



What Is Emotional Literacy?

Ability to recognize, understand, and respond to emotions in oneself and others in a *healthy* manner.

Nurturing Emotional Literacy Helps Children:



- Learn to self-calm and selfregulate
- Develop resiliency
- Express their feelings
- Develop social skills (empathy, sharing, and turn-taking)
- Develop positive relationships with others
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Benefits for Children:



- Manage frustration more successfully
- Have fewer conflicts
- Engage in more positive behavior
- Are healthier
- Control impulses better
- Learn more in school

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What Accounts for Variations in Children's Abilities to Label Emotions?

temperament and developmental status

Parental socialization and environmental support

Caring adults' emphasis on emotional

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Children Learn Emotional Literacy Through:



- Watching children and adults
- Interacting with children and adults
- Receiving guidance from caring adults

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What Can Adults Do?

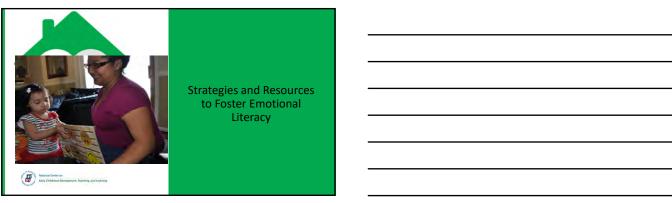
- Recognize emotions in oneself and others
- Understand the causes and consequences of emotions
- Label emotions accurately
- Express appropriate emotions
- Regulate emotions



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Scaffold with Cues and Prompts



Use emotion words. Help children read cues.

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Share Many **Emotion** Words



"Like other forms of literacy, the richer the vocabulary, the more rewarding the experiences."

(Joseph and Strain 2003, p. 1

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Label Throughout the Day



Describe what you notice about children's moods.

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Use Storybooks



- Ask questions about what characters are feeling and why.
- Share new emotion words and meanings.
- Plan activities related to emotions in the book.

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Using Our RULER



"How is the character feeling?
How do you know he/she is
feeling that way? Can you show
me ______ face?"

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Sample Activity:

Make a scrapbook with children's photos and stories about feelings.

"I feel happy when me and my brother look for flowers in the backyard."

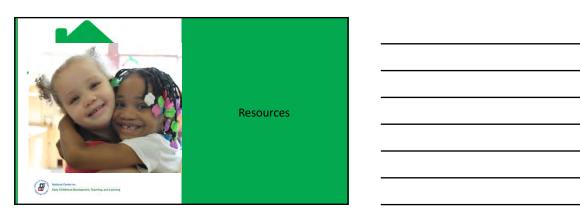






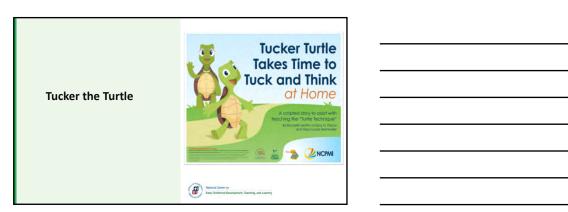


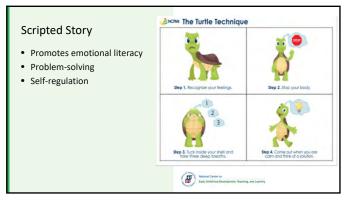


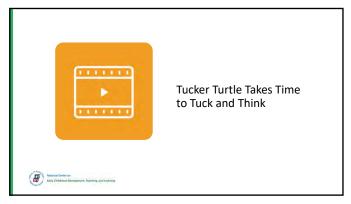














Putting It All Together!

"Children with higher emotional intelligence are better able to pay attention, are more engaged in school, have more positive relationships, and are more empathic."

Raver, Garner, and Smith-Donald 200











