4K eLearning Social Emotional Support

Social emotional learning is a central element to Greenville County Schools PreK instruction. Through social emotional learning, children practice identifying and expressing their feelings in appropriate ways such as using words, taking deep breaths, or using other self-calming techniques. Children also learn about friendships, personal safety, resolving conflicts, and working with others. See below for ideas and suggestions for how to continue supporting your child's social emotional development at home.

Support Strategies

Taking Care of One's Own Needs
- Let children do things for themselves.
- Encourage children to use tools.
- Support children's attempt to take care of their emotional as well as physical needs.

Expressing Feelings in Words
- Establish a supportive emotional climate.
- Help children to label wither feelings.
- Encourage children to role play and make up or illustrate stories about their experiences.

Building Relationships with Children and Adults
- Establish supportive relationships with children.
- Maintain a stable group of children and adults.
- Support relationships children establish with one another.
- Provide opportunities for children to interact with other children whom they are less familiar.
- Refer children to one another.

Creating and Experiencing Collaborative Play
- Provide materials that support collaborative play.
- Allow enough space for collaborative play.
- Encourage children to plan, work and recall together.
- Provide opportunities for collaborative play at group times.

Dealing with Social Conflict
- Treat conflicts as a normal part of development.
- Prevent conflicts when possible.
- Help children resolve conflicts when they occur.

Problem-Solving Approach to Conflict

- Step 1: Approach calmly, stopping any hurtful actions.
- Step 2: Acknowledge children's feelings.
- Step 3: Gather information.
- Step 4: Restate the problem.
- Step 5: Ask for ideas and solutions and choose one together.
- Step 6: Give follow-up support as needed.

Social Stories

Social Stories are brief stories that describe and model situations from a child's perspective. The stories are individual in nature and can be created for any topic. Social Stories typically include photographs and are written about a topic that is currently challenging for the child. The intent is that by sharing these stories children will have a better understanding and consistent reminder of the target skill. Many social stories are available online and can be found by searching a topic, for example "missing school" or "handwashing".

Literature Support

Books are a powerful, effective way to teach children about their world. The following titles explore a variety of social emotional skills and concepts through engaging, child-friendly ways. Many of these titles are available as read alouds through YouTube and can be accessed by searching the title and/or author.

Books About Fear

There Might Be Lobsters by Carolyn Crimi
Lots of things at the beach scare Sukie. Lots. Because she is just a small dog, and the stairs are big and sandy, and the waves are big and whooshy, and the balls are big and beachy.

Jabari Jumps by Gaia Cornwall
Jabari is definitely ready to jump off the diving board. He's finished his swimming lessons and passed his swim test, and he's a great jumper, so he's not scared at all.

The Dark by Lemony Snicket
Laszlo is afraid of the dark. The dark lives in the same house as Laszlo. Mostly, though, the dark stays in the basement and doesn't come into Lazslo's room. But one night, it does.

Don't Think About Purple Elephants by Susanne Merritt
Sometimes Sophie worries — not during the day when she is busy with family and friends, but at night when everything is calm and quiet.

*Too Shy for Show-and-Te*ll by Beth Bracken
Sam is a quiet little boy who hates show-and-tell. Just thinking about it makes his stomach hurt. Sam must find a way to conquer his fear of show-and-tell.Books about Risk-Taking

The Book of Mistakes by Corinna Luyken
Zoom meets Beautiful Oops! in this book about the creative process, and the way in which "mistakes" can blossom into inspiration

*Everyone Can Learn to Ride a Bicycl*e by Chris Raschka
Learning to ride a bike is one of the most important milestones of childhood, and this book captures the emotional ups and downs of the experience.

The Girl Who Never Made Mistakes by Mark Pett
Meet Beatrice Bottomwell: a nine-year-old girl who has never (not once!) made a mistake.

The Dot by Peter H. Reynolds
The words of her teacher are a gentle invitation to express herself. But Vashti can't draw – she's no artist.

Books about Friendship

Rulers of the Playground by Joseph Kuefler
One morning, Jonah decided to become ruler of the playground. Everyone agreed to obey his rules to play in King Jonah's kingdom ... Everyone except for Lennox ... because she wanted to rule the playground, too.

Enemy Pie by Derek Munson

It was the perfect summer. That is until Jeremy Ross moved into the house down the street and became neighborhood enemy number one.

A Sick Day for Amos McGee by Philip C. Stead
Friends come in all sorts of shapes and sizes. In Amos McGee's case, all sorts of species, too!

The Invisible Boy by Trudy Ludwig
Meet Brian, the invisible boy. Nobody ever seems to notice him or think to include him in their group, game, or birthday party … until a new kid comes to class.

Stick and Stone by Beth Ferry
When Stick rescues Stone from a prickly situation with a Pinecone, the pair becomes fast friends. But when Stick gets stuck, can Stone return the favor?

Books about Identity
I'm a Girl! by Yasmeen Ismail
Meet a little girl who's spontaneous, fast, and strong and loves winning. Sometimes she's mistaken for a boy, but she definitely isn't one!

Last Stop on Market Street by Matt de la Peña
Every Sunday after church, CJ and his grandma ride the bus across town. But today, CJ wonders why they don't own a car like his friend Colby. Why doesn't he have an iPod like the boys on the bus? How come they always have to get off in the dirty part of town?

Those Shoes by Maribeth Boelts
All Jeremy wants is a pair of those shoes, the ones everyone at school seems to be wearing. Though Jeremy's grandma says they don't have room for "want," just "need," when his old shoes fall apart at school, he is more determined than ever to have those shoes, even a thrift-shop pair that is much too small.

Drum Dream Girl: How One Girl's Courage Changed Music by Margarita Engle
Girls cannot be drummers. Long ago on an island filled with music, no one questioned that rule—until the drum dream girl. In her city of Drumbeats, she dreamed of pounding tall congas and tapping small bongós. She had to keep quiet.

My Very Own Space by Pippa Goodhart
A little rabbit is trying to read his book in peace, but there's so much going on around him! Maybe he needs some space just for himself …

The Crayon Box that Talked by Shane Derolf
"While walking through a toy store, the day before today, I overheard a crayon box with many things to say…"

Extraordinary Jane by Hannah E. Harrison
Jane is an ordinary dog in an extraordinary circus. She isn't strong, graceful, or brave like her family. When she tries to be those things, Jane just doesn't feel like herself, but she also doesn't feel special.

Millie Fierce by Jane Manning
Millie is quiet. Millie is sweet. Millie is mild. But the kids at school don't listen to her.

Books about Overcoming Challenges
Argyle Fox by Marie Letourneau
Argyle Fox, with his signature style, wants to play outside on a springtime day, but the wind is wreaking havoc with his fun and games. As soon as he builds a card tower, climbs into a giant spider web, or takes up his pirate sword, here comes the wind: Woosh!

Emmanuel's Dream: The True Story of Emmanuel Ofosu Yeboah by Laurie Ann Thompson
Emmanuel Ofosu Yeboah's inspiring true story is nothing short of remarkable. Born in Ghana, West Africa, with one deformed leg, he was dismissed by most people—but not by his mother, who taught him to reach for his dreams.

Nadia: The Girl Who Couldn't Sit Still by Karlin Gray
Nadia Comaneci was a feisty and fearless little girl who went from climbing trees in the forests of Romania to swinging into history at the 1976 Olympic Games, where she received an unprecedented seven perfect scores in gymnastics.

Life by Cynthia Rylant
There are so many wonderful things about life, both in good times and in times of struggle.

Books about Kindness
Ordinary Mary's Extraordinary Deed by Emily Pearson
Can one child's good deed change the world?

Because Amelia Smiled by David Ezra Stein
Because Amelia smiles as she skips down the street, her neighbor Mrs. Higgins smiles too and decides to send a care package of cookies to her grandson Lionel in Mexico.

Pass It On by Sophy Henn
When you see something terrific, smile a smile and pass it on! If you chance upon a chuckle, hee hee hee and pass it on. Should you spot a thing of wonder, jump for joy and pass it on!

We're All Wonders by R. J. Palacio
Now younger readers can meet Auggie Pullman, an ordinary boy with an extraordinary face, and his beloved dog, Daisy. Choose Kind.

The Invisible String by Patrice Karst
A story that teaches of the tie that really binds. The Invisible String reaches from heart to heart. Does everybody have an Invisible String? How far does it reach, anyway? Does it ever go away?

Books about Grief
Missing Mommy: A Book About Bereavement by Rebecca Cobb
Missing Mommy focuses on the positive—the recognition that the child is not alone but still part of a family that loves and supports him.

The Heart and the Bottle by Oliver Jeffers
There is a wonder and magic to childhood. We don't realize it at the time, of course . . . yet the adults in our lives do. They encourage us to see things in the stars, to find joy in colors and laughter as we play. But what happens when that special someone who encourages such wonder and magic is no longer around?

The Memory String by Eve Bunting
Each button on Laura's memory string represents a piece of her family history. The buttons Laura cherishes the most belonged to her mother—a button from her prom dress, a white one off her wedding dress, and a single small button from the nightgown she was wearing on the day she died.

Big Tree is Sick: A Story to Help Children Cope with the Serious Illness of a Loved One by Nathalie Slosse
Snibbles and Big Tree are best friends! They have always hung out together, and Snibbles loves Big Tree very much. When Big Tree unexpectedly falls ill with woodworm, Snibbles is very upset and angry.

Cry, Heart, But Never Break by Glenn Ringtved
Aware their grandmother is gravely ill, four siblings make a pact to keep death from taking her away. But Death does arrive all the same, as it must.

Books about Feelings
When Sophie Gets Angry–Really, Really Angry by Molly Bang
Everybody gets angry sometimes.

*Crabby Pant*s by Julie Gassman

When things don't go Roger's way, he gets crabby. However, Roger thinks he has found a solution to being such a crabby pants.

The Way I Feel by Janan Cain
Feelings are neither good nor bad, they simply are. Kids need words to name their feelings, just as they need words to name all things in their world.

Books about Lying
Lying Up a Storm by Julia Cook
A Storm is Brewing... Whenever Levi doesn't like the truth, he kinda, sorta makes up other stuff to say.

Ruthie and the (Not So) Teeny Tiny Lie by Laura Rankin
Ruthie loves little things-the smaller the better. So when she finds a teeny tiny camera on the school playground one afternoon, she can hardly believe her luck. She wants to keep the camera in the worst way, but there's one little problem: It isn't hers.

I Want My Hat Back by Jon Klassen
The bear's hat is gone, and he wants it back. Patiently and politely, he asks the animals he comes across, one by one, whether they have seen it. Each animal says no.

Books about Self-Control
Lilly's Purple Plastic Purse by Kevin Henkes
Lilly loves everything about school, especially her cool teacher, Mr. Slinger. But when Lilly brings her purple plastic purse and its treasures to school and can't wait until sharing time, Mr. Slinger confiscates her prized possessions.

David Gets In Trouble by David Shannon
"When David gets in trouble, he always says . . . 'NO! It's not my fault! I didn't mean to! It was an accident!'"

My Mouth Is a Volcano! by Julia Cook
All of Louis thoughts are very important to him. In fact, his thoughts are so important to him that when he has something to say, his words begin to wiggle, and then they do the jiggle, then his tongue pushes all of his important words up against his teeth and he erupts, or interrupts others.

Lacey Walker, Nonstop Talker by Christianne C. Jones
Lacey Walker loves to talk. She talks all day, and sometimes all night. But when she loses her voice, Lacey learns the importance of listening.

YOU WILL BE MY FRIEND! by Peter Brown
Today is the day the exuberant Lucy is going to make a new friend! But she finds it's harder than she had thought–she accidentally ruins the giraffe's breakfast and is much too big for the frogs' pond.

Clark the Shark by Bruce Hale
Clark is a shark with zing, bang, and BOOM. Clark zooms into school, crashes through the classroom, and is rowdy at recess.

Books about Resilience
Giraffes Can't Dance by Giles Andreae
Gerald the tall giraffe would love to join in with the other animals at the Jungle Dance, but everyone knows that giraffes can't dance . . . or can they?

Sunday Chutney by Aaron Blabey
The new girl at school has a glamorous life. What more could she want? Sunday Chutney is not your ordinary everyday girl. Sunday has lived everywhere and been everywhere. The only problem is this means she is always the new girl at school and she never really has a place to call home.