

SOCIAL EMOTIONAL LEARNING

SOCIAL SKILLS LESSON PLAN

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SOCIAL SKILL: JOINING IN AND INVITING TO JOIN IN
CASEL COMPETENCY: RELATIONSHIP SKILLS

BOOK INFORMATION

Book Title: *The Brand New Kid*

Author: Katie Couric

Publisher: Doubleday

Year: 2000

ISBN Number: 0-385-50030-0

Number of Pages: 32 pages

Reading Level: Kindergarten - 6th grade

BOOK SYNOPSIS

Ellie and Carrie are in 2nd grade and they are excited to have the same teacher. This year there is a new boy in their class named Lazlo. He looks and speaks differently than other students. Students make fun of Lazlo behind the teachers back. One day Ellie saw Lazlo's mom crying and Susie said the mother was sad because Lazlo was having trouble in school. Ellie decided to invite Lazlo to play soccer with her. They walked home from school together and played chess. The next day other kids asked why Ellie was playing with Lazlo. She told them that he was actually a lot like them. Then they all played together.

LESSON OBJECTIVE

Inviting others to play helps them to feel happy and welcomed. We should include others who are new. We should make friends with those who are new to the school. We shouldn't make fun of new kids and we should not exclude them.

LESSON MATERIALS AND ADVANCE PREPARATION

Materials: sharpie pen; small beach balls

Preparation: Blow up beach balls and on each of the spaces of the ball write different scenarios with a sharpie such as: "Katie is sitting alone in the corner. What can you do?" "Mike is starting his first day at school. How can you make him feel welcome?" "What should you do if you saw someone who looked left out of an activity?"

KEY VOCABULARY AND CONCEPTS

Sometimes there will be a "new kid" in your class. This means that they just moved to your city from another place and they don't know very many people here. They might be different or not know some of the things you already know.

Inviting – asking others to join you in your play; asking others to come play with you or to join you in your play; exclude is the opposite of **include**

Strudel – a pastry; a baked dessert from Austria

Chess - a board game played with different pieces involving lots of strategic moves

PRE-READING ACTIVITY

Show the front cover of the book and ask the students what they think the book is about. Ask them how they would feel being a "new kid" at school.

READ THE BOOK

POST READING DISCUSSION

Ask the following questions:

- How do you think it felt for Lazlo to be left out?
- How do you think he felt when Ellie played with him?
- How can you recognize when someone is left out?
- What can you do to make them feel welcome?

POST READING ACTIVITY

Beach Ball Activity

With the beach balls prepared in advanced, organize students into small groups (5 or 6) and give each group a beach ball. Have them sit in a circle and pass the beach ball. When they catch the ball have them answer the scenario that they are touching with their right thumb. After they answer their question, ask them to pass the ball on to another person. Continue until each person has a turn.

CLOSURE

Bring the students back together and discuss the scenarios and how they responded to the scenarios. Talk with them about how they could invite others to join in their play. If there is enough time, quickly role play some of the scenarios. Assist the students in expressing their perceptions. Hang the poster (provided) in the room and remind the students of how important it is to follow rules and directions.

**In our
classroom**

**I help
everyone
feel
included.**