SPEAKING TOPICS FOR TEACHERS

Teaching Children People Skills Through Literature and Activities

People skills are an essential, but often unacknowledged, part of every school curriculum. This presentation describes five people skills that are also common themes in children's literature: Reaching Out, Pulling Back, Blending In, Speaking Up, and Letting Go. Participants will explore books related to each theme and learn classroom activities to help children gain these essential skills.

Coaching the Child Who Struggles Socially

Sometimes particular children need extra help in learning to get along with others. This presentation includes a hands-on activity to help participants learn about typical social development and common social struggles at every age. Using a case study format, participants then discuss strategies for helping children develop the social skills they'll need throughout their lives. (Can be offered in combination with "Teaching Children People Skills" to provide an all-day workshop.)

Getting Unstuck: Breaking Free of Power Struggles and Managing Our Own Emotions While Working With Children

Working with children is delightful, meaningful, and fun, but it can also be frustrating, exhausting, and discouraging. This presentation allows participants to take an honest look at some of the not-so-pretty feelings that can come up when working with children and to learn and share effective coping strategies.

Positive Teacher-Parent Conferences

Dealing with parents can be one of the most challenging parts of educators' jobs. This highly interactive workshop provides participants with the opportunity to work in groups to discuss the interventions they'd recommend for particular scenarios involving a struggling child, and how they'd respond to a "surprise" reaction from a parent. (Can be offered in combination with "Getting Unstuck" to provide an all-day workshop.)

TEACHER COMMENTS

"Make this a district mandatory workshop."

"Good hands-on ideas to use immediately in class."

"Credibility that rings true to our teacher experience."

"Interesting, energetic speaker...kept us engaged and got us thinking."

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