**UPDATE**

**THE LATEST ON THE CORONAVIRUS**

May 08, 2020

The Louisiana Department of Health has updated its website to reflect the latest number of COVID-19 positives and will continue to update its website at noon each day.

The Department reports 403 new cases, bringing the total of COVID-19 cases to 30,399. A total of 1,465 COVID-19 patients are currently hospitalized; of those, 187 patients require ventilation. The Department reports a total of 2,094 confirmed deaths.

In order to limit the spread of coronavirus, the CDC recommends that individuals wear cloth face coverings. Cloth face coverings should—

- fit snugly, but comfortably against the side of the face
- be secured with ties or ear loops
- include multiple layers of fabric
- allow for breathing without restriction
- be able to be laundered and machine dried without damage or change to shape.

The CDC recommends wearing cloth face coverings in public settings where other social distancing measures are difficult to maintain (e.g., grocery stores and pharmacies). Cloth face coverings should not be placed on young children under age 2, anyone who has trouble breathing, or is unconscious, incapacitated or otherwise unable to remove the mask without assistance.

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**PARENT'S CORNER**

**EHS - THE NEW NORMAL**

As the coronavirus continues to impact our state, UWA EHS remains committed to serving the needs of children and families in the communities we serve. We know that these have been challenging times, but we hope that they have also provided opportunities for teachers, children and parents to work together as partners in education and that many of our families have built memories that will last a lifetime.

We know that approximately 30,399 people in Louisiana have been infected and 2,094 individuals have died as a result of this virus. Therefore, it is important that we develop safe practices and new procedures to ensure that our children and staff are safe when we reopen our centers. Our new normal will require that we do a few things differently and we will need your cooperation moving forward.

We are working diligently to develop a well thought out plan and once all safety measures are in place, we look forward to welcoming our children back into the center. Our commitment is to follow the guidance provided by the Department of Public Health, Office of Head Start and CDC. Safety of our children and staff is our priority and we will notify you as soon as a reopening date has been confirmed.

**THANK YOU!**

**COX DONATION PROVIDES TOOLS FOR AT HOME LEARNING**

Cox Communications supplied a generous donation of crayons, activity books, rulers and more to our EHS program. These much needed supplies have provided additional resources to our children and families during this pandemic, allowing parents to complete fun, interactive projects at home with their children. Thanks to David Daquin and the Cox Communications team for their ongoing support!
FAMILY RESOURCES

FREE NOGGIN SUBSCRIPTION
To help families learn and stay healthy while they are spending more time at home, Noggin is offering free resources just for Head Start families. This includes:
Free Noggin Subscription: A three-month subscription to the mobile learning platform, Noggin. Noggin has hundreds of read-aloud e-books, developmentally appropriate games, songs, and other engaging content for preschoolers.
Off-Screen Play: A weekly series of off-screen play activities for young children and families to use to develop strong hearts, minds, and bodies.
Health and Wellness Materials: A series of special videos and materials that synthesize expert advice on handling the public health emergency. These will promote supportive family conversations, including suggestions on how to seek guidance on healthy child development.
Head Start families can access these resources for free by following these simple step-by-step instructions.

To start your 90 FREE subscription, follow these simple steps:
1. Enter this unique URL into your browser:
   https://www.noggin.com/noggin-cares-nhsa/
2. Follow the steps to create a FREE account.
3. Check your inbox for a verification email (and verify your account).
4. Download the Noggin app on your devices through the Apple App Store, Google Play Store, Amazon App Store and/or Roku
5. Open the Noggin app and tap Sign in.
6. Sign in using your Noggin account email and password.

THANK YOU!
Raising Cane’s has been a long standing partner of EHS and during these unprecedented times, they remain committed to the community and to feeding local residents. We would like to extend our appreciation to Store Manager, Galen Istré and the team at Raising Cane’s located at 100 E. Kalliste Saloon Road, Lafayette, LA for their donation of gift cards. They are open and ready to serve! Like many businesses across the country, restaurants have been devastated by the pandemic. Please support Galen and his team by visiting their restaurant!

Each EHS child will enjoy a FREE Kid’s Combo! Check your Grab and Go Bag for your coupon.

PARENT'S CORNER

USING TOOLS

WHY THIS IS IMPORTANT?
When you encourage your child to use objects to reach things, she learns that tools can help her complete tasks she could not otherwise do. When she uses a wooden spoon to move a block closer to her, she learns that an object such as a spoon can be used in more than one way. This understanding helps her think of new ways to solve problems.

WHAT CAN YOU DO?
Look for opportunities to offer your child a tool to use to get something that is out of reach.
• For example, when her ball rolls under a chair and out of her reach, use the opportunity to offer her a tool that can help her get the ball. Give her a ruler to reach with. Be sure to supervise her exploration and give her some help if needed.
• Place a few blocks out of her reach on a table. Place a long wooden spoon on the table and wait to see if she will use the spoon as a tool. Help her by asking, Can you use the spoon to reach the blocks?
• Show your child other tools to use such as a low, sturdy stool to help her reach high places. When using the stool, make sure you have removed dangerous items to another room or a very high shelf.
• A stool should be used only if you are able to watch and help as your child uses it.
• Step back and let her discover new uses for household objects. She may surprise you with her ideas.