THEME: SOCIAL SKILLS

Need Addressed—Competence

Social and academic skills are interdependent. You can’t have success in learning or in life without social skills. You can’t concentrate, exchange ideas, listen, or collaborate unless you have some basic social competencies. We use the list created by Elliott and Gresham (2008) to determine how social skills affect students’ social and academic capacities: cooperation, communication, assertion, responsibility, engagement, empathy, and self-control. We have devised advisories that help students explore each skill.

1 CPR: Cooperation

Greeting: Snake Greeting
Sharing: Partner Share: *Tell about a time in your life when teamwork was important, in or out of school.* A couple of volunteers share with whole group.
Activity: Helium Hoop OR Shrinking World

2 CPR: Assertion

Greeting: Choice of Voice Greeting (page 217, All Group Greeting variation)
Sharing: Individual Share: *Tell about a time when you stood up for yourself or for someone else.*
Activity: Honey, Do You Love Me? OR What Are You Doing?

3 CPR: Responsibility

Greeting: Partner Greeting
Sharing: Whip Share: *What was a time when you had to handle a lot of responsibility? For example, what games did you play with the little kids at your sibling’s birthday party?*
Activity: Obstacle Course

4 CPR: Empathy

Greeting: Silent Greeting
Share: Individual Share: *Tell about an embarrassing moment you experienced.*
Activity: Talk Show OR One-Minute Talk
5  A+: Self-control

**Greeting:** Snake Greeting

**Activity:** Radio OR Tag Games OR Team Red Light OR Where Are You From?

**Reflection:** Whole group:

*With fingers, show from one to five how well you think we did in self-control during the game.*

*Now show how hard it was for you to use self-control.*

*Any ideas for how we could make the game more fun without losing our controls?*

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6  CPR: Engagement

**Greeting:** Ball Toss

**Share:** Whip Share: *On a scale of one to ten, how good are you at getting and staying focused and interested when doing school work?*

**Activity:** One

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7  A+: Social Skills Group Work

**Greeting:** Reach Out Greeting (page 219, Choice Greeting variation)

**Activity:** Divide students into seven groups (one each of the social skills, see page 96). Give each group a list of familiar games. The group decides which one is best to practice their assigned skill and prepares to lead the group in that activity.

**Reflection:** Groups explain how their chosen activity teaches their assigned skill, and lead the whole advisory in playing it. After playing, whole group indicates with thumbs whether they agree that they practiced the designated skill while playing the game. You will need two or three advisory periods for all seven groups to lead a game. Limit time for each game.

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8  A+: Social Skills in CPR

**Greeting:** Introductory Greeting

**Activity:** Small groups meet to rate the social skills of their advisory group using the Social Skills in CPR Assessment Tool, page 268.

**Reflection:** Small groups report ratings; whole group discusses reports and possible improvements.

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For more adolescent advisory resources, visit developmentaldesigns.org.