

Course: Social Connections

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Course Description:

Elementary Summer Learning courses focus on developing student self-concept, self-awareness and self-advocacy through enhancing and building foundational skills in an engaging and supportive environment.

Students in the Elementary Social Connections Program work towards the following goals:

- Social communication (conversation starters, turn-taking, etc.)
- Creating and maintaining positive reciprocal relationships
- Navigating social situations and perspective taking
- Flexible thinking
- Identifying emotions and applying appropriate self-regulation strategies
- Understanding the size of a problem and problem-solving in restorative ways
- Responsible decision-making

Students in the Social Connections Program will explore the inquiry questions:

- What strategies will help me develop and maintain positive social connections?

Summer Learning Beliefs:

Summer Learning provides an engaging learning environment where all students can challenge themselves academically and fulfill their learning goals. To ensure this, students will:

- Respect themselves and others
- Attend every class and be punctual
- Inquire, think, and participate to the best of your individual ability
- Access technology in class for learning purposes only, when instructed to do so
- Challenge themselves and have fun learning

Summer Learning policies can be accessed at:

<https://www.sd44.ca/school/summer/policies/Pages/default>

School supplies: What do students need to bring?

- Binder
- Dividers
- Crayons and/or pencil crayons
- Pencils
- Eraser
- Scissors
- Glue stick
- Highlighter
- Sketchbook

Learning Plan: What will students do?

Communication:

- I can initiate and maintain a conversation with others
- I can communicate meaningfully to keep a conversation going and convey messages to others
- I can demonstrate active and respectful listening to adults and peers
- I can advocate for myself and my needs in a respectful way

Social Situations & Relationships:

- I can demonstrate appropriate responses to problems and conflicts
- I can apply active listening and flexible thinking to try and understand other people's point of view
- I can describe and apply strategies for developing and maintaining healthy relationships
- I can name and apply a variety of strategies from my SEL toolkit to navigate social situations

Self-Regulation:

- I can identify and express my feelings and emotions
- I can use flexible thinking when solving problems and doing new and non-preferred tasks
- I can name and apply strategies to appropriately manage my feelings and emotions, and advocate for when I need a break

Assessment: How will students demonstrate their learning?

Assessment for this course will be ongoing, and formative. Students will engage in self-assessment regularly within the program. Students will assess their strengths and stretches and provide evidence of their findings at the end of the program.

My Learning Journey

Students will create a 'My Learning Journey' duotang that will function as a portfolio of strengths, stretches, and strategies that support their learning. Students will be able to share this with teachers and support staff at their home school. This book will contain information on different strategies and tools that help students learn, along with information that students feel is important for teachers to know about them.

School Community: How do we celebrate ourselves as learners?

July 5th – Cozy Games Day

Let's play! Together we will use our communication, collaboration, and problem solving skills to play some games together. Cozy items such as slippers, stuffed animals, cards and puzzles are encouraged.

Please note – *Students are welcome to bring non-electronic games

July 12th – Colour Fun Day

Let's get colourful! Each class will be given a colour and students will be invited to wear as much of this colour as possible. Students will engage in a colour inspired writing activity and a fun community building game!

July 18th – Celebration of Learning Open House @11:30

Families are welcomed in to see the learning that has taken place during the program.

Resources:

These are examples of textbooks, online resources, websites, etc. that teachers have used to guide learning in the Social Connections Program:

- Everyday Speech Web Resources
- We Thinkers
- The Zones of Regulation
- Second Step
- Open Parachute
- CASEL
- Calm App
- Variety of assorted books & Games
- POPARD