)





# **TOPIC:**

# **Teaching Your Children at Home**



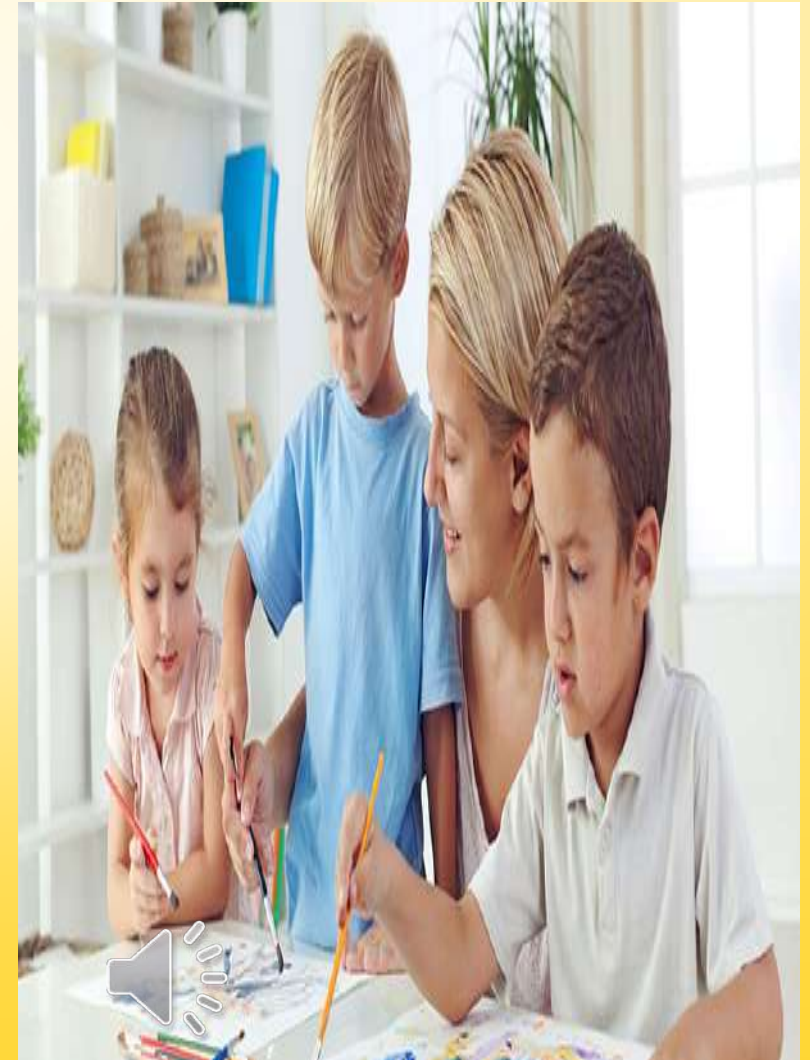
# Time for School at Home

- Getting your children ready for school at home starts by setting the same wake-up time, the same breakfast schedule and the usual bathroom routine (with extra attention on handwashing). Insist they get dressed at home as if they were going to school.



# Have a Morning Meeting

- Morning meeting is a great time to go over the schedule of the day, discuss the weather, talk about how the day before went, and remind kids of any behavior management plan you've created.





# Make a Schedule



- It doesn't matter if your child's schedule is all academics all the time or if they barely glances at a book. Kids benefit from knowing what to expect throughout the day.



# Set up a comfortable place

- A place for school work helps set the routine and expectation that there is learning to be done. A desk, chair and a lamp.



# Get plenty of materials



- Things to have on hand: marker pens, mini whiteboards, a calculator, notebooks, sticky notes, a packet of index cards (great for writing key words on), a timer, and counters. Keep all materials close at hand.





# Create a behavior management plan

- It can be logical consequences that enforce themselves, like positive praise, a points system, or really any system that allows kids to reflect on positive and negative behaviors.





# Be a Role Model



- Whether or not your kids are working on math or working on sharing the couch while watching a movie, show your kids what you expect from them. Show them how to play a board game without arguing. Parents are to set the example for their children.



# Ask your Teacher

- Teachers will provide lesson details and will be able to guide you in the approaches to take. Don't hesitate to ask for help.





# We're in this together.



- Involve your child in planning the day and allow them to decide the order of their lessons. Set a time for each activity.



# Learning Opportunities Abound

- Keep your focus on key concepts for each subject for the week. Everyone in the household can join in with focusing on these 'big ideas'. Some of these are likely to come up naturally throughout the day.





# A Whole Day?

- Your child does not need to spend the full day at the desk. The 'little bit, often' rule is helpful here. Long lessons are not as effective as short focused lessons with repetition.



# There's more to learning than the curriculum



- If possible, spend some time outside. Study plants close up: take photos of interesting ones, pull up weeds and study the roots. Look for insects or other animals. Listen to bird calls, and learn their names and the patterns of their feathers. Find places to climb, play hide and seek, or sing songs loudly for fun.





# Make it Fun

- Grocery shopping can be lessons on everything from colors, shapes and sizes for the young ones, to multiplication and percentages for your older ones. "Taking a long walk can be a lesson in botany or biology. There is fun all around us, so enjoy.



# Redefine Learning



- Ask your children what they would like to learn. This is a wonderful opportunity to not just do worksheets. Do real life. Make a meal, make a bed, fold laundry, serve meals, clean up, do repairs around the house. Learning is far more than books or assignments.





# Friends, Friends, Friends

- One of the best things about school is the time spent with friends. Maintaining relationships when we are all confined to home is hard. Some families use applications such as Skype or FaceTime to stay in touch with family members overseas. This might be a way to stay in touch with friends closer by.



# Keep Plenty of Snacks and Water

- Kids are infinitely better able to self regulate when their blood sugar is level and they are hydrated. Keep water within reach at all times and healthy snacks.



# Eat a healthy lunch together



- Make your lunchtime healthy and fun. Go outside and eat lunch. Listen to the birds sing or enjoy the sunshine if the weather permits. Let your surroundings be educational moments.



# Honor Children's Feelings



- Understand that your kids are going through a challenging time as well.





# Mental Health

- It is important to support children's emotional well-being. "There are resources for mindfulness that can be very useful. It's also important that everybody gets their priorities right regarding the academics of the child. The priority should be that everybody be OK... If you're dealing with these types of major mental health challenges, with kids with learning challenges or special needs, remember, kids are going to do things they love and are interested in. Gradually, as your child gets better, you add in other academics, as your child can handle it."



# Be Kind to Yourself



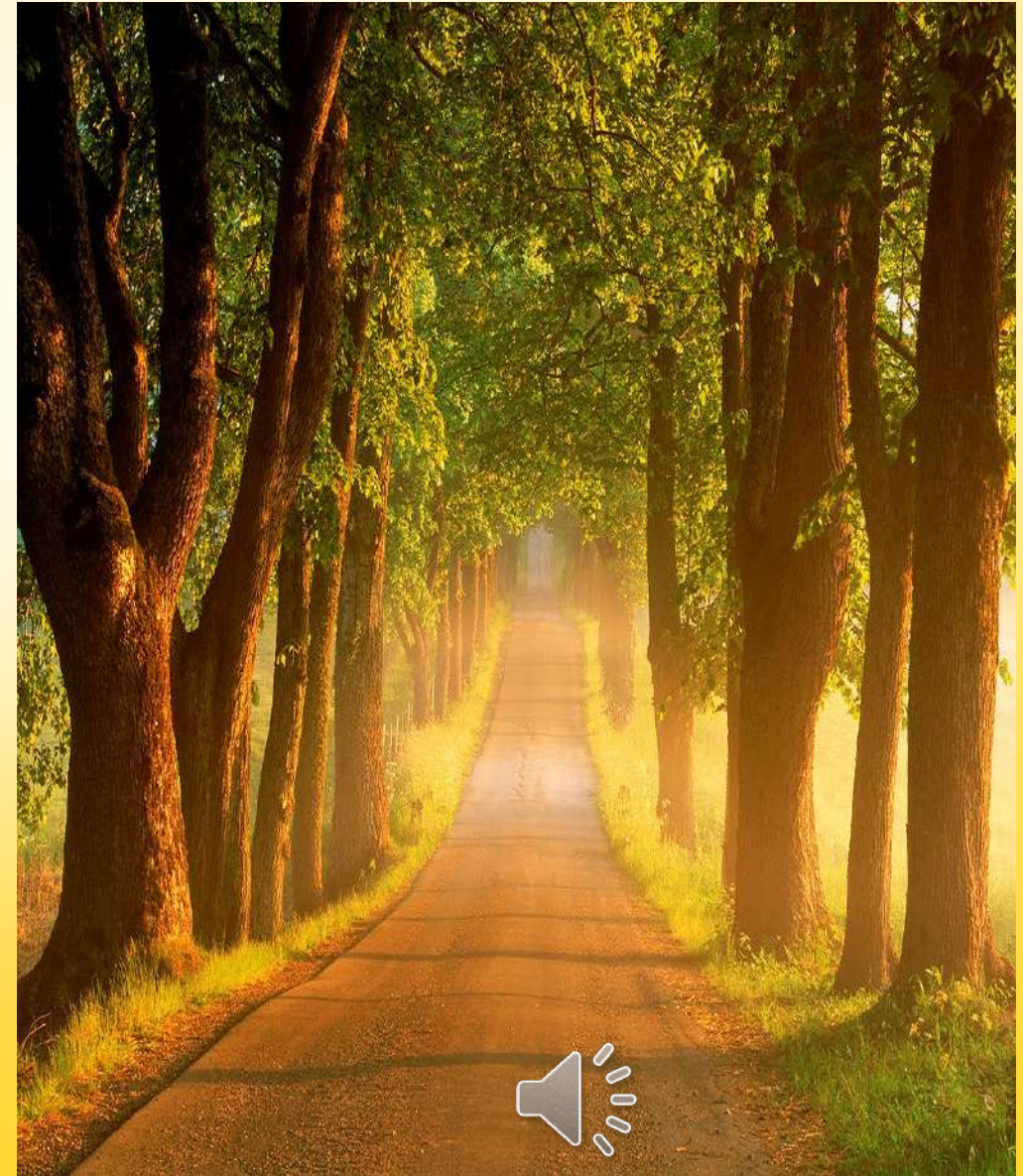
- Not everything will go smoothly, and that's okay. Take time to pamper yourself throughout the day. Take a coffee break, listen to a song or just meditate for a few minutes.





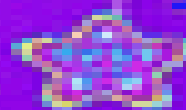
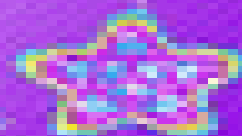
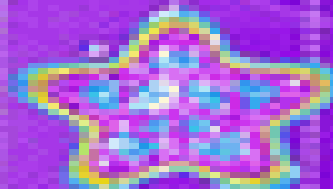
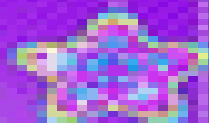
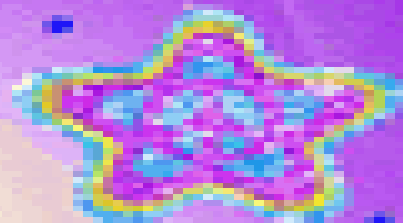
# Tomorrow's Another Day

- Not every day is going to be a great learning day. Sometimes little progress seems to have been made; sometimes our children seem to have forgotten everything they knew a day ago. Don't worry; learning is like that. Sometimes what has been learnt is not what we've noticed, and yet will emerge as time goes on. Learning is a lifelong process and our kids have years ahead of them.





Together



We Can Do This...



# Parents and Children Working Together



# Home, School, and Community Connected Together





**Thank you for your participation.**  
**If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me**

**Ms. Tunga Otis**  
**1-901-568-5608**

**And as always, call or visit**  
**Mrs. Dianne Wiley at your local Parent Center**  
**204 College Street**  
**Batesville, MS 38606**  
**662-563-6044**





Thank  
You



# References

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