

Suggested Presentation Timeline: Social and Emotional Overview



This lesson outline is designed to be a teaching tool for early learning professionals who teach this information in a wide variety of settings. Therefore, please use the outline below as a guide and modify it as necessary to meet the needs of your audience and schedule.

Minutes 0 - 10 Welcome and Introductions

- Begin your presentation or workshop by creating a comfortable environment.
- Introduce yourself to your group / audience and orient them to the environment (restrooms, important announcements).

Minutes 10 - 40 Presentation of Topic

Provide your group with an overview of the topic you will be presenting. This brings all the participants together quickly as well as to engage the group in the learning. Here are some options for how to do this:

1. Tell a story that engages the audience.

Think about an infant who cries because she wants to be picked up, or the toddler who throws a tantrum due to frustration, or the preschooler who is so excited to be with his friends at school he runs over and tackles them. The way parents and caregivers respond to each of these children will impact the way the children grow and develop.

2. Provide a definition of the topic / terms that are being discussed.

Definition of Social and Emotional Development: Social and Emotional Development refers to the way in which children learn to interact with others and to identify, understand, and manage their own emotions as well as the emotions of those around them.


3. Some educators find it helpful to begin with a general question. For example:

- When you think of the words social and emotional, what ideas come to mind?
- Why is social and emotional development so important?

4. Provide an overview that introduces your audience to the research-based information about the topic.

Social and emotional development means learning to share, learning to wait, learning to express feelings and manage different emotions at once. Children need parents and caregivers to help guide them in learning how to develop these skills. Social emotional development does not happen quickly. It is a lifelong process that begins at birth and is firmly rooting in the first five years of life.



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- Review the goals of what you intend to teach, describe what tools/resources they can expect to gain by attending the event, and present the Parenting Counts Program Curriculum.

Minutes 40 - 50 Applied Learning Activity

- Most audiences are ready for a change in activity after 20-30 minutes of lecture. Consider the composition of your group and decide what type of activity best meets their needs.
- Some educators choose to have participants work in pairs to maximize comfort with the topic, others opt for a group discussion to allow a variety of opinions to be heard and validated.
- Parenting Counts offers multiple video options that can be used during this time to encourage discussion or to continue the learning experience.

Minutes 50 - 60 Closure and Evaluation

- Closure: Be sure to recap the key messages of the presentation as well as provide tools that incorporate the learning into parenting practices.
- Evaluation: Please distribute an evaluation form as part of your presentation. It is important to give participants an opportunity to comment on the presentation as well as to provide you with an assessment of their learning.

