

Family SEL Conversations

1. Consider the families in your classroom. What is the best way to send information home? How can you establish two way communication? Printed materials, Facebook or text messages can all be effective communication tools. Determine which methods work best for your families.
2. Send families a list of SEL skills that are part of the lessons (via letter, Facebook, text). Ask the family to think about their child's strengths and how the family supports these skills. You could meet with families individually or host a gathering.

Conversation Starters

Where is your child strong in these skills?

What words/language/name do you use to talk about these skills at home?

What cultural, community or traditional values do you see in these skills?

What do Elders teach about these skills?

What ways do you support your child in developing and strengthening these skills?

Are there any stories you tell to reinforce these skills?

What family, cultural, or community activities build these skills (subsistence, dancing, NYO, etc.)?

What else would help me teach these skills in class?

Introduction and Background

Introduce families to SEL and briefly describe the lessons that you will be teaching. See two sample letters below. This content could also be posted on Facebook or sent as bite-sized texts. Explain that you are interested in learning from families since families are the child's first teachers of SEL skills.