

Grade 7

Unit 1: Mindsets & Goals

Program Themes: Academic Success, Belonging, Growth Mindset, Helping Others, Perspective-Taking, Planning Ahead, Resilience, Starting Right

CASEL Core Competencies: Self-Awareness, Self-Management, Social Awareness, Relationship Skills, Responsible Decision-Making

Lesson Title	Objectives Students will be able to:
Lesson 1A Starting Middle School	Describe challenges they might face as they start middle school and identify resources where they can get help.
Lesson 1B Helping New Students	Use empathy skills to identify why some students feel nervous when they're starting middle school and ways they can help new students feel welcome and comfortable at school.
Lesson 2 Creating New Pathways in Your Brain	Explain how practicing something difficult helps the brain grow new neural pathways.
Lesson 3 Learning from Mistakes and Failure	Analyze simple and complex scenarios to determine what they can learn from making mistakes.
Lesson 4 Identifying Roadblocks	Distinguish between internal and external roadblocks.
Lesson 5 Overcoming Roadblocks 1	Think of and select appropriate strategies as part of If-Then Plans for overcoming roadblocks.
Lesson 6 Overcoming Roadblocks 2	Create an If-Then Plan to anticipate and get past a roadblock that could prevent them from achieving a goal.
Lesson 7-Performance Task Advice on Roadblocks	Give advice to a sixth-grade student who's trying to learn something new and feels like giving up.

Unit 2: Recognizing Bullying & Harassment

Program Themes: Bullying and Harassment, Conflicts, Helping Others, Relationships

CASEL Core Competencies: Social Awareness, Relationship Skills, Responsible Decision-Making

Lesson Title	Objectives Students will be able to:
Lesson 8 What Is Harassment?	Define harassment in their own words and distinguish between bullying and harassment.
Lesson 9 What Is Sexual Harassment?	Recognize and define sexual harassment and explain the difference between flirting and sexual harassment.

Lesson Title	Objectives Students will be able to:
Lesson 10 The Effects of Sexual Harassment	Describe the effects of sexual harassment and identify sexual harassment support resources available at school.
Lesson 11 Gender-Based Harassment	Recognize gender-based harassment and the effects it can have on someone, as well as how stereotypes about gender contribute to gender-based harassment.
Lesson 12 Our Rights and Responsibilities	Describe their right to be protected from harassment at school, as well as the responsibilities they and their school have to create a harassment-free environment.
Lesson 13—Performance Task Preventing Harassment	Describe their rights and responsibilities regarding harassment and the consequences of engaging in harassment to their peers.

Unit 3: Thoughts, Emotions & Decisions

Program Themes: Conflicts, Resilience, Staying Calm, Thoughts and Emotions

CASEL Core Competencies: Self-Awareness, Self-Management, Social Awareness, Relationship Skills, Responsible Decision-Making

Lesson Title	Objectives Students will be able to:
Lesson 14 Emotions Matter	Explain the importance of emotions and describe how emotions can affect their thoughts and decisions.
Lesson 15 Feel, Think, Do	Explain how thoughts and emotions are connected and can affect their decisions.
Lesson 16 Unhelpful Thoughts	Distinguish helpful thoughts from unhelpful thoughts and analyze how unhelpful thoughts can negatively affect the decisions they make.
Lesson 17 Reframing Unhelpful Thoughts	Explain how to interrupt and reframe unhelpful thoughts.
Lesson 18 Practicing Positive Self-Talk	Practice using positive self-talk to reframe unhelpful thoughts.
Lesson 19—Performance Task Making Better Decisions	Demonstrate how strong emotions can prompt unhelpful thoughts and model strategies for managing their emotions and reframing unhelpful thoughts.

Grade 7

Unit 4: Managing Relationships & Social Conflict

Program Themes: Conflicts, Perspective-Taking, Planning Ahead, Relationships

CASEL Core Competencies: Self-Management, Social Awareness, Relationship Skills, Responsible Decision-Making

Lesson Title	Objectives Students will be able to:
Lesson 20 What Makes a Conflict Escalate?	Identify common reasons why social conflicts escalate from minor to major.
Lesson 21 Keeping Your Cool in a Conflict	Describe how using emotion-management strategies can prevent the escalation of a conflict.
Lesson 22 Conflicts and Perspectives	Explain how to listen to and consider someone else's perspective during a conflict.
Lesson 23 Resolving Conflict Part 1	Describe the perspectives of everyone involved in a conflict in a nonjudgmental way.
Lesson 24 Resolving Conflict Part 2	Consider possible solutions and their consequences in order to find the best solution for resolving a conflict.
Lesson 25 Taking Responsibility for Your Actions	Explain what to do to take responsibility for their actions and make things as right as possible.
Lesson 26-Performance Task Tips for Resolving Conflicts	Identify the key elements of resolving conflicts successfully.

Grade 8

Unit 1: Mindsets & Goals

Program Themes: Academic Success, Belonging, Growth Mindset, Planning Ahead, Relationships, Resilience, Starting Right, Values

CASEL Core Competencies: Self-Awareness, Self-Management, Social Awareness, Responsible Decision-Making

Lesson Title	Objectives Students will be able to:
Lesson 1 Welcome!	Describe how the Second Step program can help them navigate physical, social, and emotional changes in adolescence.

Lesson Title	Objectives Students will be able to:
Lesson 2 Who Am I? My Identity	Name unique and important aspects of their identities.
Lesson 3 My Interests and Strengths	Describe how they used their personal strengths to develop an interest, skill, or ability.
Lesson 4 Harnessing My Strengths	Explain how to use their strengths to get better at something new.
Lesson 5 Pursuing My Interests	Describe ways to make the most of positive factors and decrease the effects of negative factors while pursuing an interest or goal.
Lesson 6 My Future Self	Describe important aspects of their future identities.
Lesson 7-Performance Task My Path Forward	Identify strengths and skills they already have and explain how they can use them to develop their interests.

Unit 2: Recognizing Bullying & Harassment

Program Themes: Bullying and Harassment, Conflicts, Helping Others

CASEL Core Competencies: Self-Awareness, Social Awareness, Relationship Skills, Responsible Decision-Making

Lesson Title	Objectives Students will be able to:
Lesson 8 Understanding Bullying	Recognize that most people believe bullying is harmful behavior, despite its prevalence in school culture.
Lesson 9 Social Factors that Contribute to Bullying	Recognize how social factors contribute to bullying and harassment.
Lesson 10 Environmental Factors that Contribute to Bullying	Identify environmental factors that contribute to bullying and harassment.
Lesson 11 Speak Up and Start a Movement	Explain how to use strategies to disrupt factors that contribute to bullying and harassment.
Lesson 12 Be Inclusive and Change Policies	Explain how to use additional strategies to disrupt factors that contribute to bullying and harassment.
Lesson 13-Performance Task Stand Up for Change!	Apply their knowledge from the unit to create a plan for disrupting factors that contribute to bullying and harassment at school.

Grade 8

Unit 3: Thoughts, Emotions & Decisions

Program Themes: Resilience, Staying Calm, Thoughts and Emotions

CASEL Core Competencies: Self-Awareness, Self-Management, Responsible Decision-Making

Lesson Title	Objectives Students will be able to:
Lesson 14 Understanding Stress and Anxiety	Recognize how stress and anxiety affect their emotions, thoughts, and bodies.
Lesson 15 Where Does Stress Come From?	Categorize common sources of stress and explain the difference between controllable and uncontrollable stressors.
Lesson 16 Can Stress Help You Grow?	Reframe certain types of stress as opportunities for growth.
Lesson 17 Strategies for Managing Stress	Demonstrate how to choose strategies for managing stress.
Lesson 18 Changing Strategies and Getting Help	Analyze stressful situations, decide if they need to change strategies or get outside help to manage their stress, and identify people who can help them when they feel their stress is unmanageable.
Lesson 19—Performance Task My Stress-Management Plan	Create an individual plan for managing their stress.

Unit 4: Managing Relationships & Social Conflict

Program Themes: Academic Success, Belonging, Conflicts, Growth Mindset, Perspective-Taking, Planning Ahead, Relationships, Resilience, Starting Right, Values

CASEL Core Competencies: Self-Awareness, Self-Management, Social Awareness, Relationship Skills, Responsible Decision-Making

Lesson Title	Objectives Students will be able to:
Lesson 20 My Values	Identify their core values and how their behaviors demonstrate these values.
Lesson 21 Values and Relationships	Describe the connection between their values and healthy behaviors in relationships.
Lesson 22 Recognizing Others' Perspectives	Analyze conflicts from multiple perspectives to help prevent them from escalating.
Lesson 23 Finding the Best Solution	Generate and evaluate solutions to conflicts that are mutually acceptable to everyone affected.

Lesson Title	Objectives Students will be able to:
Lesson 24 Making Things Right	Identify a variety of ways for making amends to restore a relationship that's been damaged.
Lesson 25 Unhealthy Relationships	Distinguish between healthy and unhealthy relationships.
Lesson 26-Performance Task Guide to Healthy Relationships	Describe the importance of choosing healthy relationships, tell if a relationship is healthy, and recognize and manage unhealthy relationships.
Lesson 27 High School Challenges	Identify challenges many students face starting high school and people they can go to for help with these challenges.