

Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools

Responsible Decision Making



- Classroom and Advisory Videos
- Discussion Questions
- Self-Reflection Questions
- Lesson Plans

Experts with the Collaborative for Academic, Social and Emotional Learning (CASEL) confirm that social and emotional learning (SEL) is essential to the school and life success of all children. Why? Our emotions and relationships affect how and what we learn. Emotions can enable us to generate an active interest and sustain our engagement in learning. On the other hand, unmanaged stress and poor regulation of impulses interfere with attention and memory and contribute to behaviors disruptive to learning. Studies confirm SEL benefits including reductions in child aggression, substance abuse, delinquency, and violence; lower levels of depression and anxiety; and increased grades, attendance, and performance in core academic subjects.

This guide provides a suggested order for putting **Connect with Kids** social and emotional learning video resources, along with discussion questions and activities, to work in the elementary school classroom. Business experts call it “see-feel-change,” fueling action by sparking emotion. Connect with Kids calls it **educating the heart**: using the power of storytelling and peer-to-peer connections to create heart-felt associations. Research shows that children and adults who emotionally connect with an experience are more likely to make life-long behavioral change than those who just receive information about that experience. Students realize that they are not alone in their feelings and learn to trust their teachers, classmates and themselves as they navigate social and emotional challenges that naturally occur in the elementary school years.

Search for the program title to find video and print resources, which all stream 24/7 via your Connect with Kids WebSource website subscription or custom school website.

Questions?

Please contact Connect with Kids Client Support at **888.598.KIDS (5437)** or email info@cwknetwork.com.

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Title	SEL Notes	Documentary Story Description
Single Topic Videos Convictions	Knowing the effects and consequences of your actions—both good and bad—is important for students to succeed.	After learning that the stream behind her school was polluted, Ashley Swandby's strong convictions compelled her to take action by searching for the source of the pollution and motivating others to get involved in this and other environmental issues.
Single Topic Videos Justice/Fairness	Consequences for actions are based on a system of justice and fairness. Knowing the punishments and rewards before acting can often tilt the scales in your favor.	Even though Robert Layde and David Mullinax were both victims of unfair treatment, Robert took his anger and frustration out on other people while David went beyond mere fairness to demonstrate empathy for his tormentors.
Single Topic Videos Responsibility	Making smart, well-thought-out decisions and knowing the possible consequences of our actions form the basis of responsibility.	When Rafael Posada decided to “go for it” and race the car that pulled up next to him, he didn't think about any consequences. Rafael didn't expect to find a cop also pull up beside him. He didn't expect to be arrested.
Video Shorts Peer Pressure	When is peer pressure the basis for making responsible decisions? That requires knowing right from the wrong and the possible consequences of our actions.	Watching one teen's story can help students understand the influences their friends can have — both good and bad – and the importance of the choices they make.

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Video Short Plagiarism	Plagiarizing is cheating, and students need to be aware of the possible consequences.	A survey of over 30,000 teens by the Josephson Institute finds that 64 percent says they've cheated on a test in class. And one in three has used the internet to cheat on a class assignment or plagiarize a paper. But in a few cases, some kids may not even realize they're cheating.
Inside Out Justice	Making responsible choices leads to better, safer outcomes. In our justice system, when we break the law, we need to be ready to suffer the consequences.	Jayme Webb made a split second decision to drink and drive. A decision that ended up taking an innocent man's life.
Video Short What's a Responsible College Visit	Participating in college tours is important for students to get a real feel for the university and get their name in that school's system. Making smart choices in high school prepares students for college and beyond.	High school seniors around the country are in the process of deciding where to do to school next year. While a big part of that decision hinges on their visits to college campuses, what goes on during those visits may be of a surprise to many. Watch this program and hear from students, along with expert advice on making the most of college visits.
Video Short Hi Tech Cheating	In today's technological world, young people need to make responsible choices about giving or receiving information that could help them or others cheat.	Kids today seem to be constantly texting. A survey of youth from Textplus shows teens are sending text messages during the school day as well. And what they're sending might be considered by some as high-tech cheating.

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<p>Video Short <u>Violence & Video Games</u></p>	<p>Kids need to make smart, responsible decisions about the appropriate video games to play. By knowing the research on the possible effects of violence in video games, kids can make constructive choices.</p>	<p>Can the “virtual” violence in video games and other media make kids more aggressive in real life? Do these games help kids release aggression or do they teach them to be aggressive? It’s an old debate and one that a university study has tried to answer.</p>
<p><u>Shattered (Parts 1-5)</u></p>	<p>Understanding that actions have consequences is an important skill that students and kids must have. Before acting, students need to consider all possible outcomes, both negative and positive.</p>	<p>The recorded voices of a 911 call, recount the story of a girl whose life changed forever after making the decision to drink and drive</p>
<p><u>In the Age of Alcohol (Parts 1-5)</u></p>	<p>It’s important for students and kids to know how to make rational, well-thought-out decisions and understand the possible consequences, because once alcohol is involved, decision making skills are non-existent.</p>	<p>Underage drinking is reaching epidemic proportions. Hear from kids about today’s mixed messages from their peers, the media and even parents and learn strategies to delay that first drink in today’s age of alcohol.</p>
<p><u>Gateway (Parts 1-5)</u></p>	<p>Before experimenting with cigarettes, alcohol, and/or marijuana, young people should weigh in on the possible consequences, especially if under the age of 18. Could these gateway drugs lead to more addictive substances?</p>	<p>Studies show that children who use gateway drugs like marijuana are up to 266 times as likely to use cocaine as those who don’t use gateway drugs. Gateway analyzes the connection and suggests ways to reduce juvenile experimentation.</p>

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<p><u>Ripped Apart (Parts 1-5)</u></p>	<p>Thinking of the possible outcomes before using steroids or other drugs in order to enhance performance is extremely important for young people. By becoming educated on the effects of these drugs, students can learn how dangerous these enhancements are before considering using them.</p>	<p>Kids are turning to sports supplements to keep up with the level of competition in sports today.</p>
<p>Video Shorts <u>MP3s and Hearing Loss</u></p>	<p>Being responsible when listening to music devices is important to stay healthy and take care of your hearing. Students need to be aware of the hearing damage they could be causing through earbuds or headphones.</p>	<p>iPods and other digital music players have skyrocketed in popularity and sales, especially during the holidays. But once again, new research is warning that listening to music through earbuds or headphones can lead to hearing loss</p>
<p>Video Shorts <u>Smokeless Tobacco</u></p>	<p>It's important for young people to know the horrific effects of smokeless tobacco before they decide to use it.</p>	<p>A new line of smokeless tobacco called "Snus" has health officials worried. Supposedly the new "dip" just tucks under your lip and stays there- no chewing and no spitting, which means it can be used just about anywhere- even as the ads say, "At a concert, right in front of security guards." But it is still tobacco and it's still dangerous.</p>