

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
- Creating and maintaining reciprocal relationships
- Navigating social situations
- Self-regulating responses through understanding of self and others

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

How do I foster meaningful relationships?

What strategies help me to manage my feelings and emotions?

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?

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Binder • Dividers • Pencil • Eraser • Scissors | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pencil Crayons • Glue Stick • Ruler • Highlighter • Felts/markers |
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Learning Plan: What will students do?

Communication:

- learn ways to advocate for oneself and one's ideas
- learn how to engage in conversation while showing care and attention to the speaker and other listeners
- learn how to respectfully communicate with others

Social Situations & Relationships:

- learn appropriate responses to perceived problems
- learn how to interpret the intentions of others and develop active listening skills
- describe and apply strategies for developing and maintaining healthy relationships
- develop their own personal tool kits, based on their own learning needs

Self-Regulation:

- learn how to identify feelings and emotions
- learn strategies to appropriately manage feelings and emotions (mindfulness, breathing exercises) and pick a strategy that works best

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.

Myself as a Learner

- Students will create a 'Myself as a Learner' 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 to self-regulate, as well as information that the students feel is important for teachers to know about them.

School Community: How do we celebrate ourselves as learners?

July 8th - Games Day*

Let's play! Together we will use our communication, collaboration, problem solving skills and critical and creative thinking to play some games together!

Please note – *These are non-electronic games - board games, dice games, card games

July 15th - Super Power Day

Embrace your super power! Whether you're a pro-skateboarding, rock-star athlete, stellar artist, talented musician, amazing video-game player. Come in prepared to embody and share a talent that makes you SUPER!

July 20th - Celebration of Learning Open House @ 11:30am

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 https://everydayspeech.com/
The Zones of Regulation: A Curriculum Designed to Foster Self- Regulation and Emotional Control (Leah Kuypers)
Growth Mindset
Anger Management Skills Workbook for Kids (Amanda Robinson)
Social Skills Activities for Kids (Natasha Daniels)