



Parent Project Recipe for Success

1. Have Parents invest in their learning. By having parents pay for their book, it will give them a sense of “buy-in” to the class and they will most likely attend the classes. “My parents do not have the money to pay” or “No parents will sign up if we charge”. Parents are willing to invest money in something they feel they need (i.e. cigarettes). Motivate them to invest in themselves today for the success of their children.
2. Recruit Parents from the neighborhood where the class will be offered at. Empower local shops, stores, and churches to distribute Parent Project flyers for your class.
3. Call parents the day before to remind them of the class (Some parents might need a reminder the day off the class). Make sure that you talk to the parents and not just leave messages on their answering machine. If parents miss class, make sure to call them the next day and tell them that they were missed and tell them that you’ll be willing to go over last weeks material with them.
4. Prepare for lesson (meet with other facilitators), prepare materials (make sure you have copies made, and videos work). Have extra resources that relate to the topics being covered for that unit.
5. Prepare yourself mentally (i.e. know that you’ll have some upset parent, resistance, etc). Know your audience.
6. Provide a meal for the first class and then set up pot lucks for the following classes. Parents love it, more “buy-in”, and saves you money. Have coffee and refreshments at every class.
7. Start on time. This respects the parent s time, especially those who showed up on time and sets standards for punctuality for the next classes, even if you start out with a video to wait for other parents.
8. Establish a purpose for the class. (i.e. “The purpose of this class is to providebecause you Love your children and want the BEST for them”).
9. Give Parents a break. Doesn’t have to be long, but it will prevent parents from going in and out of the class disrupting the rest of the class and also gives them something to look forward to.
10. Learn parent’s names by second week (have name tags).
11. Provide incentives (i.e. books, videos, gift cards) that relate or promote parent involvement for the parents who participate, read, and share stories/ homework. Make sure the groups are no bigger than 4 parents in order to maximize participations.
12. Make sure you read the evaluations after class and address them for your next class. Also randomly call parents to get their perspective of the class (make sure you call different parents every week).
13. Provide certificates of completion and perfect attendance.

Materials Needed:

LCD Projector (for Power Point) or Overhead Projector (for Transparencies)

Laptop

Computer Speakers

Screen

Power Point and videos

Timer

Role Cards

Sign in Sheet

Pot Luck Sheet

Pencils or pens (Provide every class)

Pad Chart w/ stand and markers