

# SOCIAL EMOTIONAL LEARNING

## SOCIAL SKILLS ACTIVITY LIST

SOCIAL SKILL: WORKING TOGETHER

CASEL COMPETENCY: RELATIONSHIP SKILLS

Grade Levels	Prep Time	Activity Time	Materials	Activity Description
3-6	0-5 min	<15 min	Ten balloons per group of 3 or 4 students	<p><b>Balloon Group Work</b> Ask students to share examples of times they worked in groups or were a part of a team. Did everyone in the group contribute and work cooperatively together? What worked well in past experiences? What could have been done differently? Divide students into groups of three or four and give each group ten balloons and a roll of masking tape. Instruct them that they are only allowed to use the supplies provided. The students have two minutes to plan how they will build the tallest balloon tower without talking. Instruct the students that if they talk while building, a balloon will be taken away from their group. The students complete the challenge without talking and then the towers are judged to see which one is tallest.</p> <p>Discussion Questions: What roles within the group did the students play? Did the group work cooperatively together? What worked well within the groups? What were some challenges that the groups faced? How did the plans change as the group built? Did everyone in the group agree with the plans? How did you feel about your finished balloon tower? What did you learn?</p>
K-6	0-5 min	<15 min	Hula hoops	<p><b>Hula Hoop Game</b> Place the hula-hoop over two people's interlocked hands so it cannot escape the circle. Explain that the goal of the game is to get the hula-hoop all the way around the circle without anyone letting go of their teammate's hands. Have groups cheer each other on. Once completed for the first time, discuss successes and challenges and try again. Encourage students to work together and be patient with each other.</p>
K-6	0-5 min	<30 min	Large bowl, ingredients to a no bake recipe, trail mix or chex mix of your choice	<p><b>Teamwork Recipe</b> Have several ingredients to a no bake cookie recipe or some kind of dry snack that you don't have to bake. Have one of the ingredients on each table or give to a group of students. Have a big bowl at the front of the classroom and have each group come up and put in their ingredient. Mix all ingredients together for a snack. All the ingredients alone might have been plain and not as exciting but when we work together the results can be delicious and amazing! Then have students create a recipe for team</p>

				<p>work on their own. Possible recipes below, depending on wants and allergies.</p> <p><a href="http://www.food.com/recipe/kiddos-favorite-trail-mix-100185">www.food.com/recipe/kiddos-favorite-trail-mix-100185</a></p> <p><a href="http://sallysbakingaddiction.com/2013/06/07/butterscotch-peanut-butter-puppy-chow/">http://sallysbakingaddiction.com/2013/06/07/butterscotch-peanut-butter-puppy-chow/</a> (requires microwave)</p>
K-2	0-5 min	<30 min	Crayons (one per student), poster board, blow dryer	<p><b>Crayon Teamwork Art</b></p> <p>Give each student a crayon. Have a poster board ready and have students come up and help them hot glue gun their crayons onto the top of the poster board. Once all are on there, use a blow dryer to melt all the colors which will then create a piece of artwork full of colors. Explain that when we work together beautiful things can happen.</p> <p><a href="http://www.kidskubby.com/melted-crayon-art-projects/">http://www.kidskubby.com/melted-crayon-art-projects/</a></p>
K-6	0-5 min	<30 min	Blocks or other building units	<p><b>Building Up</b></p> <p>Divide students into a few groups. Use any type of blocks or building units and give each group the same amount. Have each group work together to build the tallest tower of blocks, etc.</p>
3-6	0-5 min	<30 min	None	<p><b>Human Knot</b></p> <p>Have all students stand in a circle. Instruct them to reach out their left hand and grab someone else's hand (cannot be the person right by your sides). Then have the students reach out their right hand and grab the hand of someone else. Now tell the students to work together as a group to try and untangle themselves.</p>
K-6	0-5 min	<30 min	Problems/ questions in desired subject	<p><b>Post Its Activity</b></p> <p>Divide students into groups of 4 and give them a question (this can be a math, science, history, language arts, or any other subject question). Give each student a post it and have them write the answer on the post it. Then have them put each of the 4 post its on the corners of the paper. In the middle have them work together to put the best possible answer based on all their answers.</p> <p><a href="http://www.confessionsofateachingjunkie.com/2014/05/four-corners-and-book-day-day-2.html?utm_source=feedburner">http://www.confessionsofateachingjunkie.com/2014/05/four-corners-and-book-day-day-2.html?utm_source=feedburner</a></p>
K-2	0-5 min	<15 min	Colored construction paper for petals	<p><b>Class Dandelion</b></p> <p>Have each student trace their hand and decorate it. Then put the paper hands all together to make a dandelion. Help the students see they can each contribute to a beautiful masterpiece. Talk about the impact that each person within a group can have and how powerful they become when they work together.</p>
K-6	0-5 min	<30 min	Uncooked noodles, marshmallows, scissors, masking tape	<p><b>Creative Group Tower</b></p> <p>Follow this link to view the complete lesson:</p> <p><a href="http://www.teachkidsart.net/return-of-marshmallow-challenge/">http://www.teachkidsart.net/return-of-marshmallow-challenge/</a></p>

3-6	0-5 min	<30 min	Brainstorm different ways for the students to arrange themselves	<p><b>Silently Working Together</b> Instruct students: “Without talking, get into a straight line according to when your birthday is throughout the year—starting with January on the left and ending in December on the right.” They have 3 minutes to accomplish the task. You may want to do this again with other topics like in alphabetical order of their last names, etc. Then have a discussion on what was difficult about the activity. Talk about the difference working together can have in many situations.</p> <p>Follow the link for this and other activities: <a href="http://www.ehow.com/way_5318924_team-games-activities-elementary-students.html">http://www.ehow.com/way_5318924_team-games-activities-elementary-students.html</a></p>
K-2	0-5 min	<15 min	Internet	<p><b>Working Together Short Films</b> Have students watch these three videos and then discuss the idea of teamwork. What is teamwork? How does it help us? When should we use teamwork?</p> <p><a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jop2I5u2F3U">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jop2I5u2F3U</a></p>
K-6	0-5 min	<30 min	Post it notes	<p><b>Who Am I?</b> Write different things or people on post it notes (phone, Santa Claus, homework, etc.). Then give one to each student and have them stick it to their forehead or back without looking at it. Go around the room asking questions to others and getting clues from them. Work together to find out who or what you are.</p>
3-6	0-5 min	<15 min	Balloons, pencils	<p><b>Balloon Race</b> Have each student bring two pencils (or pens) to the activity. Divide students into 2 groups. Each group should form a circle. Give each group a blown up balloon. Then, have students pass the balloon around their group using only their pencils (like chopsticks) without them popping their balloon.</p> <p>For this and other activities, go to the following link: <a href="http://www.4-the-love-of-math.blogspot.com/2014/10/6-team-building-activities-you-could-do.html">http://www.4-the-love-of-math.blogspot.com/2014/10/6-team-building-activities-you-could-do.html</a></p>
3-6	0-5 min	<15 min	Balloons	<p><b>Balloon Bop</b> Students begin by standing in a circle, holding hands. The teacher drops one balloon into the circle. The goal is for students to see how many times they can tap the balloon into the air (students may tap the balloon with hands, arms, heads, shoulders, chests, or knees—but NO feet), keeping it up in the air, without losing connection (all students must continue holding hands). In order for this to work effectively, students have to work cooperatively, each of them making sure they are not letting go of their neighbor’s hands. They will soon figure out that they must all move together, as a circle, so to make sure they do not lose connection. If the balloon falls to the ground or a student taps the balloon with their feet, the count begins again. Depending on grade level, you can add more balloons to make it more challenging!</p> <p>For this and other activities, go to the following link: <a href="http://www.teachhub.com/6-awesome-cooperative-classroom-games">http://www.teachhub.com/6-awesome-cooperative-classroom-games</a></p>