

CELEBRATING OUR COMMUNITIES

CELEBRATING ALL FAMILIES

TIPS FOR CAREGIVERS

Social and emotional learning (SEL) helps children manage emotions, learn how to feel empathy, create and achieve goals, and make good decisions. Strong lessons and support in SEL will help children establish positive habits in communication, cooperation, and decision-making. By incorporating SEL in early reading, children will learn the importance of accepting and celebrating all people in their communities.

BEFORE READING

Talk to the reader about families. Ask what he or she thinks a family is.

Discuss: What is one way your family is like another family you know? What is one way your family is different?

AFTER READING

Talk to the reader about ways he or she can celebrate his or her family's differences with others.

Discuss: What is one way you can celebrate your family? How can you accept another family? Why is it good for members of a community to accept one another?

SEL GOAL

Children may have a loose understanding of acceptance. Talk to readers about the importance of empathy in accepting and celebrating the differences of others. Have they ever felt singled out for having a different family? What did it feel like? If they haven't experienced this, ask them to imagine what it feels like. Make a list of these different feelings. Then ask readers to list the feelings they have when they are included and accepted. Explain that our communities are better when everyone is accepted and included.

GOALS AND TOOLS

GROW WITH GOALS

Accepting all people, no matter what their family is like, is important. Focusing on people's positive qualities will help you be more accepting.

Goal: What makes your family or household unique? What are things that your family or household likes to do together?

Goal: Think of a time you felt empathy toward someone. If you can't think of anything, try to find a time when you can practice empathizing. Do you see someone who looks sad? Ask them how they are feeling and why.

Goal: Get to know someone you haven't spoken with much before. Try to find one thing you have in common or both like.

WRITING REFLECTION

Accepting yourself can help you be more accepting of those around you.

1. What is one thing you like about your family?
2. What is one thing about your family you wish you could improve?
3. What is one thing you can do to be more accepting of others?



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