



## **ALIGNMENT CHART: COMMON CORE ACADEMIC STANDARDS Second Step for Middle School**

### **The Importance of Social-Emotional Learning**

Social-emotional learning (SEL) is recognized as a key ingredient for school and life success. A 2011 meta-analysis found that students participating in SEL programs showed significant gains in social-emotional skills, attitudes, and behaviors, as well as academic achievement.

Specific gains produced by SEL programs that support students' academic achievement include:

- 11 percentile-point gain in achievement test scores
- 23 percent improvement in social-emotional skills
- 9 percent improvement in attitudes about self, others, and school
- 9 percent improvement in school and classroom behavior
- 9 percent decrease in conduct problems, such as classroom behavior and aggression

Educators across the nation acknowledge the benefits of SEL in schools and agree that teaching students social-emotional skills is a necessary and valuable component of their education.

### **About the Second Step Middle School Program**

The Second Step Middle School Program is a universal, classroom-based program that promotes the development of critical thinking and problem-solving skills—key skills underlying the principles of the Common Core State Standards. Students with these skills are better able to maintain healthy relationships with peers and adults and have more coping strategies to manage stressful situations. They are also more likely to benefit from academic instruction.

#### **How to Use This Document**

The charts in this document show how the Second Step Program aligns to specific Common Core State Standards, which can be found at [corestandards.org](http://corestandards.org).



**GRADE 6**

Subject	Strand	Standard	Standard Description
English Language Arts	Reading: Informational Text	CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.6.2	Determine a theme or central idea of a text and how it is conveyed through particular details; provide a summary of the text distinct from personal opinions or judgments.
	Writing	CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.6.3	Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective techniques, relevant descriptive details, and well-structured event sequences.
	Speaking & Listening	CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.6.1	Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners on grade 6 topics, texts, and issues, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly.
		CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.6.1.B	Follow rules for collegial discussions, set specific goals and deadlines, and define individual roles as needed.
		CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.6.1.C	Pose and respond to specific questions with elaboration and detail by making comments that contribute to the topic, text, or issue under discussion.
		CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.6.1.D	Review the key ideas expressed and demonstrate understanding of multiple perspectives through reflection and paraphrasing.
		CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.6.3	Delineate a speaker's argument and specific claims, distinguishing claims that are supported by reasons and evidence from claims that are not.
Literacy in History/Social Studies, Science, & Technical Subjects	History & Social Studies	CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RH.6-8.2	Determine the central ideas or information of a primary or secondary source; provide an accurate summary of the source distinct from prior knowledge or opinions.
	Science & Technical Subjects	CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RST.6-8.2	Determine the central ideas or conclusions of a text; provide an accurate summary of the text distinct from prior knowledge or opinions.

Key Concepts																Instructional Strategies							
																Discussion				Skill Practice			
Growth Mindset: Your Brain Can Grow and Change	Setting and Achieving Goals	Planning Ahead for Difficult Situations	Identifying Personal Values	Using Personal Values to Make Good Decisions	Making Friends and Strengthening Friendships	Recognizing Negative Relationships	The Role of Emotions	Handling Unhelpful Thoughts and Strong Emotions	Calming-Down Strategies	Recognizing Different Perspectives	Recognizing and Avoiding Serious Conflicts	Resolving Serious Conflicts	Repairing Relationships	Helping Prevent Bullying and Harassment	Working with a Partner or Small Group	Summarizing Key Ideas	Applying Concepts to Personal Experiences	Responding to Questions	Communicating Ideas	Listening to Others	Working with a Partner or Small Group	Writing About Personal Experiences	Creating Effective Plans
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**GRADE 7**

Subject	Strand	Standard	Standard Description
English Language Arts	Reading: Informational Text	CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.7.2	Determine two or more central ideas in a text and analyze their development over the course of the text; provide an objective summary of the text.
	Writing	CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.7.3	Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, relevant descriptive details, and well-structured event sequences.
	Speaking & Listening	CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.7.1	Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners on grade 7 topics, texts, and issues, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly.
		CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.7.1.B	Follow rules for collegial discussions, track progress toward specific goals and deadlines, and define individual roles as needed.
		CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.7.1.C	Pose questions that elicit elaboration and respond to others' questions and comments with relevant observations and ideas that bring the discussion back on topic as needed.
		CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.7.1.D	Acknowledge new information expressed by others and, when warranted, modify their own views.
		CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.7.3	Delineate a speaker's argument and specific claims, evaluating the soundness of the reasoning and the relevance and sufficiency of the evidence.
Literacy in History/Social Studies, Science, & Technical Subjects	History & Social Studies	CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RH.6-8.2	Determine the central ideas or information of a primary or secondary source; provide an accurate summary of the source distinct from prior knowledge or opinions.
	Science & Technical Subjects	CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RST.6-8.2	Determine the central ideas or conclusions of a text; provide an accurate summary of the text distinct from prior knowledge or opinions.

Key Concepts																Instructional Strategies							
																Discussion				Skill Practice			
Growth Mindset: Your Brain Can Grow and Change	Setting and Achieving Goals	Planning Ahead for Difficult Situations	Identifying Personal Values	Using Personal Values to Make Good Decisions	Making Friends and Strengthening Friendships	Recognizing Negative Relationships	The Role of Emotions	Handling Unhelpful Thoughts and Strong Emotions	Calming-Down Strategies	Recognizing Different Perspectives	Recognizing and Avoiding Serious Conflicts	Resolving Serious Conflicts	Repairing Relationships	Helping Prevent Bullying and Harassment	Working with a Partner or Small Group	Summarizing Key Ideas	Applying Concepts to Personal Experiences	Responding to Questions	Communicating Ideas	Listening to Others	Working with a Partner or Small Group	Writing About Personal Experiences	Creating Effective Plans
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**GRADE 8**

Subject	Strand	Standard	Standard Description
English Language Arts	Reading: Informational Text	CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.8.2	Determine a central idea of a text and analyze its development over the course of the text, including its relationship to supporting ideas; provide an objective summary of the text.
	Writing	CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.8.3	Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, relevant descriptive details, and well-structured event sequences.
	Speaking & Listening	CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.8.1	Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners on grade 8 topics, texts, and issues, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly.
		CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.8.1.B	Follow rules for collegial discussions and decision-making, track progress toward specific goals and deadlines, and define individual roles as needed.
		CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.8.1.C	Pose questions that connect the ideas of several speakers and respond to others' questions and comments with relevant evidence, observations, and ideas.
		CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.8.1.D	Acknowledge new information expressed by others, and, when warranted, qualify or justify their own views in light of the evidence presented.
		CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.8.3	Delineate a speaker's argument and specific claims, evaluating the soundness of the reasoning and relevance and sufficiency of the evidence and identifying when irrelevant evidence is introduced.
Literacy in History/Social Studies, Science, & Technical Subjects	History & Social Studies	CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RH.6-8.2	Determine the central ideas or information of a primary or secondary source; provide an accurate summary of the source distinct from prior knowledge or opinions.
	Science & Technical Subjects	CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RST.6-8.2	Determine the central ideas or conclusions of a text; provide an accurate summary of the text distinct from prior knowledge or opinions.

Key Concepts																Instructional Strategies							
																Discussion				Skill Practice			
Growth Mindset: Your Brain Can Grow and Change	Setting and Achieving Goals	Planning Ahead for Difficult Situations	Identifying Personal Values	Using Personal Values to Make Good Decisions	Making Friends and Strengthening Friendships	Recognizing Negative Relationships	The Role of Emotions	Handling Unhelpful Thoughts and Strong Emotions	Calming-Down Strategies	Recognizing Different Perspectives	Recognizing and Avoiding Serious Conflicts	Resolving Serious Conflicts	Repairing Relationships	Helping Prevent Bullying and Harassment	Working with a Partner or Small Group	Summarizing Key Ideas	Applying Concepts to Personal Experiences	Responding to Questions	Communicating Ideas	Listening to Others	Working with a Partner or Small Group	Writing About Personal Experiences	Creating Effective Plans
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Second Step, a program rooted in SEL, helps transform schools into supportive, successful learning environments uniquely equipped to encourage children to thrive.

By offering Second Step's research-based SEL curriculum for Preschool through Grade 8 in combination with our Bullying Prevention and Child Protection Units, we've formed an integrated, comprehensive program that makes a difference. It's a difference you can feel the moment you open the doors to a Second Step school—a sense of safety and respect grounded in the social-emotional health and well-being of the entire school community.

Learn more at [SecondStep.org](http://SecondStep.org) or call us at 1-800-634-4449, ext. 1.