

Overview

Part 1: Making sense of emotion

**Part 2**: What's the difference? Social Emotional Learning VS. Nurturing emotional health and growth

Part 3: Nurturing emotional health and growth through the Pyramid of Interventions

2

## What we must know about Emotion

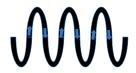
- Feelings and Emotions are not the same:
  - Emotions are not conscious
  - o Feelings are the emotion brought into consciousness
- Not all emotions is felt vulnerably (role of defenses to protect the brain from wounding and/or overwhelm)
- Emotions can be messy, noisy and chaotic (this is adaptive, the brain has its reasons although it may be uncomfortable, it's not a dysfunction)
- Emotional self-control is not the absence of emotion
- Emotions are not the problem, they are trying to solve the problem
- Emotions follow 3 laws:
  - 1. They need to move (be released and expressed)
  - 2. They require to be felt to fulfill their potential
  - 3. They aim for balance (but depend on developmental readiness)

3

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## Three Laws to Emotional Health and Growth

Law #1: Emotion seeks to MOVE through expression.



Once it is activated, it needs to 'find a way out' in order to be discharged.

Emotion needs to be EXPRESSED to preserve healthy functioning and well-being

Gordon Neufeld (2013) Science of Emotion

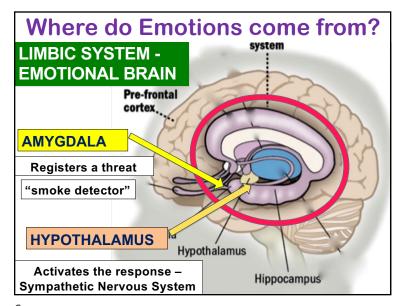
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# Emotion has vital WORK to do.

The <u>immediate</u> task of emotion is SURVIVAL.

The <u>ultimate</u> job of emotion is to GROW THE CHILD UP.

Gordon Neufeld (2013) Science of Emotion



6

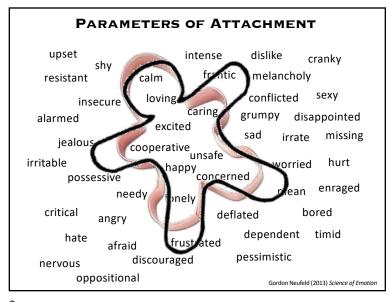
# Emotions need to be expressed BUT...

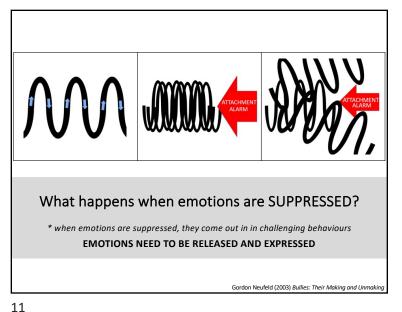


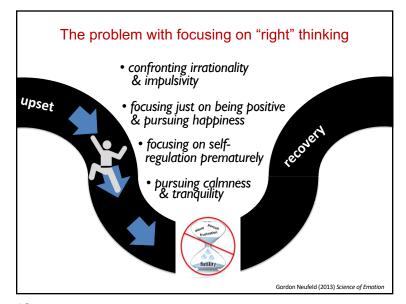
- 1. Expression is often MESSY & NOISY, CHAOTIC & UNACCEPTABLE, ALIENATING & WOUNDING
- 2. It can **threaten** a child's <u>RELATIONSHIPS</u>.
- So, the brain can suppress or depress emotion to protect its attachments especially if emotional expression is considered to be "unacceptable".

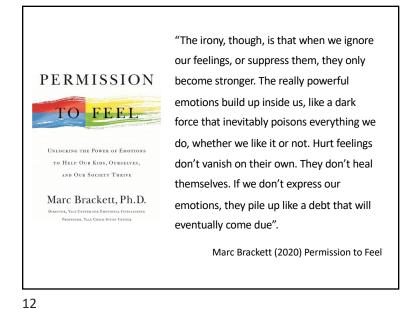












Evidence\* related to suppressing emotion shows consequences on physical health, mental health and general well-being, including an increase in:

- attention, concentration, and memory problems
- high daily emotional stress and emotional dysregulation
- negative social functioning
- number of physical aggressions and bullying incidents
- · mental health conditions, including anxiety and depression
- long term health problems on the body (insomnia, poor digestion, etc.)

Patel & Patel (2019) Consequences of Repression of Emotion Gross & Cassidy (2019) Expressive Suppression of Negative Emotions in Children and Adolescents

13



# **Nurturing Emotional Health and Growth** and cultivating resiliency **RESILIENCE = CAPACITY TO BOUNCE BACK RESILIENCE** Sense of Strength/Confidence Gordon Neufeld (2017) Making Sense of Resilience

14

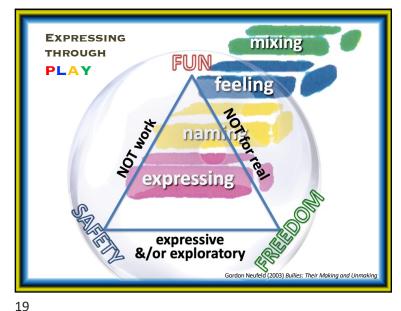




# Benefits of having a 'good' cry

Crying releases the stress hormone (cortisol) and the mood-regulating hormone (oxytocin).

17





**Emotion has vital WORK** to do, however it can be difficult for some to express it.

Being in the 'play' mode allows to safeguard the outcomes of emotional expression.

18



#### **PLAY and EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING**

Studies have found that play-deprived rats are particularly impaired under novel, changeable or challenging situations. They evoke more aggression, incur more injuries, take more time to assume a submissive posture, and show inappropriate exploration of the resident's territory after defeat (Van den Berg et al., 1999a; Von Frijtag et al., 2002).

Studies have also shown that play-deprived animals display increased levels of anxiety (Leussis and Andersen, 2008; Lukkes et al., 2009; Wright et al., 1991).

21

#### PLAY and EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING

When children are "stirred up" emotionally, their PLAY can reflect themes they are struggling with.

PLAY is how they naturally make sense of all the emotions they are experiencing.

In PLAY, pictures are drawn, structures are made, and games are engaged in to ALLOW EMOTIONS TO COME OUT in safety.



#### PLAY and EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING

#### David Elkind in the Power of Play

over the past two decades, children have <u>lost twelve hours</u>
of free time a week, including eight hours of unstructured
play and outdoor activities.

<u>Stuart Brown on the *Status of Play*</u> (Encyclopedia of Play Science)

- outdoor play has decreased by 71% in one generation in both the US and the UK.

Escalating diagnoses of childhood anxiety, depression and ADHD has paralleled the loss of Play -Peter Gray, American Journal of Play 2011

22

#### Three Laws to Emotional Health and Growth

Law #2: Emotion seeks to be <u>FELT</u> to fulfil its potential.

Emotions must be felt (reach consciousness) to do their JOB (sadness cannot lead to healing and recovery without being felt)

Emotions require to be felt in order to be MANAGED (feelings of caring and responsibility are needed to temper impulses)

Emotion can only be felt if it's safe and there's space.

Gordon Neufeld (2013) Science of Emotion

"Our kids are experiencing an emotional crisis. Children are more anxious, aggressive, and shut down than ever. We are seeing clear evidence of this in our schools, our homes, our neighbourhoods and our community spaces. The situation has become so dire that our newspapers are literally writing stories about elementary school-aged children punching, kicking and biting their teachers. The root cause of the emotional crisis and resulting behavioural issues we see on the day to day is that children are <u>losing</u> their feelings."

Hannah Beach (2020) Kids Need a Safe Space to Feel

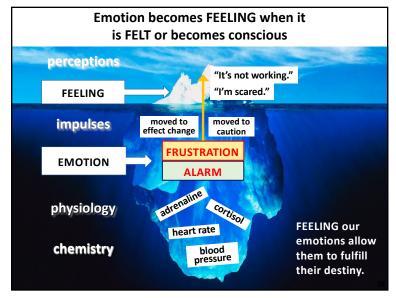
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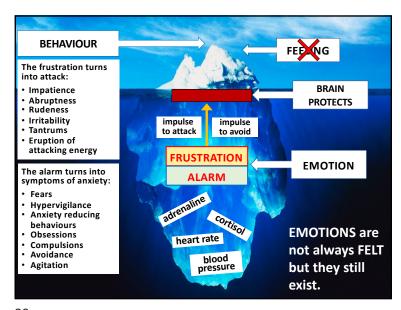
# Anatomy of EMOTION perceptions FEELING impulses EMOTION physiology chemistry Gordon Neufeld (2013) Science of Emotion

# Why are kids loosing their feelings?

- Society's pressure to push for independence and self-control prematurely (kids don't feel safe and taken care of)
- Impact of peer orientation (more wounding interaction, less shielded by adults)
- Impact of screens, digital devices and social media (more superficial connections, more wounding interaction)
- Loss of respite (rest without external stimulation) and creative solitude
- Loss of play, being outdoors (nature)
- Loss of family time (meals around a table, board game night)
- Culture's lack of understanding around the need for emotion to be expressed (kids interpret that emotional expression has repercussion for relationships)

26





# Nurturing Emotional Health and Growth and cultivating resiliency RESILIENCE = CAPACITY TO BOUNCE BACK RESILIENCE Sense of Strength/Confidence Gordon Neufeld (2017) Making Sense of Resilience

For emotions to be felt ...

- a) they need to **MOVE** (through release and expression)
- b) they need to be **NAMED** (whether through words or symbols/images)
- c) it must be **SAFE** (we need to keep our hearts soft and vulnerable)

Gordon Neufeld (2013) Science of Emotion

30

# **SAFETY** is the starting point

- Giving priority to prevention work. Providing check-ins.
- Using structure routine predictability. Being intentional in the physical and social setup of the room (honoring inclusive practices).
- Portraying as a strong and tempered adult (alpha posture).
- Greeting and engaging them (showing warmth, delight and enjoyment).
   Calling students by their name.
- Being actively involved beyond academics. Meeting them at their interests. Remembering what is important to them. Listening with full attention.
- Moving away from discipline methods that cause separation. Finding ways to preserve their dignity when they need to step away.
- Offering a variety of emotional playgrounds to express emotions with or without words. Inviting them to share their thoughts and feelings without being in the 'fix-it' mode.
- Supporting and enhancing protective factors (e.g. presence of secure adult attachments, sense of belonging to school, availability of support measures adapted to student needs, access to healthy and positive extracurricular activities – sports/arts, strong home and school relationship, etc.)

"Safety is not the absence of threat, it is the presence of connection."

Gabor Mate

Safety is in the eye of the beholder

Mona Delahooke
Beyond Behaviours

33

# Emotional balance requires Prefrontal cortex development

#### Judgment last to develop

The area of the brain that controls "executive functions" — including weighing long-term consequences and controlling impulses — is among the last to fully mature. Brain development from childhood to adulthood:

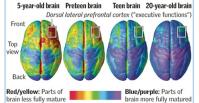


Image from the National Institute of Mental Health; Paul Thompson, Ph.D., UCLA Laboratory of Neuro Imaging

- Only in <u>ideal conditions</u> can a child be disposed to maturation (trauma can stint brain development)
- In those conditions the prefrontal cortex debuts its growth between 5-7 years old and continues well into the 20's and 30's
- If a child is hypersensitive the 5-7 gap of development will rather be at 7-9 years old

### Three Laws to Emotional Health and Growth

Law #3: Emotion seeks <u>BALANCE</u> by 'mixing', but only when developmentally ready.

#### Capacity for self-control and consideration needs to develop

When the conditions are favorable and the development is optimal, emotion finds its 'on the other hand', which brings balance, stability, reflection, self-control and consideration.

Emotional management starts with adult support and accompaniment.

Gordon Neufeld (2013) Science of Emotion

34

# The capacities for self-control and consideration need to be developed

- although development is spontaneous, it is not inevitable and often requires some support
- children cannot manage emotions that they do not feel and cannot feel emotions that are not named or expressed
- self-control is NOT on the developmental agenda until the fifth year of life and not a reliable capacity, even if development is optimal, for several years
- does NOT respond to the direct approach, to taking shortcuts, or putting pressure on the child for results. These nondevelopmental approaches can do more harm than good

#### The IMMATURE child has a hard time:

- Finding information efficiently and quickly (underdeveloped Cerebellum)
- Seeing the "whole" picture (under-developed Corpus Callosum)
- **3. Tempering** their <u>instinctual reactions</u> with conflicting thoughts and feelings. (under-developed **Prefrontal Cortex**)

As a result, they often KNOW better but cannot DO better as Emotion overwhelms REASON.

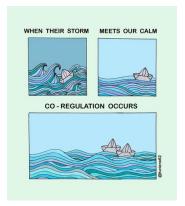
Behaviour will improve when maturation occurs, but this takes time.

37

"Emotion regulation is not about exerting tight control over what we feel. And it's not about banishing negative emotions and feeling only positive ones. Rather, emotion regulation starts with giving ourselves and others the permission to own our feelings—all of them".

Marc Brackett (2020) Permission to Feel

# Children need ADULTS to grow the capacity to temper their emotions



Emotional support and accompaniment must come first and pave the way towards emotional self-control.

38

Emotional self-control is not the absence of emotion It is the FRUIT of 'mixed feelings' (integrative functioning)

CARING & CONSIDERATION = EMPATHY

CARING & ALARM = COURAGE

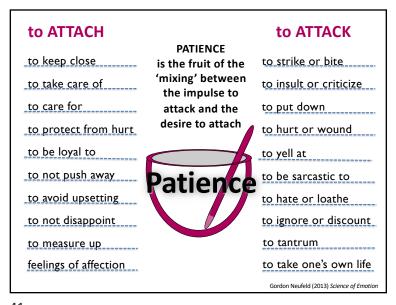
CARING & FRUSTRATION = PATIENCE

**CARING & ANGER = FORGIVENESS** 

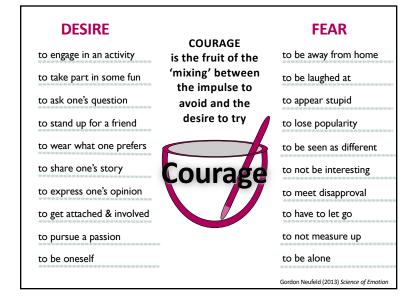
CARING & SHAME = INTEGRITY

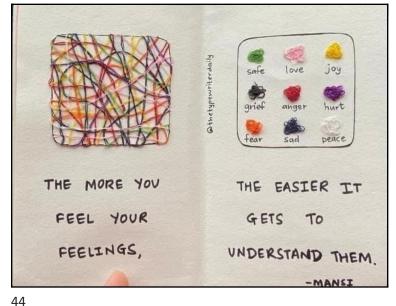
**CARING & DISCOMFORT = SELF-SACRIFICE** 

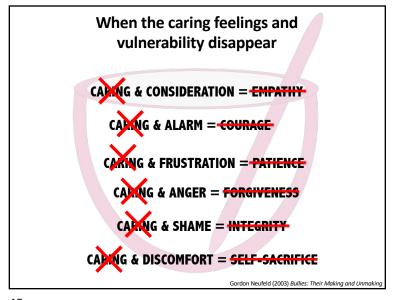
Gordon Neufeld (2013) Science of Emotion

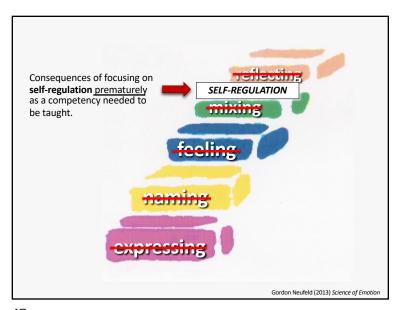












Premature emotional prescriptions can result in emotional restriction and undermine emotional health and development.

Be good! Be kind!

Come back when you can control yourself!

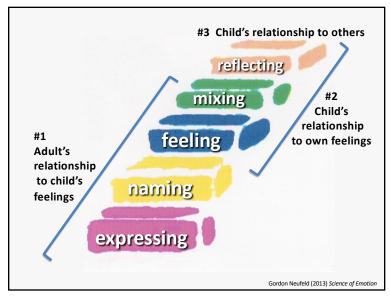
CALM DOWN!

Settle down!

Be positive!

BE HAPPY!

DON'T BE UPSET!



Part 2: what's the difference?

Social Emotional Learning (SEL)

VS.

Nurturing Emotional Health and Growth

49

## **Social Emotional Learning (SEL)**

- In 1987, Roger Weissberg, Timothy Shriver, researchers, and educators established the New Haven Social Development program.
- In 1994, the Collaborative for Academic, Social, and Emotional Learning (CASEL) was founded.
- In 1997, CASEL participants published Promoting Social and Emotional Learning: Guidelines for Educators. The organization that has led the way to bringing SEL into schools worldwide.
- SEL is closely linked to Daniel Goleman's construct of emotional intelligence and on schooling emotions.
- Roger Weissberg acknowledges on his website that the only programs that demonstrated lasting results involved a parent-child relationship component to the program.

# Social Emotional Learning (SEL)

- Social-emotional learning (SEL):
  - is an educational method that aims to foster social and emotional skills within school curricula.
  - emphasizes social and emotional skills to the same degree as other subjects, such as math, science, and reading.
- SEL began in the 1960s at the Yale School of Medicine in its Child Study Center:
  - Professor James Comer studied the education systems of low-income African-American communities due to their poor academic report cards.
  - They implemented competence-based programs that focused on the social and emotional needs of the students.

50



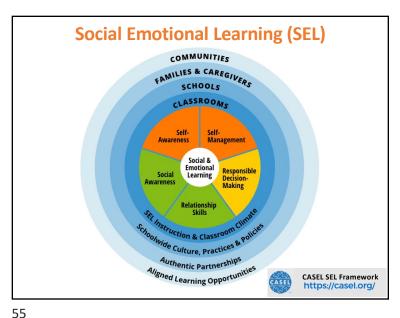
# Teaching The Zones with Integrity by Leah Kuypers, OT and Creator of The Zones of Regulation (2011)

"The students on my OT caseload were amazing kids who were often misunderstood and found themselves "in trouble" because of their differences and challenges in managing their feelings and behavior. In an effort to reduce disciplinary and exclusionary measures, my main goal was to offer positive and proactive instruction that truly helped my students gain an understanding of their feelings and find adaptive tools and strategies for communication, coping, and wellness. Though I am thrilled to see its widespread adoption and use, I am concerned to see some misinterpretation of my intentions and The Zones sometimes being used as a behavioral or compliance model, particularly centered on feeling in, or returning to, the Green Zone. This was never my objective. My mission is to honor all feelings and experiences people have in their bodies, as well as valuing the differences in how we regulate".

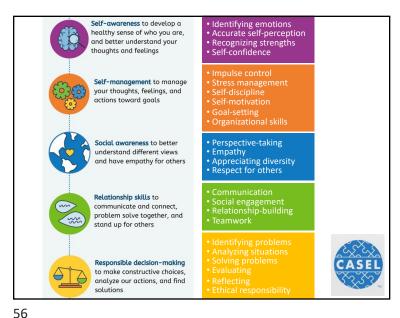
https://www.socialthinking.com/Articles?name=all-the-zones-are-ok



53







"Emotional Health Cannot be "Taught". Building emotional health calls for **experiences** that put us in touch with the full spectrum of human emotions – even the ones that we often try so hard to avoid".

"Change doesn't begin with managing our emotions as an intellectual process that we systematically think through in the heat of the moment! Change — true, deep, long-lasting change — is something that comes from the **inside out**. It begins with **feeling** our emotions, being truly aware of them, having the space to express them, and then acting on them in ways that are appropriate. It is at the emotional level that the deepest, most long-lasting changes occur. And it is on this level that we have to engage our kids, if we want to support their emotional wellbeing".

Hannah Beach (2020) Kids Need a Safe Space to Feel

57

## **Nurturing Emotional Health and Growth**

Emotional health and growth isn't just about 'self-regulation'. Student success and well-being rely on the adults' intent to provide the 'right' conditions and to manage the circumstances instead of trying to control the student's behaviour at all cost.

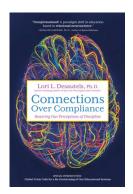
Gordon Neufeld (2013) Science of Emotion

## **Nurturing Emotional Health and Growth**

- Emotional health and growth is a lifelong process
- · It starts with the adults
- It needs to be experiential as a process
- Setting up the conditions for emotional health and growth to unfold naturally (rather than focusing on 'teaching the skills' prematurely)
- It needs to be peppered into our everyday life and can be built-in implicitly (infused)
- It can work better for some if the experience is done in the 'play mode' (indirect none-threatening expressive activities)

58

60



"Social and emotional learning needs to be redefined. It is about the health of our nervous systems. It is about recognizing our sensations. It is as much about the adults as it is the students."

Dr. Lori Desautels

## **Nurturing Emotional Health and Growth**

Experiences that support a sense of safety and connection – this helps soften the defences and lead to wholeheartedness (vulnerability):

- requires tender-hearted care from the adults (warmth and gentle care), which comes from empathy, compassion and vulnerability.
- requires the adult to carry out their role and responsibility in fulfilling the student's attachment needs.
- requires reflective practices on the part of the adults (prevention, teamwork and co-care, using the mirrors to gain perspective).
- need to keep in mind how neuroception can impact the sense of safety and what we can do help calibrate the stress response.
- requires from the adults to adjust the circumstances for the student (physical environment) and help them stay out of trouble (structures and routines that minimize the stress intake).

61

## **Nurturing Emotional Health and Growth**

Reminding ourselves that:

- the whole experience is meant to be empowering for the child, not causing them more discomfort and distress.
- our expectations must be realistic and adapted to the child's individual needs and differences.
- it's about **collaboration and support**. Even when the child is showing signs of maturation, they still need adults to nurture and guide them.

# Impact of adult-student relationships in schools Research findings

Quebec school surveys\* found that the more students experienced **negative treatment from adults** (rudeness, staring with contempt, yelling, insults, humiliation, ignoring when student being mistreated by others, etc.)

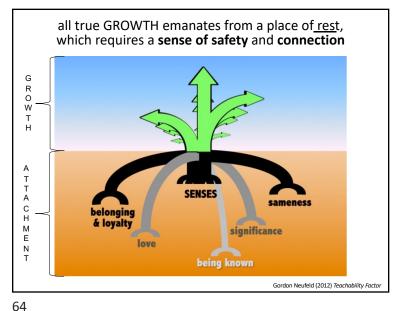
1. the more aggressive behaviours between students occurred.

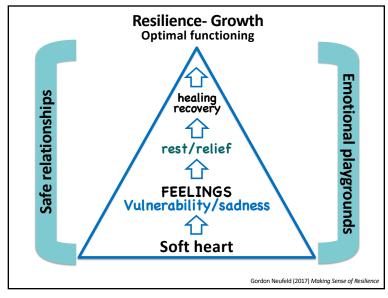
the more adults reported being attacked by students.

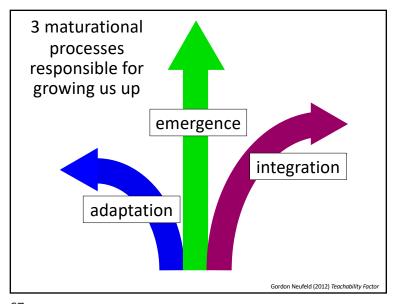


\* Beaumont, Claire et collectif (2016). Ensemble pour de saines habitudes de vie relationnelles à l'école. Communication présentée dans le cadre de la Journée d'étude annuelle de la Chaire de recherche sur la sécurité et la violence en milieu éducatif, Université Laval à Québec.

62

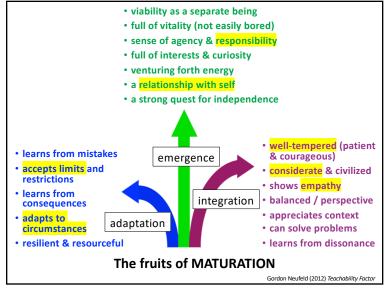


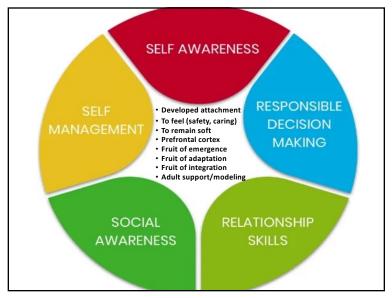


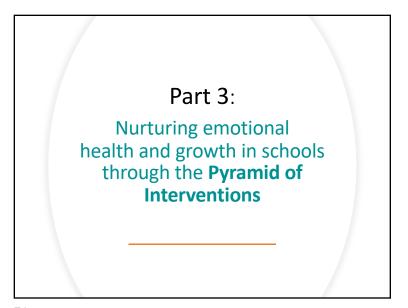


The natural influence of attachment Follow your rules and values to be alike **SENSES** sameness belonging & loyalty significance Follow your rules love Follow your and values to feel rules and values special in your eyes to be loval being known Gordon Neufeld (2012) Becoming Attach

66

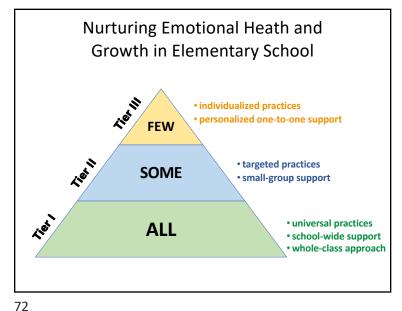






Coercive self-regulation **Emotional support and** accompaniment through an SEL lens Being aware of the adult's own Focusing on external elements to emotional state and stress response fix/control the problem. as a priority. Focusing on the student's sense of Focusing on the student's behavior safety, sensations and feelings, as (what they've done wrong). well as the adult-student dynamic. Helping the student find balance Looking to stop the inappropriate through the adult's own soothing behavior through the adult's posture and tone. authoritative posture and tone. Supporting the student in their upset Upping the ante when the student is even when hostile (adapting the hostile to attempt to shut it down. circumstances accordingly). Acting Acting like a thermometer that reacts like a thermostat to hold a steady to the rise of the student's behavior. temperature. Focusing on the outcome and how to Meeting the student's needs through the application of specific measures achieve it (e.g. by applying of support and accompaniment. consequences). Providing a debrief and follow up. No debrief, no follow up, and no plan Creating a preventative plan of action of action in place beyond the for the future. incident.

70



"The best approaches are **systemic**, not piecemeal. There must be buy-in from the top and the bottom. Emotions can't be addressed only in a ten-minute morning meeting or every Thursday, fourth period. It has to be an everyday thing—it has to become part of the school's DNA. There needs to be a common vision and language among all stakeholders. It has to be integrated into leadership, instruction, faculty meetings, family engagement, hiring procedures, and policies".

Marc Brackett (2020) Permission to Feel

Being proactive means, we don't wait for problems to arise and then deal with them—we adopt measures to prevent them. In some schools this means a shift in mindset, from focusing primarily on having students follow the rules to supporting students preventatively by creating emotionally safe spaces".

"The best efforts towards emotion are **proactive**, not reactive.

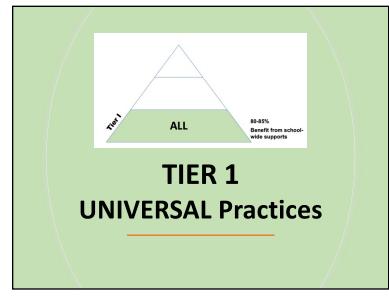
Marc Brackett (2020) Permission to Feel

73

# **Nurturing Emotional Health and Growth**

The 3 keys to cultivating <u>resiliency</u> are:

- Fostering a sense of SAFETY and belonging.
- Making room for emotional EXPRESSION and inviting emotional release.
- Creating opportunities to discover and build a sense of STRENGTH, courage and confidence.



75

76



#### Tier 1 universal practices – during class time

https://www.cebmmember.ca/tier-1-universal-practices

#### **Whole-group** support measures in the prevention mode:

- Fostering a sense of safety and predictability (clear and explicit structures/routines, diverse and inclusive practices, being intentional in the physical set-up of the classroom, other spaces in the building, hallways, school yard, etc.)
- Cultivating a sense of connection, inclusion, and belonging (authentic adult greeting, class meetings, group projects, activities for inclusion and team building, interest/social clubs, sports teams, family and community involvement).
- Allotting time for breaks and emotional respite (re-set corner, quiet individual activities).
- Providing opportunities for emotional release in engaging ways (brain break activities).

77



#### Tier 1 universal practices – during class time

#### How **support staff** can get involved at Tier 1:

- Helping staff and students familiarize themselves with their role and involvement in supporting emotional development: when/where/how they can be accessed for support, what tools and strategies are available to them, what rules and parameters are in place, etc.
- When needed and relevant, supporting the teacher in:
  - cultivating a sense of belonging (class meetings, class discussions, team building activities, etc.)
  - o animating brain breaks or emotional release activities.
  - facilitating activities to build emotional literacy and to model the use of body language/facial expression to convey emotions.



#### Tier 1 universal practices – during class time

https://www.cebmmember.ca/tier-1-universal-practices

Whole-group support measures in the <u>prevention</u> mode:

- Introducing and modeling emotional expression through emotional playgrounds (Inside-Out Handbook).
- Helping students build their language of emotion and match the words to their inner experience (stories).
- Creating opportunities to build a sense of **strength** (trying something new, attempts at facing a challenge (safe practice), allowing ourselves to make mistakes this can be done in the play mode).
- Supporting <u>implicitly</u> (planting the seed) executive functioning development through everyday practices (activities that promote student interaction and cooperative learning, activities that encourage self-awareness and social-awareness, project-based activities, etc.)

78

# **Attachment-friendly practices**



Apr 29, 2021 · 8 min

Emotional Safety: Why kids need a safe space to feel, learn, and grow by Hannah Beach (April 29, 2021)

https://hannahbeach.ca/emotional-safety/



Feb 13, 2020 · 6 min

Creating a Conscious Invitation into Relationship

by Hannah Beach (Feb 13, 2020)

https://hannahbeach.ca/creating-aconscious-invitation-into-relationship/

## **Opportunities for Expressing Emotion**

- Adult invitation to express emotion (making it okay to release all the range of emotions, not just the 'good' ones)
- Adult creating the conditions to express (ideally in the preventive mode as well) – providing the time, space, and materials needed to channel the emotional energy
- Adult modeling different safe and healthy ways of expressing emotion, including expression with or without words (Inside-Out handbook from Hannah Beach)

81

### **Emotional Release Activities**

# **Examples:**

- · Scribble Time!
- · Drawing the music
- · Be the Conductor, You Are the Music
- · Which leaf am I?

Check out <u>Hannah Beach's blog</u> for samples of Emotional Release Activities



You can find numerous ideas in the Inside-Out Handbook which is free when you have a copy of the book: https://reclaimingourstudents.com/

## **Emotional Expression Playgrounds**

Examples of expressive activities with or without words:

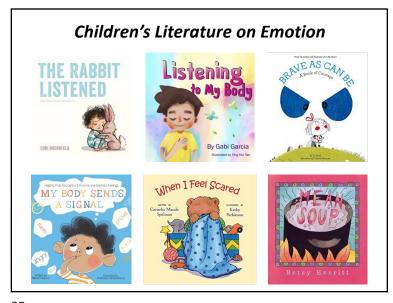
- · singing
- storytelling
- journaling
- poetry
- drama
- · dancing and movement
- · playing a musical instrument
- · art: drawing, painting, even freestyle doodling

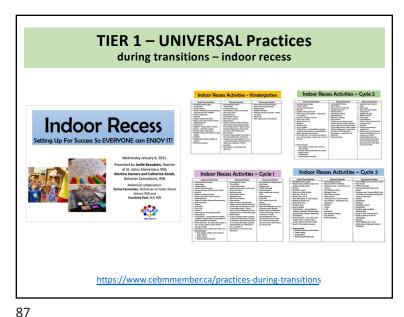
https://www.cebmmember.ca/tier-1-universal-practices

82

# **Opportunities for Naming Emotion**

- Adult support in building emotional literacy (through stories, images of emotion with real faces, puppets, song lyrics, poetry, etc.)
- Adult modeling the identification of emotions (not just a rote memorization of the language, but to be able to identify/recognize our inner emotional experience and match the words to describe it) – can be done through play via role playing, art, music, etc.
- Naming emotions can be done through words, images, symbols, etc.
- Vulnerability (in touch with feelings) without feeling your emotions, it makes it difficult to match a word to an emotional experience we cannot 'feel'





TIER 1 - UNIVERSAL Practices during transitions – outdoor recess (schoolyard)



- Where?-Dividing the yard into clear sections (play/activity areas)
- With whom? Grouping of students
- What?-Types of games/activities (must consider the seasons with and without
- When?-Schedule
- How? Type of student participation, animation, supervision
- With what?-Materials needed

86

88

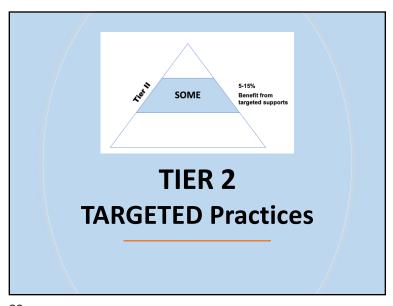


#### *Tier 1 universal practices – during transitions*

https://www.cebmmember.ca/practices-during-transitions

How **support staff** can get involved at Tier 1 during recess/lunch:

- Animating structured activities in the schoolyard
- Introducing and modeling how to play games and sport activities, how the use the equipment needed, explaining the rules and expectations, etc.
- Overseeing the games/ sport activities, supporting cooperation, turn-taking, winning-loosing, conflict resolution, etc.





# Tier 2 targeted practices during class time or transitions

How support staff can get involved at Tier 2:

- · Implementing the student check-ins upon need.
- Supporting the teacher in introducing and modeling the use of tools/materials, which have been assigned to the student.
- Being involved in the scheduling of breaks and what happens during those breaks.
- Animating small groups during recess/lunch, or that have been pulled out during class time (for social development, emotional development, respite, etc.)
- Creating materials (visuals, checklists, get-ready-do-done, firstthen, etc.) to support students with their executive functioning challenges.



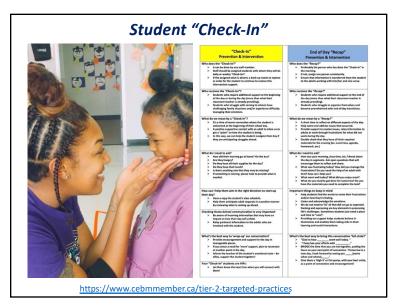
# Tier 2 targeted practices during class time or transitions

https://www.cebmmember.ca/tier-2-targeted-practices

Small-group support measures (in addition to Tier 1):

- Additional measures put into place to help foster the sense **safety** and **belonging** (check-ins, small-group projects).
- Targeted break time allotted preventatively in the student's schedule (re-set corner, alternate location) and targeted tools, which are assigned to the student with a specific purpose, to help with emotional respite.
- Additional targeted emotional release activities in small group (kinesthetic hallway, outdoor structured activities/games).
- Additional targeted emotional expression activities in small group (Inside-Out Handbook).
- Additional targeted opportunities to plant the seed towards emotional growth in small group (stories, role playing).
- Targeted scaffolding for executive functioning challenges (classroom supports, small-group supported recess/lunch time in the schoolyard).

90





Kinesthetic Pathway/Movement Stations

https://www.cebmmember.ca/tier-2-targeted-practices

"You've Got Mail" letters provide something tangible for a student to hold as they head to a predetermined destination for a short period of time.

Two types of letters are available:

Active movement

Quiet activity

https://www.cebmmember.ca/tier-2-targeted-practices



# Supported Recess/Lunch



- Identified students are part of this intervention practice
- An adult meets them at a predetermined location (or collects them along the way)
- An area of the playground is 'reserved' for the Supported Recess group
- Rules are explained, adult coaches, supervises the games and sportsmanship is encouraged

https://www.cebmmember.ca/practices-during-transitions

# TIER 2 – TARGETED Practices during transitions



Structured smallgroup games and activities accompanied by an adult.

https://www.cebmmember.ca/practices-during-transitions

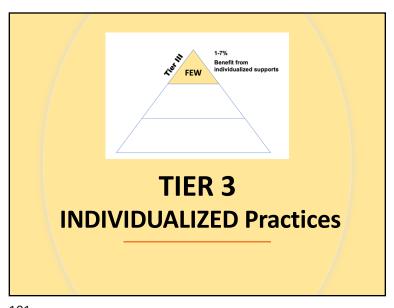
98

# **Extended Recess**

- Identified students meet the support staff 10-15 minutes prior to recess
- They are given additional recess time as it is deemed that they benefit with more time to expend their pent-up energy and release frustrations
- Prior to going outside, the student is coached with specific cues to help them do their best when playing and interacting with others when they come outside to play.



https://www.cebmmember.ca/practices-during-transitions





# Tier 3 individualized practices during class time or transitions

https://www.cebmmember.ca/tier-3-individualized-practices

**One-to-one** support measures (in addition to Tiers 1 and 2):

- Additional personalized opportunities to build a sense of strength on a one-to-one basis (through a project of interest).
- Additional personalized opportunities to plant the seed towards emotional growth and resiliency in one-to-one basis (emotions corner in NSC with tools and materials).
- Personalized plan to compensate for and to scaffold the student's immaturity and defendedness, which impacts executive functioning abilities (clear and explicit student action plan, accompaniment during transitions and unstructured times).



# Tier 3 individualized practices during class time or transitions

https://www.cebmmember.ca/tier-3-individualized-practices

**One-to-one** support measures (in addition to Tiers 1 and 2):

- Additional measures put into place to help foster the sense safety and belonging (visual schedule, systematic check-ins, access to NSC, sheltered recess/lunch, involvement in special project, allotted responsibility to help student feel accomplished and successful).
- Adapted personalized schedule for amygdala reset emotion coregulation (cocoon area in NSC, Emotions Room, sensory tools/materials in Individual Bin).
- Additional personalized emotional release activities on a one-to-one basis (movement corner in NSC, Emotions Room).
- Additional personalized emotional expression activities on a one-to-one basis (creative art activities with or without words).

102



# Tier 3 individualized practices during class time or transitions

How **support staff** can get involved at Tier 3:

- · Implementing the student daily check-ins.
- Being involved in creating the adapted schedule and supporting the student in an alternate location (e.g. NSC) during those blocs of time.
- Introducing and modeling (while in the NSC) the use of tools/materials, which have been assigned to the student.
- Creating materials (visuals, checklists, get-ready-do-done, firstthen, etc.) to support students with their executive functioning challenges.
- Supporting and collaborating with the teacher during debriefs (involved in the repair/recovery process)

# Action Plan with adult-centered goals PLANING WITH THE DPLOSIVE and CHALLENGING STUDENT IN MIND News of trusted API Grade Name Control WIGH WIGH

105

### Daily multiple student "Check-Ins"



Examples of items to look over at check-in point:

- Genuine touchpoint with the student (connect with them first, talk about their interests for a moment)
- Check their current emotional state potential triggers (if any)
- Evaluate their capacity to be in class and their readiness to learn (do they have the necessary materials?)
- Remind them of their strengths to help them towards achieving their goals

https://www.cebmmember.ca/tier-3-individualized-practices

#### SUPPORT AND COMPENSATE

When? Where? With whom?

Work with your school team to change the circumstances rather than just trying to control or change the student.

Prevent problematic situations

- Recess / Breaks
  - ✓ With extra supervision
  - ✓ Organized activity
- Hallways
  - ✓ Away from other students
- Bathrooms
  - ✓ Under supervision
- Lunch time
  - ✓ In a quieter space
- Substitute teacher
  - ✓ Make introductions or
  - ✓ Have an alternate "person" the student can be with

106

#### Examples of sensation/emotion playgrounds

- Art music journaling (building a sense of safety and emotional expression)
- Sensation treasure box (building sensory awareness through exploration)
- Draw the music activity (discovering rhythm and intensity though exploration)
- Gingerbread person activity sensation body map (noticing and naming sensations)
- Draw the shape of your feeling Poem about your feeling (noticing and naming emotions)
- Stories and role-playing (emotional expression onestep-removed, exploration of emotions)

# Student Individual Bin

#### Contains

- activities to engage the student if they need a moment of respite
- less demanding educational work
- · can be easily transported to another location or another room

https://www.cebmmember.ca/personal-bin

**PETER** 

109

# **Nurturing Support Centre (NSC)**



https://www.cebm.ca/nurturing-support-centre

#### **Personal Choice Board**



The personal choice board provides clear boundaries and safe options to release energy and/or expression emotions.

https://www.cebmmember.ca/personal-bin

110

## **K-Cycle 1 Emotions Folder**



https://www.cebmmember.ca/emotions-intervention-materials

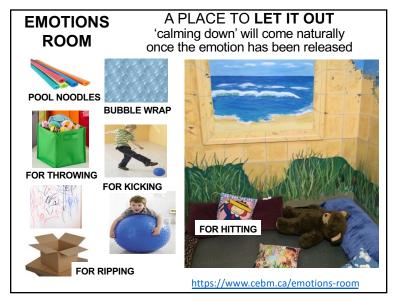
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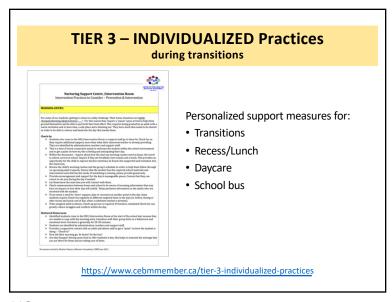
# Supporting emotional growth at Tier 3

Exploratory activities in the prevention mode:

- Noticing our bodies
- Trying out different rhythms
- Breathing exercises
- Sensory experiences
- Movement activities



114



# Sheltered Recess/Lunch



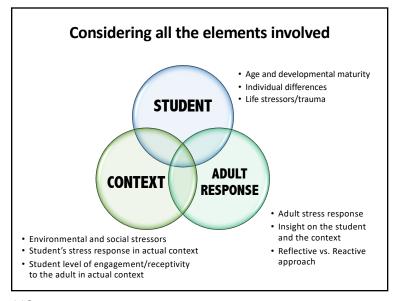
https://www.cebmmember.ca/tier-3-individualized-practices

- Identified students come to NSC/Intervention Room because they are unable to cope within large groups on a behavioral and emotional level
- Some students require this support a few days/week, while others require this fulltime
- Coaching and intervention take place in order to help them learn skills that will help them return to the larger group

117

# Nurturing Emotional Health and Growth Let's review

- Emotion seeks to be released and expressed (suppression may have serious repercussions on mental health and well-being).
- Emotion needs to be felt (if not, it cannot fulfil its job and it cannot be managed).
- Emotion requires 'mixing' to seek balance (emotion regulation isn't about cutting out the impulses, but rather about adding the tempering element).
- Although Social Emotional Learning (SEL) is based on emotions, it gives precedence to reason, and it does not truly honour the natural laws of emotion, nor the steps towards emotional maturity.
- Although nurturing emotional health and growth needs certain conditions, ultimately it's about letting 'Nature' do its job and becoming a midwife to the process.



118



119