STEAM NIGHT - TECHNOLOGY ACTIVITY

Family Code Night

*Featuring Hour of Code puzzles from Code.org®*

**ACTIVITY OVERVIEW:**

“Family Code Night” is a whole-school, whole-family event PTAs can help host, at which kids grades K-5 and their parents do their first hour of computer programming – together! This activity describes how any PTA can partner with school Administrators to put on this remarkable family engagement program to advance K-5 computer science education at their school.

**WHAT DOES THIS TECHNOLOGY ACTIVITY HELP US LEARN?**

At this special evening of learning and fun, you’ll play in parent-child teams to complete fun Code.org puzzles and challenges at your own pace, and learn core concepts in coding in this very first hour. Afterwards, you’ll go home with a special “Code On at Home” guide to continue coding puzzles, learning and fun at home.

**Grade Levels:** K-5
MATERIALS:

No coding experience needed, laptop or computer needed (bring one device for each two attendees if you can). This is a great experience to share with your kids! Featuring Hour of Code puzzles from Code.org®!
STEP-BY-STEP INSTRUCTIONS:

The Program: Our Family Code Night will be a self-paced program in which two-person teams (two kids or, preferably, a child and parent) complete a series of fun puzzles that teach fundamental coding concepts. As Presenter, I will explain and reinforce these concepts for the entire group at various points in the program as we go. Your job is to help several Pairs in one part of the room make their way through the puzzles and follow the simple instructions we will provide. Specifics on how to help are below.

Your Preparation To Do List:

1. Do the Puzzles. Your most important prep item is to complete the program yourself beforehand. You’ll find the curriculum we’re using, from Code.org, at www.FamilyCodeNight.org/Start. Click the “To start click here” link on our page, watch the welcome video, and go on from there to Puzzle 1, then through the rest of the 20 self-paced Puzzles in the program. You’ll finish your run-through in about a half hour, you’ll see where the larger challenges are, and how to help any teams that get stuck.

2. Arrive a little early. Please arrive 20 minutes before our start time for the program. We’ll preview the program for you, walk through your role, and answer any questions you may have.

3. Kids make great Coaches. Older or experienced kids make great Code Coaches as well! If you go through the program with your kids, and they understand the enjoy the puzzles and concepts and would like to be Code Coaches, we’d love to have them join us! Kid Coaches are fun for all involved, and can do a great job. If you DO want your child to Coach, please let us know.
HOW CAN I DO THIS AT HOME WITH MY CHILD?

Afterwards, you’ll go home with a special “Code On at Home” guide to continue coding puzzles, learning and fun at home.

Additional Resources:

Free support for school coding classes at www.code.org