Kindergarten American Online School SOCIAL SKILLS EDUCATION CURRICULUM Building Confidence, Responsibility, and Empathy

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1. Introduction

The Role of Social Skills Education in Kindergarten

In Kindergarten, social skills education helps children understand themselves and others in a positive and supportive way. By developing self-confidence, taking responsibility, and appreciating different perspectives, students learn how to communicate effectively, solve problems, and build strong relationships with peers and adults. The focus is on social-emotional learning through play, stories, and guided interactions.

By the end of this course, students will:

- ✓ Understand the importance of self-confidence and how to express it.
- ✓ Practice taking responsibility for their actions.
- ✓ Recognize and understand different perspectives, fostering empathy.
- ✓ Build positive relationships through listening, sharing, and cooperation.

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2. Core Competence Areas

SoSk.1 Self-Confidence

Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

- ✓ Recognize and express their strengths and abilities.
- ✓ Show confidence in their ideas and actions.
- ✓ Understand the value of positive self-talk and self-encouragement.

Competencies

SoSk.1.A.1 – Building self-awareness

- Talk about what makes them special and what they are good at.
- Create a "Me Book" with pictures or words that describe their strengths and feelings.

SoSk.1.A.2 – Encouraging positive self-talk

- Use phrases like "I can do it!" or "I am proud of myself."
- Participate in activities where they share something they did well (e.g., "I was brave when I tried this new game").

SoSk.2 Taking Responsibility

By the end of this unit, students will be able to:

- ✓ Understand the concept of responsibility (e.g., cleaning up, following rules).
- ✓ Take responsibility for their actions and behavior.
- ✓ Participate in daily routines that encourage accountability.

Competencies

SoSk.2.A.1 – Practicing responsibility in the classroom

- Help clean up after activities and take care of personal belongings.
- Use a responsibility chart to track tasks like "put away books" or "help a friend."

SoSk.2.A.2 – Making responsible choices

- Discuss scenarios where they make choices, like deciding to share or waiting for a turn.
- Role-play situations where they practice saying "Sorry" or "It was my fault."

SoSk.3 Understanding Others – "Perspectives of Others"

Learning Outcomes

By the end of this unit, students will be able to:

- ✓ Recognize that everyone has different feelings and perspectives.
- ✓ Practice empathy by understanding how others might feel in different situations.
- ✓ Share and listen to others' ideas with respect.

Competencies

SoSk.3.A.1 – Identifying emotions in others

- Read storybooks or watch videos showing different characters' emotions (e.g., happy, sad, frustrated).
- Use role-play to act out scenarios where they practice recognizing and responding to other people's feelings.

SoSk.3.A.2 – Practicing empathy

- Discuss what it means to be kind and how to help others when they are feeling upset.
- Engage in group activities where they take turns sharing or helping peers with tasks.

3. Assessment and Evaluation

Formative Assessments – Daily Practice and Observation

- ✓ Participation in group discussions and activities.
- ✓ Daily reflections in a "Feelings Journal".
- ✓ Teacher observations of self-regulation and peer interactions.

Summative Assessments – Projects and Presentations

- ✓ "All About Me" book presentation or "I Am Proud" poster.
- ✓ Responsibility chart completion and self-reflection.
- ✓ Role-playing scenarios to demonstrate empathy and sharing.

Authentic Assessment – Real-World Application

- ✓ Peer feedback during cooperative games or group projects.
- ✓ Daily routines and classroom behavior that reflect learned concepts.
- ✓ Collaboration with peers on community-building activities.

4. Instructional Strategies for Online Learning

Interactive and Experiential

- ✓ Use stories, role-playing, and puppetry to introduce social skills concepts.
- ✓ Encourage peer-led discussions and activities to reinforce learning.

Routine-Based and Reflective

- ✓ Incorporate daily check-ins to reflect on how students feel and behave.
- ✓ Use routine charts and visual reminders to support positive behavior.

Inclusive and Supportive

- ✓ Create a welcoming classroom environment where all students feel respected.
- ✓ Encourage collaborative problem-solving and sharing.