

EARLY HEAD START



UPDATE

THE LATEST ON THE CORONAVIRUS

May 14, 2020

Louisiana will move to Phase One under the White House COVID-19 guidance this Friday, May 15, which removes the Stay at Home order for Louisianans and allows additional businesses to open under strict occupancy, protection and social distancing guidelines. Gov. John Bel Edwards announced Monday, High risk individuals should continue to stay at home, except for essential activities, like getting food or medical care.

Gov. Edwards outlined the first phase of the Roadmap to a Resilient Louisiana, which adopts every major recommendation of the White House plan in Phase One. The Governor also highlighted data that shows that the Stay at Home order improved Louisiana's overall situation in relation to new COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations.

Louisiana meets the statewide threshold criteria from the White House related to declining COVID-like symptoms, new cases and hospitalizations. In addition, testing and contact tracing are ramping up, which further supports the decision to go to Phase One.

To learn more about the latest, visit <https://gov.louisiana.gov/index.cfm/newsroom/detail/2488>

INNOVATION IN EDUCATION - LEARN UNITED!

TECHNOLOGY BENEFITS DURING COVID-19

With the pandemic disrupting classroom learning across the region and around the world, teachers are trying to keep instruction going and staying connected to their students during a time that currently has no end date.

Our doors may be closed by the coronavirus, but our team continues to work remotely, to meet and brainstorm new ideas and to chat with their students and parents online. Some have come up with unique distance learning techniques, from Facetime with their children, to videos with their parents to story time. Tools like Facetime have allowed teachers to maintain the strong relationships they have established with students and parents throughout the year.



K'Lani enjoys story time via Facetime with her teacher, Ms. Brittany



Lafayette Center staff shares a message with their children and families.



Abbeville Center meets weekly to stay connected, plan lessons and share ideas via Zoom.

United Way of Acadiana has launched a new initiative in partnership with AOC Community Media and sponsored by Cox Communications. Together, they are leading an effort to bring more educational opportunities into the homes of Acadiana's children.

The organizations have partnered to provide educational programming on AOC's channels and their digital platform. Learn United's daily programming on AOC will allow students to access and continue learning during the COVID-19 related school closures. Content will be provided for various grade levels and may include, traditional teaching segments, experiments, exercises and activities.

To learn more about Live United, visit <https://www.unitedwayofacadiana.org/learn-united>.

LEARN UNITED!

FAMILY RESOURCES

HELPLINE - CALL IN FOR HELP

During these challenging times, there may be an increase in behavioral health needs related to a variety of daily challenges for families, elders, caregivers, children, youth and several other special groups of people.

Here are a few national hotlines that are ready to assist you and your family.

Disaster Distress Helpline

The Disaster Distress Helpline is a 24/7 national hotline dedicated to providing free and confidential immediate crisis counseling and support for people experiencing emotional distress related to emergencies and disasters, including public health emergencies. Confidential counselors can help connect callers with local help as well.

National Helpline: 800-985-5990

Spanish Speakers: Call 800-985-5990 and press 2. Text: Text TALKWITHUS or HABLAMOS to 66746

<http://disasterdistress.samhsa.gov/>

Behavioral Health & Substance Abuse

A free, confidential, 24/7, 365-day-a-year treatment referral and information service (in English and Spanish) for individuals and families facing mental health and/or substance use disorders.

Telephone: 800-662-4357 TTY: 800-487-4889

<https://findtreatment.samhsa.gov/>

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline

The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline provides 24/7, free and confidential support for people in distress, prevention and crisis resources for you or your loved ones, and best practices for professionals. Telephone: 800-273-8255 En Español: 888-628-9454 Deaf and Hard of Hearing 800-799-4889 Veterans call 800-273-8255 and Press 1. Lifeline Chat is available 24/7 across the U.S.

<https://suicidepreventionlifeline.org/chat/>



FOOD SECURITY

LUNCH FOR TODAY, BREAKFAST FOR TOMORROW

United Way of Acadiana Early Head Start will continue to provide healthy meals to our children and families until we are able to safely reopen our centers. Food security is a priority and we are committed to helping our families meet their basic need for food.

FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

TOUCH YOUR TOES



WHY THIS IS IMPORTANT?

When your child learns the names of her body parts, she is getting to know herself better. By repeating the name several times, you encourage her to try to say the name. In naming and locating the various parts of her body, your child becomes more aware of herself as an individual.

WHAT YOU DO?

Touch your ears while saying: I'm touching my ears. Can you touch your ears? In the beginning, choose familiar parts such as ears, tummy, or toes.

Give her plenty of time to respond, and repeat the word if needed. She will follow your lead, but may be slower in touching the right spot because she has to see where it is first. If she needs help, gently guide her hands to the body part.

Invite her to lead the game as you name the parts after she points to them. This gives her a chance to hear the words for those parts she may not know the names of yet.

Encourage her to repeat the word as she points to that part of her body. Tummy. You are pointing to your tummy. Can you say tummy?