Family Makers | Meet and Greet | Session 0

Audience: Families with K-5 children
Session: Session 0
Time: 40 + minutes
Topic: Introduction to the Family Makers program
Question: What is the Family Makers program?

Session structure:

For in-person program

- **Introduction (20 min)**
  - Get to know the librarian(s) and other families in the program
  - Learn about the Family Makers program and what families can expect from the upcoming sessions
- **Tech Set Up (18 min)**
  - Learn how to create a Zoom account and how to join in a Zoom meeting [Note: skip this step if you will not be implementing this program online]
- **Wrap Up (2 min)**
  - Conclude the session and wrap up

Customizing your script:

- Important: Throughout this curriculum, whenever you see "**Note" in red**, it means you can adapt, customize, or change that section based on your specific situation. Feel free to tweak, adapt, or completely remove these sections to match your local context.

Facilitation notes:

- While *Family Makers* was originally designed as an online program, this exact same curriculum can easily be run as an in-person library program or other formats you choose (i.e., drop-in stations, take-and-make kits, social media challenges). Check out the resources for flexible implementation on Family Makers website.
- Regardless of whether you choose the online or in-person format, we highly recommend hosting an **in-person Meet & Greet** session at the library. This allows families to connect with one another in a familiar space and get to know the librarian who will be facilitating all the upcoming sessions.
- We also highly recommend you check out the facilitation tips we developed with our rural library partners.
- We developed "a day in the life of a rural engineer" videos that you can use in each session. Links for each video can be found here.

Learning goals:

- Understand how to prepare for the upcoming six sessions and what will be required from the families.

Materials (for 1 caregiver/1 child):

- None for this session
- Each librarian facilitating the program should prepare the kits by checking out the list of materials in the curriculum word document for session 1-6. The links to all the materials can also be found here.

[Session curriculum]

Introduction [20 minutes]

Introduction Families and Librarian (10 min)

Section	*Script*
Wait for families (1 min)	***(Slide 1)*** Welcome to our meet and greet session of Family Makers! We will wait for all the families to arrive. ***(Slide 2)*** [Wait for everyone to join.] Hello! It's great to see everyone and thanks for coming. We wanted to have Meet and Greet session to help you understand what you can expect to for the upcoming six online sessions and also get to know one another.
Librarian introduction (1 min)	***(Slide 3)*** So, let's begin by introducing... me! I know many of you might know me already, but I'm _____ [Freely introduce yourself and your role in the program.]
Family introduction through 3x3 bingo game (8 min)	***(Slide 4)*** Now, let's get to know each other by playing a fun Bingo game. [Show screen with 3x3 boxes] Discuss with your family which row you'd like to answer to complete the Bingo. Once you complete three in a row, feel free to unmute yourself and shout 'Bingo' to share your responses with everyone. For instance, I will go first. ___ (share your own answer) _____. You will have about 2 minutes to discuss with your family which row—horizontal, vertical, or diagonal—you want to complete. When you share, start with your name, what grade you are in, and which schools you go to. Parents, please also share your names and a row to introduce yourself. Who would like to go first? [Wait for everyone to finish.] Awesome! It is wonderful to meet everyone.

Introduction Family Makers Program (10 min)

Section	*Script*
Overview (2 min)	***(Slide 5)*** Now, let's move on to learn about what we will do in the upcoming six sessions in Family Makers program. We will do a total of six sessions on these topics. Our very first session is all about answering the big question: What is engineering, anyway? From there, we're going to dive into hands-on projects. You're going to work together to design a custom pair of sandals for your parents, create real working circuits, develop a special, one-of-a-kind library, build and improve structures. And, of course, in our final session, we'll throw a celebration to show off everything we've built! Each of these sessions will run for about 75 to 90 minutes. But here is the most important part: this is a family program. We are strongly encouraging at least one parent or caregiver to attend alongside your child. That is completely intentional. We want parents learning right alongside the children to help parents discover what engineering actually looks like today, learn more about your child's unique interests, and learn how you can support and facilitate your children's curiosity long after this program ends. Are you all ready to get started?
Guiding Principles (5 min)	***(Slide 6)*** Parents, we want to emphasize our CHILD acronym. CHILD is basically a set of principles we will ask you about allowing the child to take the lead as the designer/engineer during the making activities throughout the sessions. Let's walk through what CHILD stands for, along with a few ways you can put it into practice. [Please use the notes below to explain what CHILD stands for. Use some of these examples to share how parents can put these principles into practice.] ● Child chooses what to work on ○ Allow the child to choose the steps and directions they want to take during the discussions and making. If they are indecisive, try helping them make a choice but don't choose for them. ○ e.g. So what is the next step you want to work on? Let's go with what you like best. What is your choice? ● Help your child by asking, not telling

	○ Use questions to help prompt your child about making decisions. Don't give them a solution straightaway and try to help them come up with it by themselves. ○ e.g. Can you try thinking of another way to build this? ● Inspire by letting your child lead ○ Let your child be the one to make decisions. Encourage and lead them so that they can make the decisions by themselves. ○ e.g. What's your idea for making this more creative? How did you want to change it? ● Learn with patience to overcome frustrations ○ Try taking a step back. Let the children know it's ok that it is natural for things to fail or not work the way you expect. ○ e.g. What made you angry? Let's take a step back. Should we take a mental break and think through this together? It's ok don't worry, we can try again. The best inventions came from people who kept going even when it was tough. Don't worry about the mistakes. They're just part of making something awesome. ● Discussion over direction ○ If your child is stuck, try to provide examples or suggestions on what to do. Try to help the child come up with the solution instead of directly pointing out what to do next ○ e.g. Do you remember some of the examples or suggestions the librarian shared earlier? How about using this material? What do you think?
Engineers (2 min)	***(Slide 7)*** Throughout our sessions, we will get to learn about how someone like you who grew up in a rural community became interested in engineering and pursued engineering as a career. We will get to actually see "a day in the life of a rural engineer." Let's take a sneak peek. [Play the YouTube video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=leCag8Q7C9k&t=6s] During the last session, one engineer will join us to share what he or she does and provide feedback on all the exciting inventions and creations you've created.

	Note: It would be nice to recruit a local engineer attend the last session. If you are unable to recruit a local engineer, you can easily run this program without one. Instead, you can use our curated YouTube videos to showcase inspiring role models. If you plan to recruit a local engineer, please share these guidelines with the engineer in advance.
Digital portfolios/ booklets (1 min)	***(Slide 8)*** You'll get to showcase all your amazing work during our 6th session! You can do this by submitting your digital portfolio. If you leave your email address, I will send a link to these digital portfolios. All you need to do is snap or insert pictures of what you've created and send them back to us before the 6th session. We'll then share them directly with our guest engineer so your child can receive personalized feedback! Here are a few examples of what other participants have done. [Digital portfolio files are available on: https://www.familymakers.net/supplementary. Using these digital portfolios will make it easier to create a showcase for the final 6th session, but it is up to you and the participating families to decide if you want to use the digital portfolios.] ***(Slide 9)*** We also created booklets to help you take notes or draw your ideas. But, please know that it's not mandatory to fill out everything, it's there as a supplement during the sessions. No one will check whether you filled them out or not. [Booklet files are available on: https://www.familymakers.net/supplementary. Using booklets will help your patrons write down or draw their ideas during the sessions, but it is up to you and the participating families to decide if you want to use the booklets.]

Tech Set Up [18 minutes]

Section	***Script***
Zoom set up (8 min)	***(Slide 10)*** Now, I want to quickly go over how to set up a Zoom account to get you ready for our first online session.

	(Slide 11) Go to Zoom website (https://zoom.us) and click on Sign up for free. Enter your birth year and proceed. ***(Slide 12)*** Then, you can enter your email address. Check your email for a code and insert the code. Click on create an account, and put your information (first name, last name, password). Make sure you note down your email and password for future reference. You are done! [If all participants have already set up their Zoom account, you can skip this.]
How to join Zoom (10 min)	***(Slide 13)*** Now, let's practice joining a Zoom session. ***(Slide 14)*** Please open your email or messaging app and open the email with the invite. Click on the meeting. ***(Slide 15)*** Then, configure your audio and video settings as required (The application configures everything automatically). You are done! How was it? Not too difficult, right? If you are struggling, please let me know so I can come and help. [Help participants trouble shoot issues with Zoom.]

Wrap Up [2 minutes]

Section	***Script***
Review session (1 min)	***(Slide 16)*** I hope you enjoyed meeting other families in the program and getting to know what you can expect from this program. I am looking forward to having fun with you all for the upcoming six sessions!

	Importantly, please take one kit per family when you leave. We have assembled the materials that you need for each session in these kits. Please bring them when you come to our next session. [Each librarian facilitating the program should prepare the kits by checking out the list of materials in the curriculum word document for session 1-6. The links to all the materials can also be found here.] Note: Feel free to take out materials that are marked as optional if you want to reduce the total cost of the kit.]
Conclude session (1 min)	***(Slide 17)*** Please stay behind if you have any questions. Hope to see you soon in Session 1!