

# INVOLVING FAMILIES

## Family Information Sessions

The curriculum contains a set of Family meeting Invitations and Agendas to use at the beginning and end of the school year. These meetings will inform families about the curriculum and serve as a means of gathering input regarding cultural stories and activities.

The first family invite should be sent out at the beginning of the year, a couple of weeks before the scheduled meeting. Meeting facilitators should prepare for the meeting by copying the curriculum and meeting agenda and gathering story and activity ideas. The agenda is simple and clear and should be followed in order to keep the meeting on track. It is important that families are given this opportunity to read through the curriculum so that they understand what will be taught and can provide supporting learning opportunities at home. In some cases, a follow up meeting may be required to collect stories or activities that families did not have with them.

The second invite should be sent to families at the end of the year. Facilitators need to prepare by copying the agenda, displaying the classroom mural project and any other projects children have completed throughout the course of the year, and copying the handouts regarding land tenure. The meeting should begin by allowing families to view the children's completed projects with a discussion following. Teachers and supporting staff can speak about what the children have learned and share any observations they have made over the year. The facilitator should then move the discussion into land tenure issues and provide the handouts to those present. The closing discussion can be used to offer families recommendations on how they can build upon this early learning foundation and continue to enhance their child's learning at home.

***Note: Family Information Session Invitations, Agendas, Handouts, and the Eight Curriculum Objectives are included in the Appendix for copying.***

