



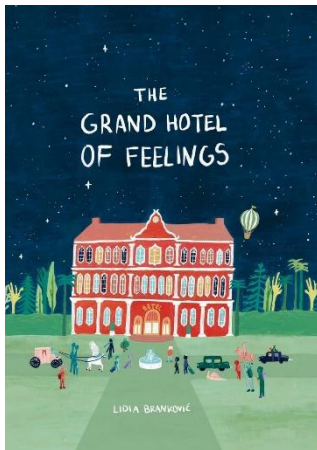
FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY



Project Cornerstone

Building Year • Inclusion means Everyone

Project Cornerstone ABC schools will be reading books for the Building year. The focus of these books is "Inclusion means Everyone." Inclusion is the full engagement and participation of all community members in environments where all feel welcomed, respected, and supported. Classroom discussions and activities will enable students to practice and internalize these inclusion tools.



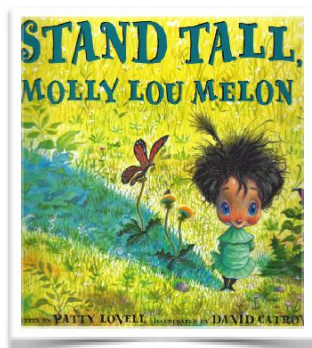
The Grand Hotel of Feelings by Lidia Branković

SEL Core Competency: Self Awareness

This book has been selected to develop students' emotional literacy. It teaches the skills of identifying, naming, understanding, and managing feelings. Students will learn that all feelings are valid, temporary, and require different responses. Developing awareness of one's own feelings is a foundational step towards building empathy for others.

Tools

- Identify and name a variety of feelings.
- Understand that all feelings are acceptable.
- Recognize that feelings are temporary and will change.
- Explore different ways to respond to various feelings in a healthy way.



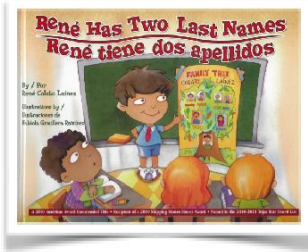
Stand Tall, Molly Lou Melon by Patty Lovell

SEL Core Competency: Responsible Decision Making

The main character, Molly Lou Melon, gains self-confidence through the support of her grandmother. This empowerment enables her to stand up to bucket dipping behaviors. Molly Lou demonstrates the use of positive self-talk, modeling how positive energy can influence negative behavior in others.

Tools

- Use your body language to stand tall, walk proud, smile big, and sing loud.
- Use positive self-talk.
- Stop, think, and understand to prevent bucket dipping.
- Identify and name the caring adults that are your cheerleaders.



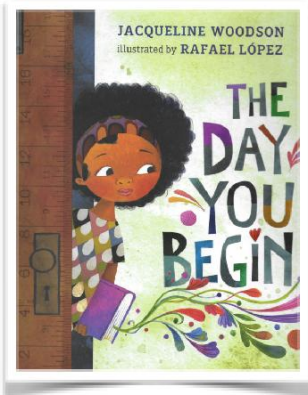
René Has Two Last Names by René Colato Laínez

SEL Core Competency: Relationship Skills

This book aims to help students respect diverse cultural customs and traditions, understand the importance of maintaining cultural heritage, and develop an inclusive mindset. Culture is a shared system of meanings, beliefs, values, and behaviors that shapes how we understand the world. It is learned, shared, and evolves over time. Recognizing our own cultural identity and that of others contributes to the richness and strength of our communities.

Tools

- Learn about different cultures.
- Understand that diversity makes us stronger.
- Identify your own positive cultural identity.
- Stand up for yourself in positive ways.



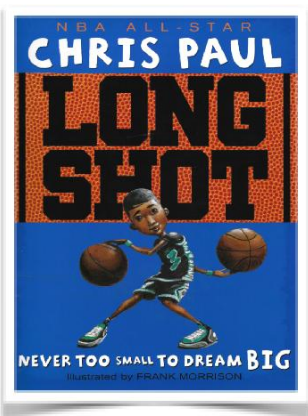
The Day You Begin by Jacqueline Woodson

SEL Core Competency: Social Awareness

This book provides opportunities to discuss tolerance and acceptance of individual differences. Students will learn the importance of creating a caring school climate where everyone feels safe to share their unique stories and be accepted for who they are.

Tools

- Accept and understand differences.
- UPstanders practice intentional acts of caring.
- Practice inclusive behaviors to create a caring school.
- Speak your voice.



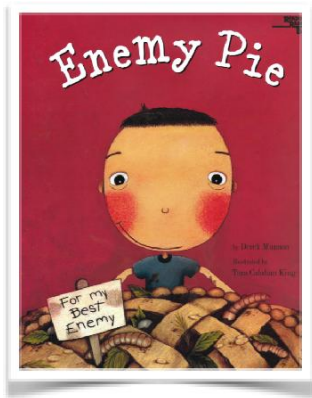
Long Shot by Chris Paul

SEL Core Competency: Self-Management

The focus of this book is to inspire students to discover their passions and interests. Students will learn how to set both short-term and long-term goals. This lesson also helps them identify and understand the steps successful individuals, both famous and everyday heroes, take to achieve their goals.

Tools

- Follow your sparks, dreams, interests, and passions.
- Set clear goals for both short-term and long-term.
- Identify individuals who will support you.



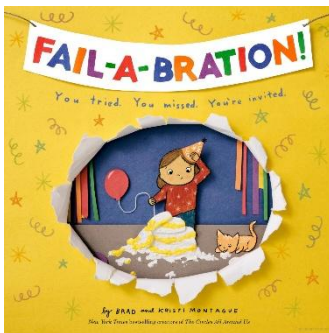
Enemy Pie by Derek Munson

SEL Core Competency: Relationship Skills

This book highlights the significance of getting to know others before making judgments and emphasizes the process of building positive interpersonal relationships. It reminds us that supportive adults can facilitate the development of friendships, even when faced with misunderstandings, prejudice, and fear.

Tools

- Try to get to know people before making judgments.
- Look for common interests in new people you meet.
- Be aware that friendships can grow and change over time.
- Understand that everyone has their own unique way of building friendships.



Fail-a-bration by Brad Montague and Kristi Montague

SEL Core Competency: Self-Management

This book encourages a positive perspective on failure, highlighting that failing is an inherent part of learning and growth. It emphasizes that failure is not necessarily negative but rather an indication that effort was made and valuable lessons can be learned. The book promotes the idea of celebrating our attempts and the learning that comes from them, while also acknowledging and validating the range of emotions that may accompany setbacks.

Tools

- Recognize that trying new things often involves the possibility of failure.
- Understand that failure is a learning opportunity and a step towards improvement.
- Acknowledge and accept the different feelings that may arise when experiencing failure.
- Develop a positive attitude towards mistakes and view them as opportunities for growth.