

*This story was shared with us by our Seiff Educare staff and parents*

With the onset of the Coronavirus pandemic, schools have had to find new ways to teach students and the same holds true for AHRC Suffolk's Seiff Educare Center. Since closing, the Seiff Educare Center has set up a YouTube channel to give students and parents an opportunity to feel connected to the school when it works best for them. The channel includes a collection of videos - stories, activities, songs, and lessons presented by the Special Education Teachers and Related Service providers. Each teacher and related service discipline posts at least one video per week.

All of the students also receive distance learning packets weekly in the mail; the packets are student-specific and include activities from the teacher and therapists for the families to do at home with the students. In addition, the teachers and therapists are reaching out directly to the families to offer any support they can.

If parents choose, they can also participate in telepractice, where the students and their teachers or therapists can do activities together via audio/video platforms such as Facetime. Additionally, many of the teachers and therapists have set up google classroom pages for their students.

Our Seiff Educare Center is making sure to provide a number of modalities to keep parents, students, teachers and therapists connected and parents are very thankful for all of the efforts being made.

Here are some thoughts from parents of Seiff Educare students:



*We are so thankful for the wonderful staff at Educare. These times can be very stressful on both children and parents. With the help and love of the teachers at Educare, our daughter has something to look forward to each day. She's still getting education and is challenged- that's so important to her. Her teacher has helped us reach out to other students in her class and the kids facetime. Miss Kim facetimes us to read my children books. The online learning lessons are fun and interactive as well as the YouTube videos from all of the staff. We've always thought that this is the most wonderful team and we are so so so overwhelmed knowing how hard they have worked to make this happen! We are so lucky we are to have them as part of our family!*

*-The McManus family*



*My daughter loves seeing her teacher on Facetime. We appreciate the school taking the time to send the information packets. We love the videos and the packets are great to have as a reference and to refer to and allow us to work at our own pace.*

*-Mrs. Suer*



*We are happy because we are bonding more with the activities sent by the school and our son's communication has improved.*

*-Mrs. DelCid-Martinez*

