



## SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL LEARNING AND EXCITE READING™

# Developing Language-Rich Learning Environments and Social-Emotional Connections

Learning Ally's Excite Reading™ PreK-2 reading solution helps schools and school districts achieve their goal to build healthy student social-emotional competence and literacy for positive student outcomes.



Each Excite Reading™ e-book features a lesson aligned to the Collaborative for Academic, Social, and Emotional Learning (CASEL) Framework to help educators embed social-emotional connections in their early literacy strategies.

### CASEL Competencies Identified in Each Lesson

- SEL skills development opportunities are embedded in all literacy instructional practices.
- E-books of authentic literature contain SEL themes, supported by high-quality graphics and professional narration by authentic voices.
- Hundreds of e-books—and growing—support diversity, inclusion, equity, and more.
- Cross-curricular literacy integration provides frequent opportunities throughout the day for reflective, language-rich classroom discussions.
- Ready-to-use teacher prompts engage students in classroom discussions for co-learning and collaborative solution building.
- Builds strong family partnerships with suggested at-home activities that encourage book reading and extend learning opportunities.

**"We have been able to have some really meaningful conversations about the social aspects of life that have come up in the [Excite Reading™] stories ... these books make the students think more about themselves and how they can make personal connections that relate to the characters."**

*– Emily E., 1st grade teacher,  
South Burlington School  
District, VT*

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The CASEL Framework identifies five areas to build healthy individual social-emotional competence:

- **Self-Awareness** – Being aware of one's own emotions, thoughts, and values and how they affect behavior.
- **Self-Management** – Effectively managing one's own emotions, thoughts, and behaviors to achieve personal goals.
- **Social Awareness** – Understanding and empathizing with others' perspectives, including those from backgrounds or cultures different from one's own.
- **Relationship Skills** – The skills needed to form and keep healthy relationships and to effectively interact with people from diverse backgrounds.
- **Responsible Decision-Making** – Effectively making responsible choices about one's own behavior and social interactions in diverse settings.

The following table illustrates how Excite Reading™ aligns with the CASEL Framework according to thematic text set and grade level.

	SELF-AWARENESS	SELF-MANAGEMENT	SOCIAL AWARENESS	RELATIONSHIP SKILLS	RESPONSIBLE DECISION-MAKING
PRE-K					
FAMILIES	✓		✓	✓	✓
FEELINGS	✓	✓		✓	✓
SPORTS & ACTIVITIES	✓	✓			✓
TREES	✓		✓		✓
KINDERGARTEN					
FAMILIES	✓		✓	✓	✓
ART & MUSIC	✓				
COOKING & FOOD	✓		✓		
FARMS & GARDENS	✓		✓		✓
POLAR CLIMATES	✓		✓		
FIRST GRADE					
FAMILIES	✓		✓	✓	✓
COMMUNITIES	✓		✓	✓	✓
SPORTS & ACTIVITIES	✓	✓		✓	✓
SECOND GRADE					
COMMUNITIES	✓		✓	✓	✓
MUSIC	✓		✓		
PLANTS & GARDENS	✓		✓		✓
SPACE	✓		✓		