Co-viewing Principles and Practices

Co-viewing television programming is a very important practice to help students understand and extend concept knowledge presented in the programming. By encouraging parents to co-view television programming with students, they will create opportunities to learn together. This practice maximizes television time by going beyond simply watching a television program together and develops the practice of active viewership. Active viewership means that during the program, the parent is making note of important points presented for post-program discussions. Conversations between the parent and student can range from asking the student to expound on or explain key concepts presented, or asking what their student would like to know more about. After viewing and discussing, learning can be extended with further research or hands-on activities using basic household items. Knowledge gained from extension activities can be shared with family members, classmates, or even the student’s YouTube channel through activities like student reporting. Student reporting involves the student mimicking a news anchor to incorporate their learning into short news clips, which helps the student recognize the concepts in a real-world context.