![english for NEW BOSTONIANS logo]

ESOL for Parents and Caregivers Curriculum

TOPIC, UNIT AND ACTIVITY LIST

About English for New Bostonians
English for New Bostonians (ENB) invests in the future of our region by fostering a high-quality ESOL system that prepares immigrants to pursue their educational, economic and civic aspirations. Through grant making, training teachers, and building public awareness, ENB expands the number of English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) seats, improves program quality across agencies, customizes curricula to diverse subpopulations, and leverages private and public resources. Founded in 2001 by the Mayor's Office for Immigrant Advancement (MOIA), immigrant leaders, and local foundations, ENB now involves several city departments, approximately 20 public and private funders, and numerous community organizations.

About the ESOL for Parents and Caregivers Initiative
Through ESOL for Parents and Caregivers, ENB guides ESOL providers and immigrant-rich schools in building partnerships to facilitate parent engagement in schools, enabling parents/caregivers to improve their English and digital literacy skills, navigate school systems, and understand expectations and opportunities for school involvement and ways to optimize children's learning. At the same time, ESOL for Parents helps adults prepare to pursue their own educational and employment goals, *while* supporting children's learning – *aiming to eliminate multigenerational poverty*.

About Susan Klaw
Susan Klaw has directed, taught in, and developed original curriculum materials for Boston-based parent ESOL programs since 1991. She has delivered extensive training locally and nationally on various aspects of Family Literacy and been named a "Literacy Champion" by the Massachusetts Literacy Foundation, Parent Educator of the Year by the Children's Trust Fund, and Adult Educator of the Year by the Massachusetts Coalition for Adult Education.

About the ESOL for Parents and Caregivers Curriculum
The Curriculum (on ENB website and available free of charge) gives ESOL teachers background materials, lessons and activities designed to help immigrant parents learn English and become more effectively involved in their children's education. Selecting curriculum units and lessons relevant to their classes, ESOL teachers can orient immigrant parents to the U.S. school system and provide practical skills such as interpreting report cards, participating in teacher conferences, advocating for children, and supporting children's learning at home. While some information is Boston specific, much can be used in any locale. ENB can assist in adapting materials for school districts. Additionally, ENB offers a Companion Middle/High School Guide, as well as a Digital Learning Guide to support online instruction.

Using the ESOL for Parents and Caregivers Curriculum
All materials are intended to be downloaded and widely used. Please cite English for New Bostonians and credit English for New Bostonians on all reproductions. We welcome feedback and stories on how you and your students are using the ESOL for Parents and Caregivers Curriculum!

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Contact us at info@englishfornewbostonians.org
or visit us online at www.englishfornewbostonians.org

TOPIC 1: NAVIGATING BPS

Unit 1: Overview to Schools
Activity #1: Exploring the BPS Guide for Families and Students
Activity#2: Finding Your Way on the BPS Website
Activity #3: How Schools are Structured (b)[1]
Activity #4: Who Works in a School? (b)
Activity #5: How do Schools in Your Country Compare to School in the United States?
Activity #6: What do you Know About Boston Schools?
Activity #7: Using the BPS School Calendar: Overview (b)
Activity #8: Using the BPS School Calendar: Dates (b)
Activity #9: Using the BPS School Calendar: School Vacations (b)
Activity #10: Using the BPS School Calendar: Holidays

Unit 2: School Choice
Activity #1: How Do I Choose a Good School?
Activity #2: Registering for School (b)

Unit 3: Policies (Attendance, Homework, Promotion)
Activity #1: Attendance: from The Guide to the Boston Public Schools
Activity #1 Alternate: She's Always Absent (for lower level readers) (b)
Activity #2: How Do You Feel When You Miss Class? (b)
Activity #3: Writing School Notes (b)
Activity #4: What's the Homework Policy? How Much Homework Does my Child Actually Get? (b)
Activity #5: Understanding Basic Promotion Requirements

Unit 4: MCAS
Activity #1: An Overview
Activity #2: How Can Parents Help? (b)
Activity #3: What Kinds of Questions Do They Ask?
Activity #4: Doing Actual MCAS Problems

Unit 5: Looking Beyond to Other Choices: exam schools, pilot schools, charter schools, independent schools, advanced work classes
Activity #1: Learning the Facts Together
Activity #2: Comparing Alternatives
Activity #3: Reinforcing Content—Telephone and Paired Dictations
Activity #4: Pilot Schools
Activity #5: What is Advanced Work?

Unit 6: Getting Help
Activity #1: Where Do I Go For Help? (b)

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[1] (b) Denotes activity which can be used/adapted for use with beginning-level learners

TOPIC 2: SCHOOL INVOLVEMENT

Unit 1: Parent Involvement: Expectations and Opportunities
   Activity #1: Parent Engagement Checklist (b)
   Activity #2: What Did Your Parents Do at Your School?
   Activity #3: U.S. Schools Expect Parents to be Partners
   Activity #4: Using the Infinitive to Think About the Family/School Partnerships
   Activity #5: Talk to Your Children About School (b)
   Activity #6: Before Your Child Starts Kindergarten (b)
   Activity #7: Parent Leadership

Unit 2A: Parent-Teacher Conferences (version for in-person classes)
   Activity #1: Overview to Parent Teacher Conferences (power point)
   Activity #2: Welcome Parents: A We Speak NYC video (b)
   Activity #3. Learning the Vocabulary
   Activity #4: Watching Videos of Parent-Teacher Conferences (b)
   Activity #5: Preparing for <u>Your</u> Teacher Conference (b)

Unit 2B: Parent-Teacher Conferences (version for remote classes)
   Activity #1: Overview to Parent Teacher Conferences (power point)
   Activity #2: Welcome Parents: A We Speak NYC video (b)
   Activitiy #3. Learning the Vocabulary
   Activity #4: Watching Videos of Parent-Teacher Conferences (b)
   Activity #5: Preparing for <u>Your</u> Teacher Conference (b)

Unit 3: Report Cards
   Activity #1: Report Card Overview (b)
   Activity #2: Report Card Vocabulary
   Activity #3: The Effort Grades
   Activity #4: What Do the Core Academic Standard Grades Mean?
   Activity #5: Helping Your Child Meet Kindergarten Standards
   Activity #6: Problem Solving: A Home/School Story
   Activity #7: Homework: Reviewing Your Child's Report Card (b)

Unit 4: Advocacy and Special Education
   Activity #1: School Advocacy Related Vocabulary
   Activity #2: Advocacy Case Studies
   Activity #3: Calling to Set Up a School Meeting (b)
   Activity #4: Getting Special Education Services for Your Child
   Activity #5: A Special Education Telenovela: La Sopa de la Abuela (b)
   Activitiy #6: A Deep Dive inot Books about Children with Disabilities (b)
    6a: <u>Just Ask</u> by Sonia Sotomayor
    6b: <u>Thank You Mr. Falker,</u> by Patricia Polacco
    6c: <u>Wilma Unlimited,</u> by Kathleen Kroll

TOPIC 3: SUPPORTING CHILDREN'S LEARNING

Unit 1: You Are Your Child's First Teacher
Activity #1: Unit Introduction: You Are Your Child's First Teacher (b)
Activity #2: Talking with your Child (b)
Activity #3: Home as a Learning Place: Tool Kit for Learning at Home (b)
Activity #4: Home as a Learning Place: Daily Routines (b)
Activity #5: Family Activities: The Family Dinner (b)
Activity #6: More Family Activities (b)

Unit 2: Storytelling
Activity #1: Telling Stories to Your Children (b)
Activity #2: Encouraging Your Children to Tell Stories (b)

Unit 3: Reading with Children
Activity #1: Why is Reading Important? (b)
Activity #2: Reading Tips for Parents (b)
Activity #3: Watching Videos of Parents Reading to their Children (b)
Activity #4: Big Dreams—A Family Book About Reading (b)
Activity #5: Book Related Vocabulary (b)
Activity #6: Asking Open-Ended Questions When You Read (b)
Activity #7: Review—Writing Book Reports (b)
Activity #8: Using Children's Books As Classroom Texts (b)
Activity #9: Having a Family Reading Night

Unit 4: Using the Library
Activity #1: A Class Trip to the Library (b)
Activity #2: Parents Take Their Children to the Library (b)
Activity #3: How to Find Books You Want (b)

Unit 5: Homework
Activity #1: What's the Homework Policy? How Much Homework Does my Child Actually Get? (b)
Activity #2: Vocabulary: Homework Related Phrases (b)
Activity #3: Problem Solving: Homework Case Studies
Activity #4: Helping with Homework: Tips for Parents (b)

Unit 6: Using Screens Wisely
Activity #1: Name that Screen (b)
Activity #2: Talk to your Children about Screens (b)
Activity #3: Children and Screen Time: Pros and Cons (b)
Activity #4: Writing or Storytelling: Imagine a Night Without Screens (b)
Activity #5: Choosing Good Programs
Activity #6: Introducing PBS (b)
Activity #7: TV Extension Activities (b)
Activity #8: When Should a Child Get a Smart Phone?
Activity #9: Summary: Making a Media Plan (b)

Unit 7: Enrichment Programs

Activity #1: What are Enrichment Programs?
Activity #2: The Importance of Sports for Children (b)
Activity #3: The Importance of Enrichment Programs in the Summer
Activity #4: What is Camp?
Activity #5: Researching Enrichment Programs

Unit 8: Early Childhood Education

Activity #1: Why Preschool is Important (b)
Activity #2: Different Types of Early Childhood Education Programs
Activity #3: Learning Through Play (b)

Unit 9: Goal Setting

Activity #1: Goal Setting (b)
Activity #2: Developing Short Term Goals (b)
Activity #3: Reviewing Your Goals

Unit 10: Going to College

Activity #1: College 101: A Basic Overview (b)
Activity #2: Learning about Colleges (b)
Activity #3: It is Never Too Early To Talk To Your Kids About College (b)
Activity #4: How Can Parents Help? (b)