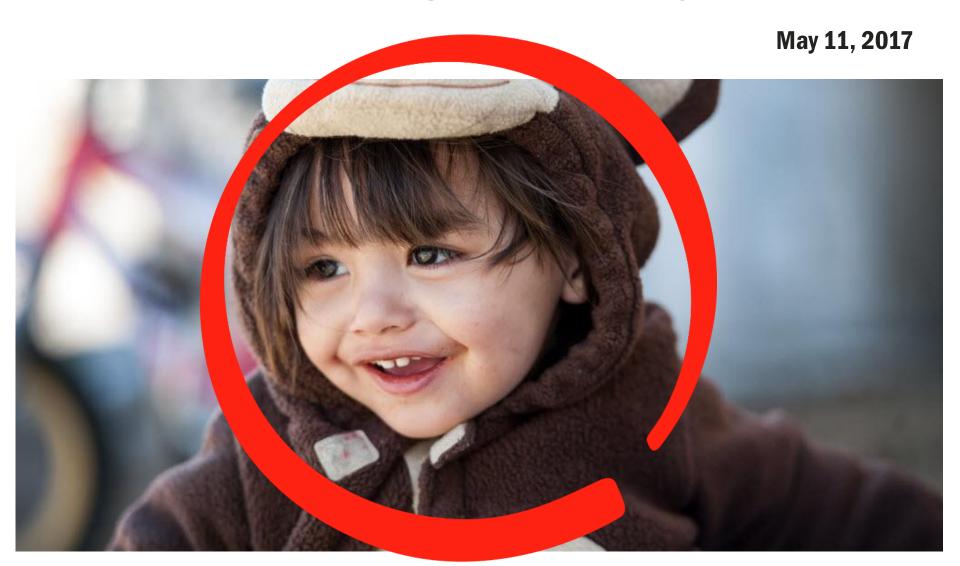


FACE-TA Learning Community





WELCOME and INTRODUCTIONS

Learning Community Purpose and Goals

Purpose

 To provide short-term coaching and opportunities for peer-to-peer support

Goals

- To wrestle with FACE challenges and consider new approaches to try within your EHS/CCP effort
- To engage families and communities in the identification of challenges, brainstorming and implementation of solutions, and evaluation of



Parent Engagement and EHS-CCP:

A framework that broadens views on human behavior and offers new tools to support parents

Today's Presenters:

Helena Duch, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor of Population and Family Health
Mailman School of Public Health
Columbia University

Lisa Gennetian, Ph.D.

Research Professor

Institute for Human Development and Social

Change

New York University



Parent engagement: Barriers and facilitators

Barriers

- Cost and location
- Competing demands for time and resources
- Stigma participation signals deficiency
- Gender predominantly female spaces
- Fear of attending/sharing in groups
- Ethnic, language, and literacy barriers

Facilitators

- Eagerness to learn new skills
- Desire to do what is best for children
- Trusted program deliverer
- Positive group experience (trust, support)
- Accessibility of program
- Incentives for participating

Road map for today's webinar

- Human behavior and the science of decision making:
 Behavioral Economics 101
- The Getting Ready for School (GRS) Intervention
- Science to practice: Applications of BE to GRS
- Science to practice: 4 BE tools to know about
- Discussion: Views and applications from the EHS field



Science of decision making: Conventional economics

- Theory of utility maximization
- Compare costs with benefits
- Preferences are:
 - Stable (and, static)
 - Well-informed
 - Self-interested
- Levers: Prices, costs, total economic resources, and transaction costs (search/info, bargaining, enforcement)

Science of decision making: Social psychology

- Malleable preferences
- Myopic
- Impulsive
- Social
- The easy and short way out-wins the rational way
- Levers: Context matters (defaults, framing, anchors)

Applying the interdisciplinary framework of behavioral economics to parent engagement

Theory of human decision-making integrates concepts from cognitive decision-making in (social) psychology with economic theory

Conventional (rational) Economic Theory

- Stable, well-informed preferences
- Self interested
- Compare costs with benefits
- Levers: prices, budgets, transaction costs

(social) Psychology

- Attention and self-control
- Intention vs. action (procrastination, temptation)
- Social influences (identity, social norms)
- Levers: Context matters (defaults, cues, anchors)

BE

Behavioral economic expanded view of the science of decision making

Behavioral economics:

- Bounded rationality (Simon,1957)
- Cognitive resources as muscles, not just inherited (limitless) capacity

Integrating psychological concepts into economic decision making

- Attention and self-control
- Intention versus action (procrastination, temptation)
- Social influences (identity, social norms)

Econ vs. Human: Parents do not always behave as "calculating" economic agents





The context of poverty

Economic resources are constrained.

Time is constrained.

Mental bandwidth is constrained.

- Is (poor) decision making the cause of poverty?
- Or, does the experience of poverty influence decision making?

How the scarcity mindset can make problems worse

http://www.npr.org/2017/03/23/521195903/how-the-scarcity-mindset-

can-make-problems-worse



Poverty's influences on the decision making of caregivers (active agents for children)



Making ends meet:

- Unpredictable work hours
- Limited family support
- Hardly any savings
- Patchwork child care
- Without a stable partner

One slip and... missed appointments, high cost loans, distracted parenting, spiral into poverty

Framework: "mental bandwidth" challenges of parent engagement, heightened if income poor









Take-up is low

Show-up is low, and erratic

Failure to focus/be receptive

Failure to follow-through

Broadened framework on parents and parent engagement

Money, time, and mental bandwidth as resources.

> E.g., attention and self control

Behavior and decisions respond to the environment.

- > Identity creation and social influences
- Poverty comes with circumstances that can strain mental bandwidth.
- Recast parenting and parent engagement as a series of small (default or deliberate) decisions.

BE framework



Economic theory...plus psychology

Limited attention

Self control

Identity

Social influences

BE framework



BE Tools

Economic theory...plus psychology

Limited attention

Self control

Identity

Social influences

Economic plus BE tools

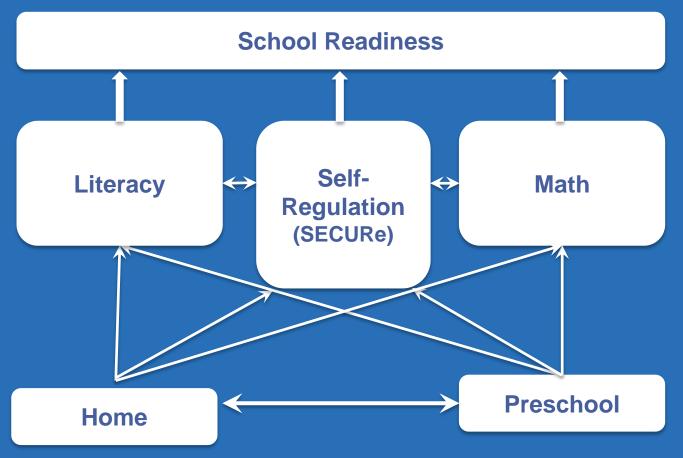
Reminders

Commitment device

Positive affirmation

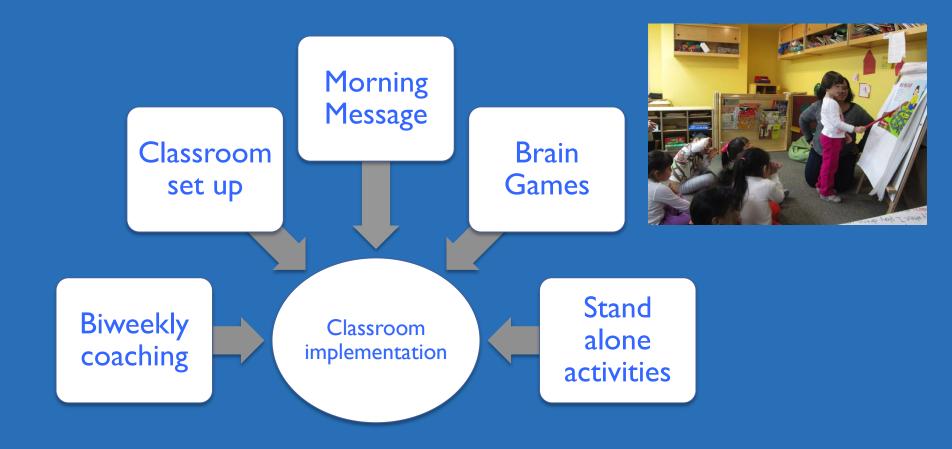
Social norm

Getting Ready for School

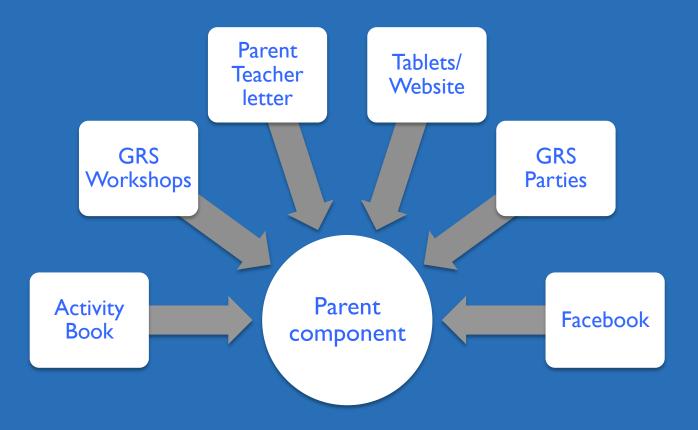




Classroom Implementation



Parent Component



Completed

NUMBERS ALL AROUND



YOUR CHILD WILL LEARN MORE ABOUT THE NUMBERS 1 THROUGH 5 BY PLAYING A MATCHING GAME.

GO ON A "NUMBER HUNT!"

- Ask your child to look for something with the number 1 at home or in the neighborhood.
- When he finds it, clap and jump up and down 1 time to celebrate.
- Try looking for 2's, 3's, 4's and 5's. Celebrate each time by jumping and clapping out that number.



MAKING THIS WORK FOR YOUR CHILD

- If your child is just learning to recognize numbers, write a number on a card. He can match what he sees on the card with the numbers he sees around him.
- If your child recognizes numbers easily, have him count a group of objects in the house. (For example forks at the table, chairs).
 Ask him to write the number.



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Workshops

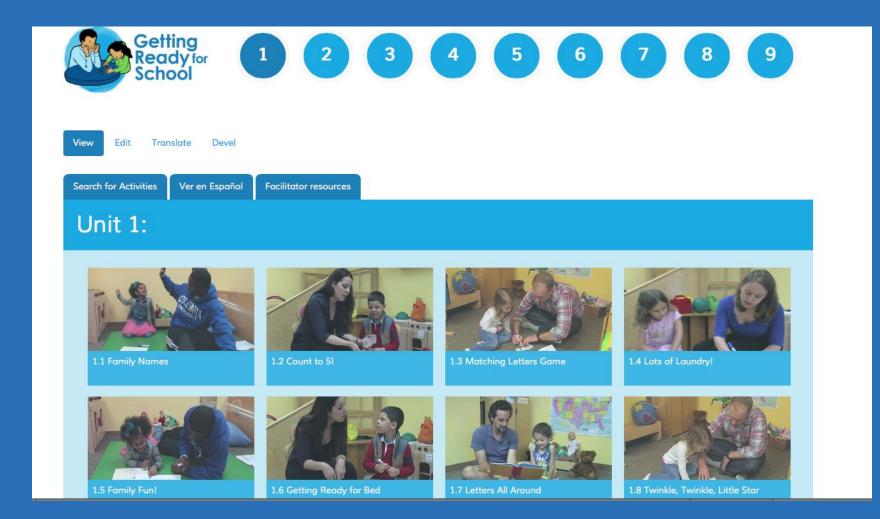


Parties

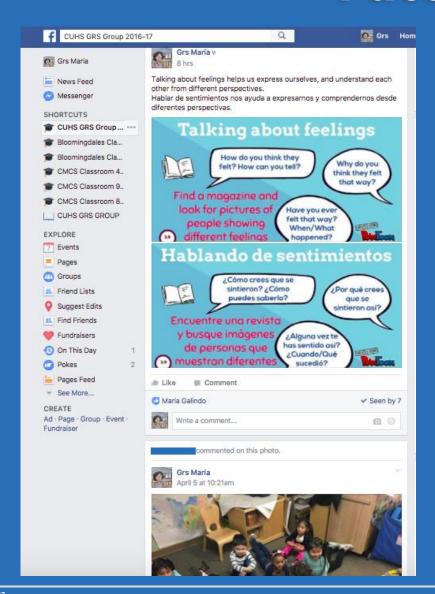


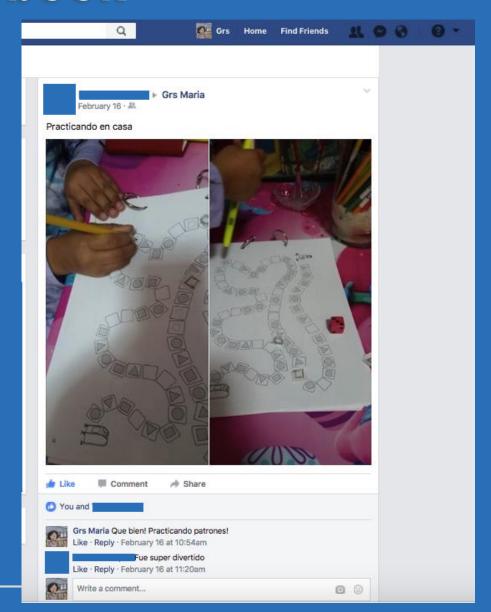


Website/Tablets



Facebook





beELL-GRS Research Questions

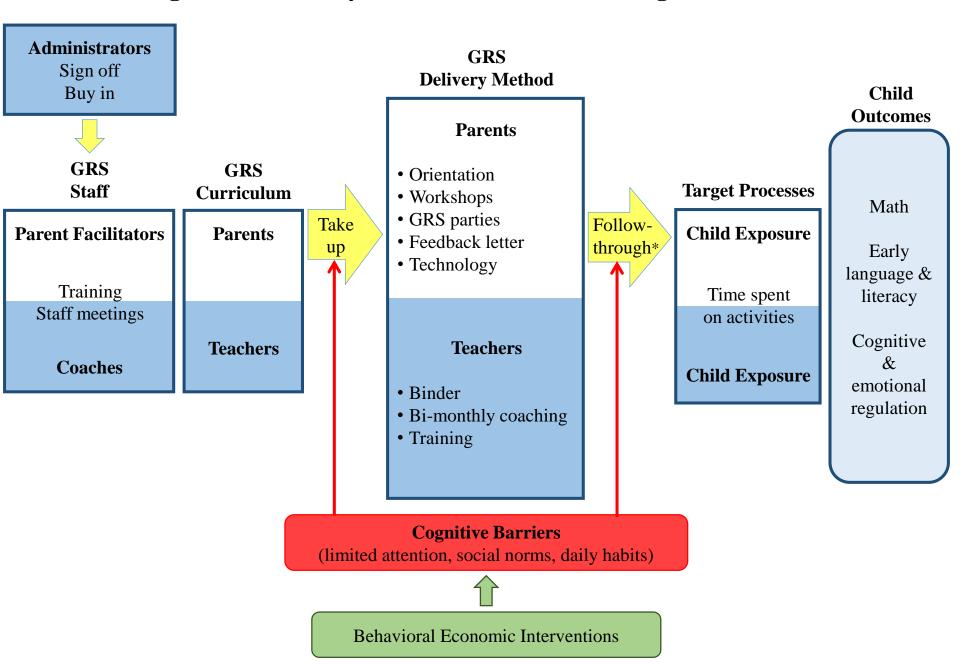
- 1. How do parents engage in the play-based early childhood curriculum, Getting Ready for School (GRS)?
- 2. How can insights from behavioral economics inform design of the GRS program experience in ways that improve parent engagement?
 - What impact can the application of (low-cost) tools from behavioral economics have on parent attendance at GRS events?
 - What impact can BE interventions have on time spent by parents on GRS activities outside of the classroom?

Research Process

- 1. Understand the logic model underlying GRS
- 2. Map the GRS experience in practice
- 3. Collect data on parent engagement, perceptions, and interactions
- 4. Identify problems that are amenable to BE interventions and solutions
- 5. Create and experimentally test BE intervention(s)
- 6. Evaluate outcomes
- 7. Re-test intervention(s)



The GRS Logic Model & Key Points of Decision-Making

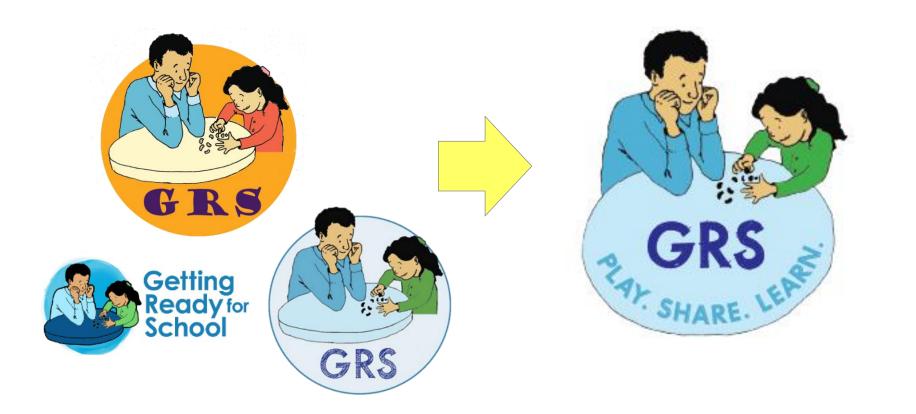


BE Insights into GRS Parents' Decision-making Barriers

Cognitive **BE** Intervention **Existing Problem BE** Insight **Barrier Send strategic** reminders at the Limited Text at strategic times time of decisionregarding GRS activities attention Low completion making of GRS activities at home **Present parents** Specify 3-4 activities to do Choice with fewer at home on the parentoverload options/decisions teacher letter Low attendance Weak **Prime** Text strategic reminders "Intention \rightarrow implementation about their commitment to at the kick-off Behavior" link intentions the event event Lack of Activity charts with goals; persistence in "One and **Avoid habituation** change checkmark items to doing home-based done" attitude "how many hours..?" activities

Slogan: BE-Infused GRS Branding

• A new action-oriented tagline PLAY. SHARE. LEARN was introduced with all parents to facilitate consistent branding of GRS with the adapted logo



BE-Infused Invitations to GRS Kickoffs



BE-Infused Invitations

Intervention

Reference to teacher and other parents highlights social norm for attendance

Priming parent identity as a teacher



You are Invited!

Join your **TEACHER** and other families in your child's class. Receive a **GRS GIFT BAG**.

Hear more about fun activities to support your child's learning.

Classroom: Parent room

Date: Oct 15th

Time: 8:30-10:00AM



GETTING READY FOR SCHOOL

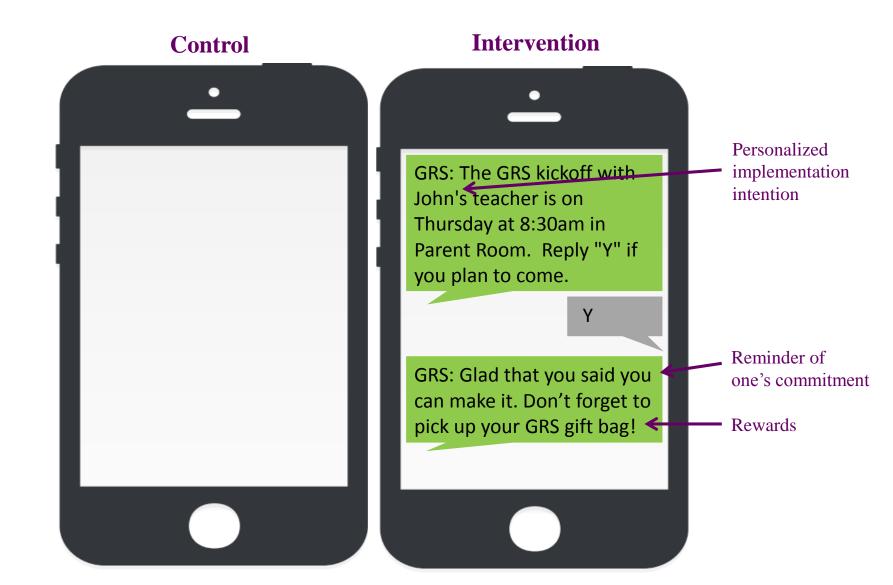


Envelope: Increases sense of importance

Reframed as an invitation, not a flyer

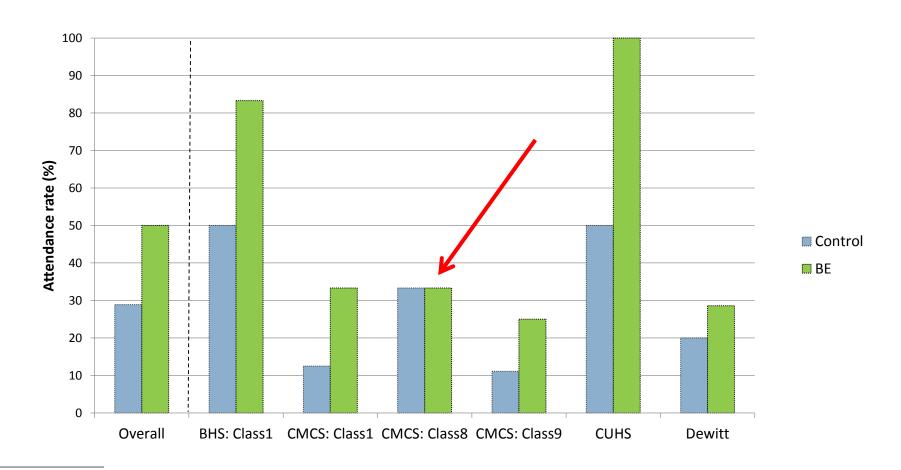
Personalized hand-written information, focuses attention

BE-Infused Text Reminders



BE Intervention Impacted Kickoff Attendance

For all but one classroom, the BE intervention increased GRS kick-off attendance

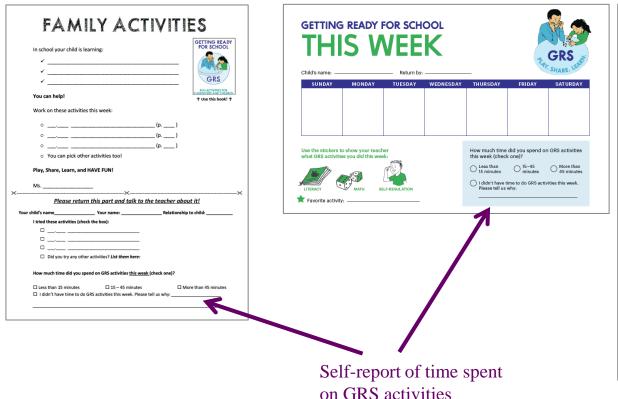


¹Data from two classrooms were removed from analysis due to intervention contamination (the teacher personally accompanied all caregivers who were present to the kick-off meeting)

BE-Infused Weekly activity Charts

• Weekly assignments from teacher to families

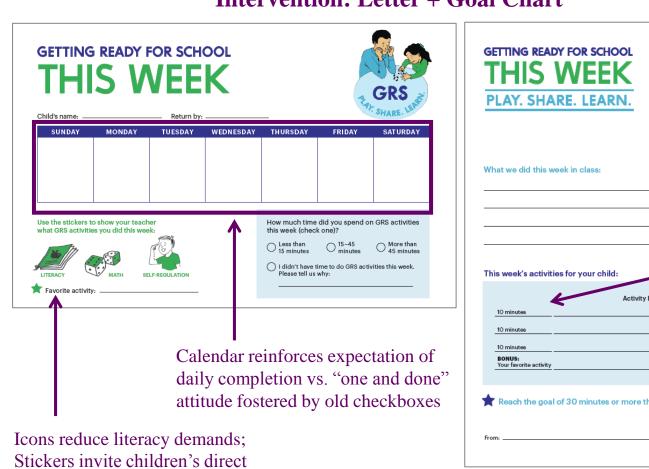
Control: Letter + Goal Chart



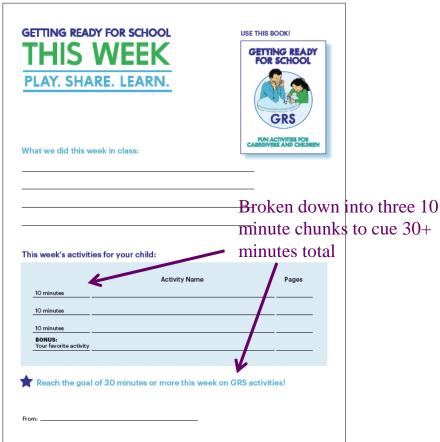
THIS W		GRS
hat we did this week i	n class:	PUN ACTIVITIES POR CAREGIVERS AND CHILDREN
nis week's activities fo	r your child:	
	r your child: Activity Name	Pages
10 minutes		Pages
10 minutes		Pages
10 minutes 10 minutes 10 minutes BONUS:		Pages
10 minutes 10 minutes		Pages

BE-Infused activity Charts

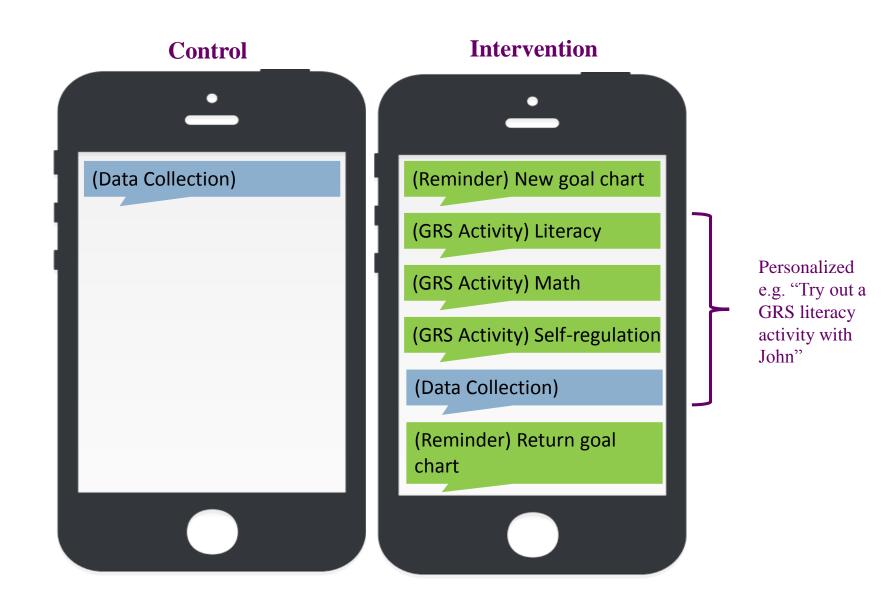
Intervention: Letter + Goal Chart



participation



BE-Infused Texts Reinforce Behavior



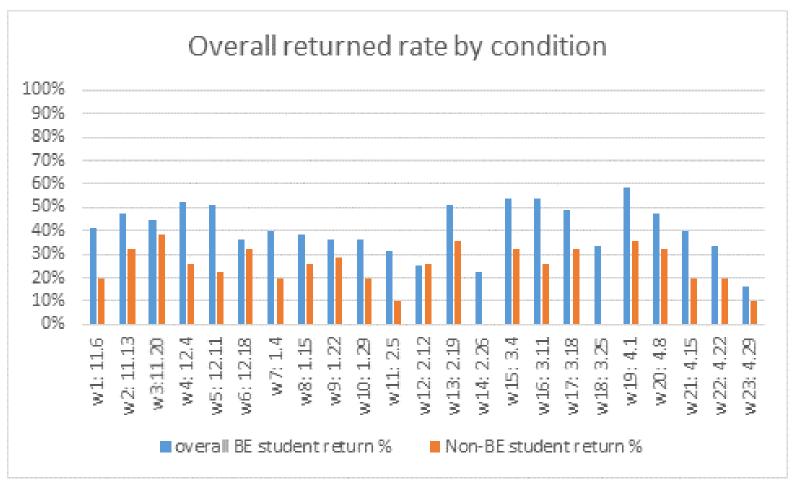
Calendar of BE-Infused Texts

Intervention group only

FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THUSDAY
Week 1 5PM GRS: Goal charts were sent home today! Have your child use a sticker every time you do a GRS activity together.		1PM GRS: GRS fun begins today! Try out a GRS literacy activity with John.		7:30PM GRS: What John is learning now really matters. GRS is a great way for kids to learn math	7:30PM GRS: Sometimes it's hard to focus. GRS can help your child learn how to pay attention - that's called self- regulation.	7:30PM GRS: Goal charts are due tomorrow! Don't forget to have John give it to Ms. Lisa.
Week 2 5PM GRS: Goal charts were sent home today! See the new activities assigned for this week!		1PM GRS: GRS activities can be done with John anytime, anywhere, with anyone!		7:30PM GRS: Early reading gives John a head start in life. Children who read for 10 minutes every day are 22% more likely to finish high school.	7:30PM GRS: Ask John to show you a favorite GRS activity.	7:30PM GRS: Goal charts are due tomorrow! Don't forget to have John give it to Ms. Lisa.

BE Intervention Improved Return Rate

The BE intervention <u>almost doubled</u> the return rate of weekly parentteacher feedback (over 6 months) from 24% to 41%; Maintained level in year 2



Example of BE feedback form

GRS Activities at Home November



Thank you for returning your GRS activity charts in November. GRS activities can be done with your child anytime and anywhere. Have your child use a sticker every time you do a GRS activity together. Don't forget to return your activity charts next time as well!

The chart below shows you the number of stickers you put on your GRS activity chart each week. We also show you the average number of stickers for the month.

Here's how much time you spent with Luis on GRS activities last month:



Personalized feedback – based on parents' report

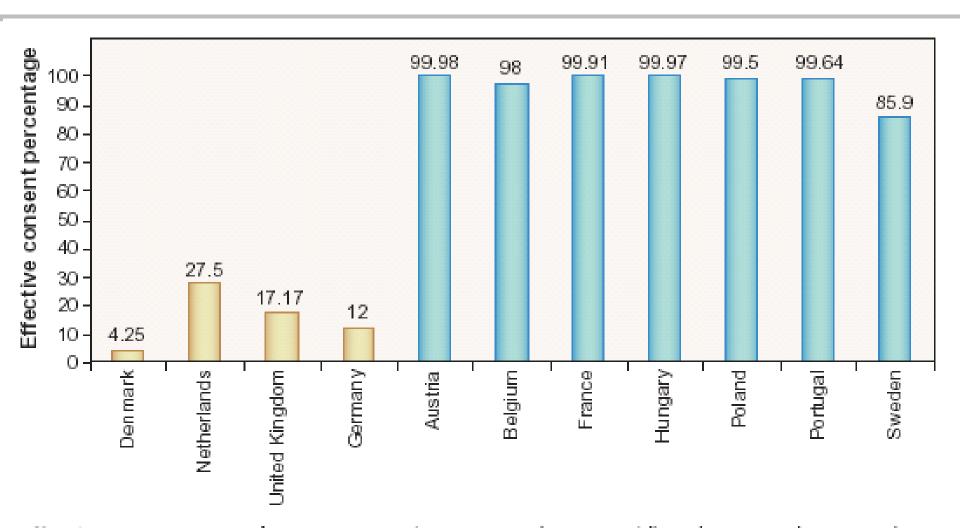
Science to Practice: 4 other examples of BE tools

- Defaults
- Identity and affirmation
- Small incentives; quantifying future benefits
- Social cues and influences

Defaults:

Pre-set courses of action that take effect if nothing is specified by the decision maker

Defaults



Effective consent rates, by country. Explicit consent (opt-in, gold) and presumed consent (opt-out, blue).

Identity and affirmation

Identity

Testing identity salience in the context of welfare benefits programs

When exiting a soup kitchen, randomly exposed to:

	Neutral condition	Positive affirmation condition
Stopped to consider (%)	44	58
Of those, took information (%)	36	79**
Total take up (%)	16	46

Source: Hall, Zhao & Shafir, 2014

Small incentives; quantifying future benefits

Small incentives

beELL-NYC Gift package

- birthday card
- Prepopulated library card
- Library gift packet

beELL-GRS
Gift bag at kick off meeting

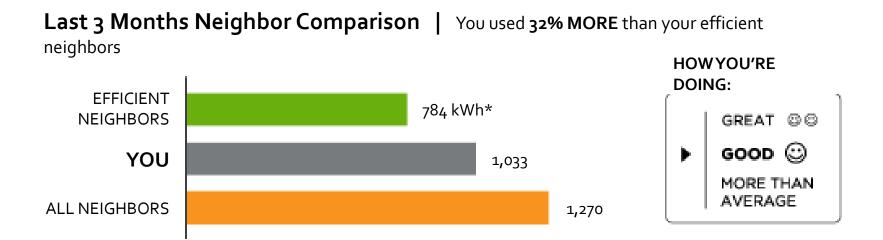
beELL-ParentCorps
"praise magnet"



Social influences

Social influences

Opower utility bills



*kWh: A 100-Watt bulb burning for 10 hours uses 1 kilowatt-hour.

Social influences

Priming in message content:

"Parents of children like yours..."

"Parents like you...."

Peer-to-peer outreach (ParentCorps)

ParentCorps parent feedback: "I want to hear about other parents experiences before I try it"

Insights for practice

- Importance of a diagnostic process
- Offer a range of ways for families to engage
- Move away from events and measure sustained engagement (including efforts at home)
- Tailored solutions that can be easily implemented and scaled up
- Gateway event
- Power of personalization
- Designing to support good habits (marshalling behaviors parents already do or want to do) vs. telling parent what to do

Launching a few discussion points

- Supporting engagement among teen parents
- Supporting engagement among working parents
- Expanding perception of programs as more than a place to "drop off" children



EHS-CCP Learning Community Reminders

Reminders

- 1. Mon, May 15 at Noon Call w/ Stephanie Myers
- 2. Wed, May 17 Names of team to Becky (3 people)
- 3. One-on-One Calls with Deborah on Zoom
 - Tues, May 30 11a -- KidZKount
 - Tues, May 30 1p CAPK
 - Wed, May 31– 9a CAPE
 - Wed, May 31– 10a PLAZA
 - Wed, May 31– 1p CHILD START
- 4. Fri, June 16 All day meeting in Oakland

Reminders

For the June 16th Meeting:

- 1. Three-person team, at least one child care partner
- 1. 20-min team presentation on one (or more) aspect of your FACE work since we met in March, 2017
- 1. Identify a practice challenge and prepare to facilitate a 30-min conversation (per team) among meeting participants to surface strategies to test (share topic with Deborah during May check-in calls)

