



Social & Emotional Development – “Instill the Skills” Dovetail Learning’s “Toolbox” of Practices

WHAT IS THE PROGRAM	<p>The “Instill the Skills” initiative is designed to teach and instill in children, teachers, parents and other community leaders who interact with children, the "life skills" of personal and social well-being such as empathy, compassion, coping and anger management, in order to help form cohesive, collaborative and non-violent individuals and communities.</p> <p>Sandy Hook Promise will deliver these social and emotional skills via “<i>The Toolbox Project</i>” (Toolbox), a grade K-6 program developed by Dovetail Learning*. Toolbox is delivered in the classroom and used in all school contexts, including via connection activities for parents, at home.</p>
WHO SHOULD PARTICIPATE	<p>Dovetail Learning trains grade K-6 faculty, staff and administrators in the Toolbox curriculum practices and methods.</p>
WHO WILL BENEFIT	<p>Short-term, Toolbox will benefit grades K-6 children, faculty, administrators and parents. Long-term, entire communities will benefit as generations begin to incorporate these lifelong skills and practices.</p>
CORE LEARNING	<p>Teachers invite students to access personal “Tools” (skills) that each child already has within themselves. Each of the 12-Tools honors and strengthens children’s innate capacity for managing their own emotional, social, and academic success by giving them tools and practices that empower them.</p> <p>Children experience each of the “Tools” at each grade level in age-appropriate ways. Literature, puppets, journaling and role-plays bring the Tools to life and help children to practice them.</p> <p>As Tools are learned, children take them home and engage their families in practical conversations about behavior and relationships.</p>

<p>CORE LEARNING (Cont'd)</p>	<p>Once the children are familiar with the common language and practices of all twelve Tools, the next phase is to put them to work in familiar school situations with both personal and social issues. When problems present themselves, teachers can simply ask, “What three Tools have you tried?” Children realize they have the power and ability to solve their own problems.</p> <p>As children advance through the grades the Tools become part of the school culture and community.</p>
<p>HOW TO GET STARTED</p>	<p>Individuals, organizations, workplaces and schools interested in implementing Toolbox should contact: Mary Hamilton at programs@sandyhookpromise.org</p> <p>Costs and training availability depend on number of participants, material needs and trainer scheduling. Sandy Hook Promise will strive to offset as many of the costs as possible associated with implementation.</p>

* Dovetail Learning is a non-profit organization dedicated to strengthening children’s innate capacity for resilience, self-mastery and empathy for others through its Toolbox Project curriculum, practices and methods. The Toolbox Project gives children, teachers, parents, and schools a common language and the Tools necessary to form a cohesive, collaborative, non-violent, and caring community, which leads to hope for a meaningful and positive future.