

Whole Child Framework Social Emotional Learning News



Responsible Decision Making

Students will build responsible decision making skills order to:

Develop the ability to identify when problems arise

Analyze situations to determine how to solve in an responsible way

Reflect and evaluate how their choices impact the outcome of the decision

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Spotlight

High School in the Community

Truman School

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Family Corner

Decisions in Life

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Dear Educators,

Decision Making Steps

SPOTLIGHT:

High School in the Community: (HSC) Sophomore teaching Freshman Social Emotional Learning.



Truman School:
students

created a Grateful Graffiti Wall



Why Responsible Decision Making

When we have responsible decision making skills we are able to make constructive choices about personal behavior, and social interactions based on ethical standards, safety concerns, and social norms. We are able to evaluate the consequences of our actions and consider the well-being of ourselves and others.

FAMILY CORNER

Everyone no matter their ages has to make decisions in life. Here are some tips on helping children develop these skills. Adapted from <https://www.parenttoolkit.com/social-and-emotional-development/benchmarks/responsible-decision-making/kindergarten-responsible-decision-making-skills>

1. Allow children to be involved in making small choices in their day. Examples include: which books to read, which vegetable they want for dinner, how to spend their allowance. Allowing them the choice will make them feel more involved. Also, give them room to make decisions even if they don't make a choice you agree with, as long as the consequences don't affect their health or safety.
2. Talk with children about consequences. This can help give your child tools they can use to make their own decisions in the future. Ask them questions like, "What do you think will happen if we don't wear our coats outside today?" or, "How do you think your sister will feel if you play with her favorite toy without asking?" Taking another person's perspective enhances the quality of your child's decision-making because in order for your child to make the best decision, they must be able to understand how it will affect others. Learning that there are consequences for actions that affect your child and others is a good way to promote empathy and responsible decision-making.

Dear Educators,

During the school day use different times of the day to draw attention to when students are using decision making skills: Activity Examples: <https://www.aeseducation.com/blog/best-decision-making-activities-middle-school>

Use the following steps to help them be aware and to make decisions:

1. Identifying a decision that needs to be made
2. Brainstorming possible options
3. Identifying possible outcomes for the options
4. Making a decision
5. Reflecting on the decision.