

## Morning Meeting Prompts That Support SEL and ELA

Prompts are open-ended and are patterned in a way that children will learn to follow. They can be used for morning meetings, for think-pair-share, or for writing. Prompts strengthen children's identities by allowing them to share personal stories. It is important to modify prompts to be culturally responsive and to give students opportunities to celebrate and share who they are and aspects of their communities, families and history.

- The teacher should model for children a personal anecdote response to each prompt.
- Children can always pass, but they may need to pass at first and then get an opportunity to respond once several other children have modeled.
- Prompts should be adapted to meet the developmental level(s) of the children. Some prompts have multiple questions; younger children will likely partially answer those.
- Feelings faces charts (downloadable) help children think beyond happy, sad, mad, scared, and assist in identifying and teaching a spectrum of emotions.
- Placing individual prompts in a jar and picking one at a time can build anticipation.
- Selecting prompts at the end of one day for use the following day allows children additional time to think about their response to the questions.
- If used in a large group, acknowledge each child's response by listening intently and exhibiting warmth in your facial expression, body language and tone of voice.

### Examples at your Fingertips

#### Quick prompts



#### **"Share your thought about..."**

**(Option: "What happened next?" and/ or "How did you feel?")**

- ... something interesting about your family or a family member."
- ... a favorite toy when you were quite small."
- ... a chore (helping job) that you do at home."
- ... a chore that an adult in your house did when they were little."
- ... a wish or dream that you have for when you are an adult."
- ... a favorite outdoor activity."
- ... a musical instrument that you like to listen to."
- ... a musical instrument that you would like to play."
- ... a superpower that you would like to have."
- ... a time when someone older than you included you in an activity."
- ... a favorite community/family tradition, favorite family foods, and/or music"

## **“Think about a time when ... you found something that you didn’t expect. What was it? What happened? How did you feel?”**

### **Or... “Think about a time when...**

- ... you felt proud of something you did? What happened next?”
- ... your family member told you a story about when they were little? What happened? How did you feel when you heard the story?”
- ... you took care of a baby or small child? Who was the child or baby? What happened? How did you feel? How did the child or baby feel?”
- ... you tried and tried and tried to do something that was hard but then it worked out? What were you trying to do? Why did it finally work out?”
- ... you were surprised to receive something you wanted? What happened?”
- ... you tried a food that you thought you might not like? What happened? How did you feel? Did you ever eat that food again?”
- ... you surprised somebody with something special? What happened? How did you feel? How did the other person feel?”
- ... you met a new person who became a friend? What happened?”
- ... you learned something special about your family? What was it? How did you feel? (How do you think the person telling the story felt?)”
- ... you learned something special about someone ? What was it? How did you feel? (How do you think the person telling the story felt?)”
- ... you went somewhere new that you had never been to before? Where was it? What happened? How did you feel?”
- ... your favorite toy was lost? How did you feel? What happened next?”
- ... you had a problem with a friend? What happened? How did you feel? How did your friend feel? Did you solve the problem?”
- ... you needed help with something in school but you weren’t sure how to get it? What happened? How did you feel?”
- ... a large animal came very close to you? Where were you? What kind of animal was it? What happened next? How did you feel?”
- ... somebody thought that you did something wrong. What happened? Were you able to explain what happened?”
- ... you found something that someone else lost? What was it? What happened? How did you feel? How do you think the other person felt?”
- ... you celebrated something special with your family. What did you celebrate? How did you celebrate it? How did you feel?”
- ... you made something super cool. What was it? How did your feel?”

