

FAMILY ENGAGEMENT LAB

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FASTalk Offers Summer Learning Tool to Extend Student Learning Time

Baton Rouge, La. -- Family Engagement Lab (FEL), a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization, is offering a new tool, [FASTalk Summer](#), to compensate for lost learning time associated with COVID-19 related school closures. FASTalk Summer is a simple, accessible, text message-based learning tool to support families with limited access to devices and the internet, as well as those facing language barriers.

Texting parents literacy activities during the summer months has been shown in academic research to [more than compensate](#) for lost learning typically experienced by students.

“Right now families are most concerned and eager for information that can help them keep their child on track in school,” said Dr. Elisabeth O’Byron, co-founder and Head of Research and Curriculum at Family Engagement Lab. In a recent survey conducted by FEL of 730 parents of Preschool–5th grade students, when asked what type of information would be most helpful to you right now, their top responses were “ways to support my child’s reading and writing skills” and “tips on how to check whether my child is at grade-level or slipping behind.” The full survey report will be available later this month.

School systems interested in helping families stay engaged in learning during summer are encouraged to learn how FASTalk Summer works, schedule a demo, preview FASTalk Summer messages, and speak with a FASTalk expert. Visit www.familyengagementlab.org or contact vidya@familyengagementlab.org to learn more.