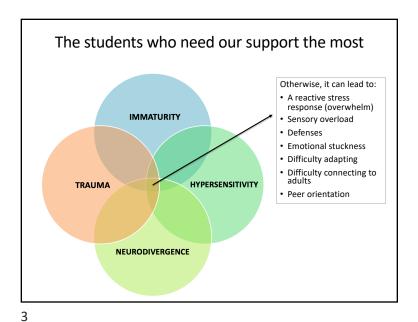
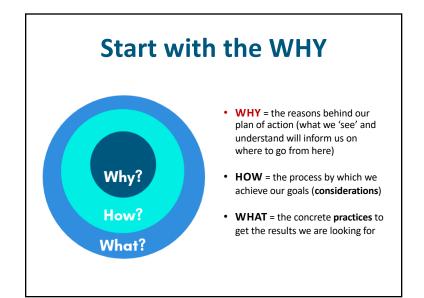
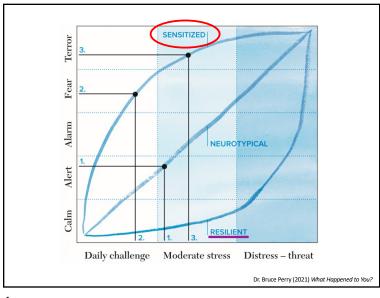


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4

## When it's TOO LATE

When we're expecting dysregulated student to...

- · ask for help
- take a break (by themselves)
- go to the calming corner (on their own)
- access and use their coping strategies (independently)

When we're at the point of..

- applying conventional disciplinary strategies (ultimatums, threat, loos of privileges, etc.)
- sending the student out of class / to the office (detention, suspension, expulsion)
- · using de-escalation strategies
- · resorting to restraints and isolation

5

# **SAFETY** is the starting point

What does <u>safety</u> mean? - It's when...

- the brain is at rest and not sensing any 'danger'
- in the presence of a warm and nurturing adult (that can be trusted) – who's not using separation-based discipline
- · connected sense of belonging
- · feeling fulfilled when basic needs are met
- feeling supported at their level (developmentally appropriate, well-adapted to individual differences)
- the environment is adapted to their sensory needs (not triggering or overstimulating)
- there's coherence and predictability

Brain needs SAFETY to grow

Judgment last to develop
The area of the brain that controls "executive functions" — including weighing long-term consequences and controlling impulses — is among the last to fully mature. Brain development from childhood to adulthood:

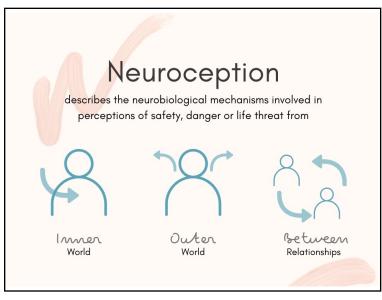
5-year-old brain Preteen brain Teen brain 20-year-old brain Darsal luteral prefrontal cortex ("executive functions")
Front Top View Back

Blue/purple: Parts of brain less fully mature

Blue/purple: Parts of brain more fully matured

Mage from the National Institute of Mental Health; Paul Thompson, Ph.D., UCLA Laboratory of Neuro Imaging

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Q

# **SAFETY** is the starting point

- Reaching a sense of safety and emotional wellbeing doesn't stem from the neo-cortex (thinking brain) nor from the pre-frontal cortex (executive functioning)
- It is rooted in the **primitive brain** (instincts) and in the **limbic system** (emotions)
- Therefore, safety and well-being is achieved through <u>setting up conditions</u> (in <u>prevention</u>, rather than in crisis management)

9



CEBM Pyramid of Interventions
in prevention (setting up the right conditions)

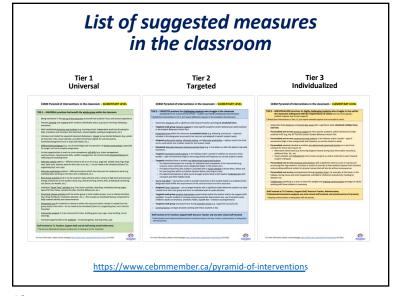
• individualized practices
• personalized one-to-one support

SOME

• targeted practices
• small-group support

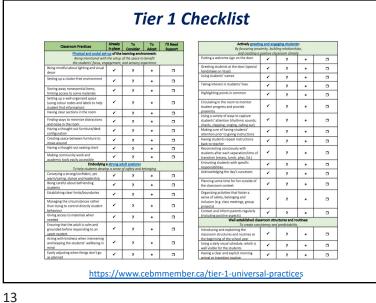
• universal practices
• school-wide support
• whole-class approach

10



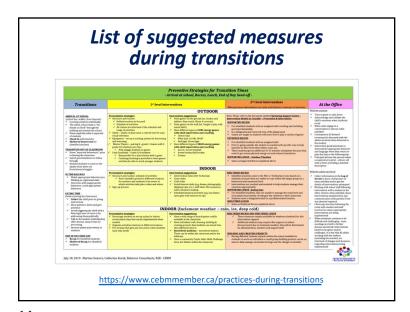
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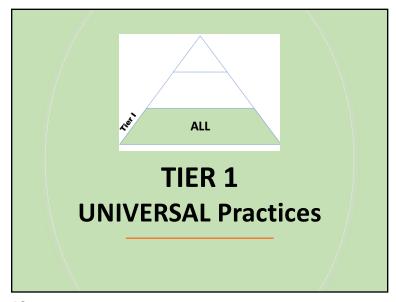


# What are the fundamentals?

- Having a **systemic** and **proactive** approach. Not waiting for problems to arise in order to deal with them.
- Giving priority to **prevention** (when student is open and receptive) and to fulfilling the primary needs of students (safety, belonging, feeling, rest, play).
- · Considering the adult response in the equation and making room for reflective practices.
- Making sure the adults are aligned in terms of expectations and share a common vision.
- · Relying on the strength of teamwork, by supporting each other, sharing the weight and responsibility of challenging students, and empowering one another.
- Ongoing communication with one another so all involved are in the 'know' and on the same page.



14



15 16

# Tiers 2-3 building onto Tier 1



- <u>ALL students</u> benefit from Tier 1 practices, even those who need additional support.
- When action plans require revision, it is necessary to take a step back and reevaluate support measures in places at all 3 tiers.

17

# Classroom examples at Tier 1

- Greeting and bridging to the next time or day (following teacher's model or your individual model)
- Noticing the small details the teacher missed (providing encouragement, support, and guidance)
- Giving reminders (e.g. raising your hand, taking out supplies) to students (verbal or non-verbal gestures)
- Building rapport (getting to know personal information; family life, hobbies etc.)
- Observing (individual needs and differences, patterns, dislikes, and challenges)
- Provide feedback to teachers (suggestions, observations)



# Tier 1 universal practices – during class time

https://www.cebmmember.ca/tier-1-universal-practices

How <u>support staff</u> can get involved at Tier 1 (for the whole class group):

- As a supporting cast to the teacher being an extra set of eyes to monitor the group - help model the measures to the students
- When needed and relevant, supporting the teacher in:
  - cultivating a sense of belonging (class meetings, class discussions, team building activities, etc.)
  - o animating brain breaks or emotional release activities.
  - facilitating activities to build emotional literacy and to model the use of body language/facial expression to convey emotions.

18

20

# **Actively greeting and engaging students**

Helping students develop a sense of belonging

Some of the key suggestions:

- Using students' names
- Taking interest in their lives beyond school
- Inquiring about their specific interest and bringing these back in future conversations to show you've paid attention
- Highlighting points in common to help build a rapport



https://www.cebmmember.ca/tier-1-universal-practices

19

Oct 18, 2024

5

# **Embodying a strong adult posture**

Helping students develop a sense of safety



Some of the key suggestions:

- Providing a strong yet caring leadership
- · Not befriending students
- Establishing clear limits/boundaries
- Being calm and grounded before responding
- Adjusting when things don't go as planned
- Managing the circumstances and the environment rather than trying to directly control student behaviour

https://www.cebmmember.ca/tier-1-universal-practices

21

# Going beyond the focus on self-regulation: • Emotion awareness (requires a sense of safety to 'feel' our emotions) • Matching the right word to the emotional experience • Discovering through co-regulation which tools, materials, and strategies are beneficial

# **Emotional development - Elementary**

Helping students build the language of the heart



BEING CAREFUL WITH <u>LABELS</u>
THAT 'SHAME' EMOTIONS

Offering a variety of ways to accompany emotions:

- Recognize
- Name
- Play out

Through pictures, stories, puppets, role playing, creative arts, etc.

22

# Classroom designated area

Providing options to students when they need respi





Some of the key suggestions:

- Introducing and explaining the expectations (when, where, how) around the use of the designated area at the beginning of the school year
- Offering a variety of support materials in the designated area (noise cancelling headset, breathing aids, sensory tools, calming nature scenes, books, emotion cards, etc.)

https://www.cebmmember.ca/cocoon-area

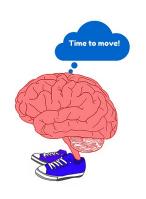
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### **Brain-break activities**

Helping students level-up or level-down energy

### Some of the key suggestions:

- Regularly modeling, throughout the school year, what needs to happen during brain-break activities
- Offering a variety of high-level energy brain breaks (desk drumming, fitness drills, Just Dance, Go Noodle, Boks Fitness program)
- Offering a variety of low-level energy brain breaks (yoga, stretching & breathing exercises, telling jokes, riddle challenge, charades)



https://www.cebmmember.ca/brain-break-activities

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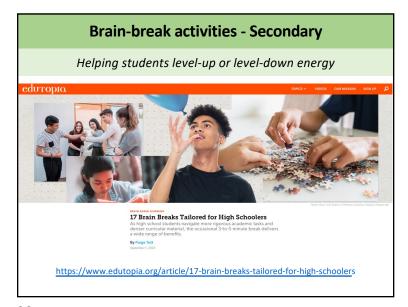


# Tier 1 universal practices – during transitions

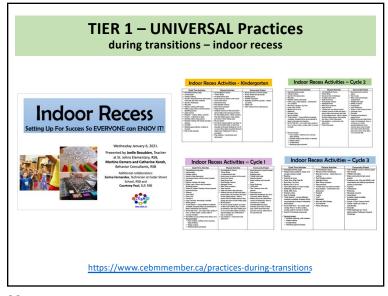
https://www.cebmmember.ca/practices-during-transitions

How **support staff** can get involved at Tier 1:

- Getting ready for the transition: Prep time (arriving ahead of time to prepare materials/equipment or discuss with adult)
- Reminders of expectations, time, and what's next.
- · Animating structured activities
- Introducing and modeling how to play games
- Supporting conflict resolution
- Taking the opportunity to build rapport (talking, playing, watching & encouraging)



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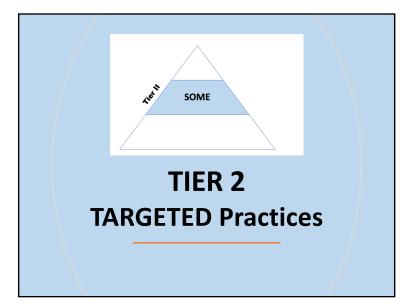


29



# What does a student at Tier 2 typically look like?

- Tier 2 refers to approx. 10-20% of the student population
- They require further support than Tier 1 universal practices
- They can have emotion overwhelm which results into behavioural manifestations
- They do better in a small-group and in a more structured environment (especially during unstructured times – recess/lunch)
- Their success in the classroom increases when certain targeted support measures are assigned or scheduled for them (ex. flexible seating, designated area, check-ins, etc.)
- They benefit from having breaks outside of the classroom (movement station in the hallway, You've Got Mail system, Foster Class, Oasis/NSC)



30

32



# Tier 2 targeted practices during class time or transitions

How <u>support staff</u> can get involved at Tier 2 (for some students in a small-group set-up or on a one-to-one basis):

- Implementing student check-ins upon need.
- Supporting the teacher in introducing and modeling the use of tools/materials, which have been <u>assigned</u> to the student.
- Being involved in the scheduling of breaks and what happens during those breaks.
- Animating small groups during recess/lunch, or that have been pulled out during class time (for social development, emotional development, respite, etc.)
- Creating materials (visuals, checklists, get-ready-do-done, firstthen, etc.) to support students with their executive functioning challenges.

31

# Examples in the classroom or in alternate locations at Tier 2

- Alternate workstations or areas (hallway, class corner, surf desk)
- Tools (privacy folder with memory aids, timers, alternate seating)
- IEP kit (bin of tools readily available to them)
- Responsibilities within the classroom
- · Foster Class (with significant teacher)
- Scheduled work times with resource teacher or technician in Oasis/ NSC
- Breaks (sensory, quiet, physical outlet)
- Set up transitions for success

33

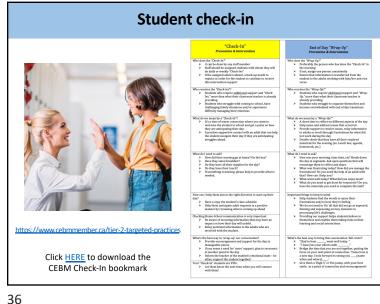
# Adult posture at Tier 2

- Understanding that when a student at Tier 2 is overwhelmed emotionally, which results in behavioural manifestations, the first step and priority of the adult should be to re-establish a sense of safety for the student (whether by managing the circumstances/environment, or by co-regulating with the student)
- Being calm and grounded before responding to an upset student, and not taking the behaviour personally
- Being mindful about displaying neutral/gentle facial expressions, a non-threatening stance, a stable voice volume, tone, speech rate, or talking too much
- When student is upset, waiting until a more appropriate time to address the situation (student has returned to a calm state and is receptive)

# **Attachment practices at Tier 2**

- Intentionally connecting with students at Tier 2 for them to feel that you 'see' them and welcome them in your presence
- Scheduling time using targeted attachment practices which enhance and deepen the relationship:
  - Small ratio of max. 5 students for 1 adult, relationship building strategy that includes
  - 2x10 strategy (connecting with each student individually for 2 minutes over 10 consecutive days)
- Inquiring about their specific interest and bringing these back in future conversations while making links with your interests
- Noticing and naming that you see their efforts and appreciate their involvement

34

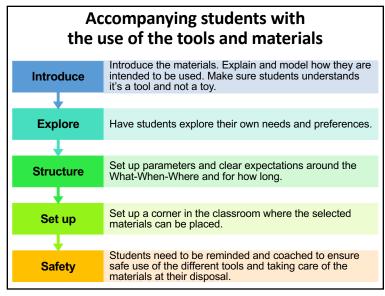


35

# Student check-in

- Enquiring how the student is feeling and anticipating their day any particular concerns:
  - How did their morning go at home? On the bus?
  - Do they have all their supplies for the day?
  - Enquiring whether the student has eaten breakfast has snacks and a lunch
- Engaging the student through their interests
- Acknowledging the day's successes
- \* Ensuring the pertinent information collected during check-ins is being relayed to the other adults working with and supporting the student

37



Student Challenges Placemats at Tier 2

\*\*Tier 1\*\*

\*\*Tier 2\*\*

\*\*Tier 2\*\*

\*\*Tier 3\*\*

\*\*Tier 4\*\*

\*\*Tier 5\*\*

\*\*Tier 6\*\*

\*

38

# Tools VS. Toys

- TOOLS are meant to meet a specific need and to effect change, whereas TOYS are for pleasure and entertainment.
- Needs met include: movement, sensory input, energy level, motivation, focus/concentration, comfort, engagement, stress reliever, emotional release, respite, communication, time management, etc.

Link to webinar recording



39

# **Scheduled movement station**





https://www.cebmmember.ca/physical-outlet-movement-station

41

# **Emotional development at Tier 2**

- Providing targeted small-group (2-4 students) opportunities for emotion development
- Providing a variety of ways to play out emotions (role playing, masks, puppets, etc.)
- Providing a variety of emotional creative art activities
- Providing a variety of tools to illustrate emotions (mirror, emotion cards, children's books, etc.)
- Providing a variety of tools and materials to discover body sensations (body silhouette, sensory box, etc.)
- Providing the context to help students 'experience' a comforting and calming feeling through the senses (e.g. play soft music, dim lighting, soft comfy textures, calming nature scenes, comforting scents, etc.)



42

# Social development at Tier 2

- Providing targeted small-group (2-4 students) opportunities for social development
- Using story books to accompany students in exploring a range of social situations
- Using games and activities to practice a range of social situations (LEGO, puppets, masks, role-playing, etc.)
- On a one-to-one basis, having the student replay challenging/triggering situations, as well as conflict faced, and helping them walk through it (LEGO, puppets, masks, role-playing, etc.)

43

# TIER 2 – TARGETED Practices during transitions



Structured smallgroup (2-4 students) games and activities accompanied by an adult.

https://www.cebmmember.ca/practices-during-transitions

45

# **Extended Recess**

- Identified students meet the support staff 10-15 minutes prior to recess
- They are given additional recess time as it is deemed that they benefit with more time to expend their pent-up energy and release frustrations
- Prior to going outside, the student is coached with specific cues to help them do their best when playing and interacting with others when they come outside to play.



https://www.cebmmember.ca/practices-during-transitions

# **Supported Recess**



- Identified students are part of this intervention practice
- An adult meets them at a predetermined location (or collects them along the way)
- An area of the playground is 'reserved' for the Supported Recess group
- Rules are explained, adult coaches, supervises the games and sportsmanship is encouraged

https://www.cebmmember.ca/practices-during-transitions

46

# Supported Lunch – in OASIS

### EATING TIME:

- Some students require close supervision when they eat their lunch
- Coaching to stay in their place when eating, cleaning up their area prior to leaving, overall table manners
- Some require a location that is less noisy than a cafeteria, has less people and less smells



### **OUTDOOR PLAY TIME:**

 When it comes to playtime, they're able to join the group

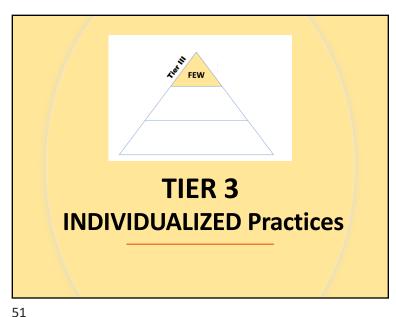
https://www.cebmmember.ca/practices-during-transitions

47

# Examples for recess/lunch at Tier 2

- · Adult proximity (being nearby for reporting)
- Time with ('walk and talk' side-by-side with adult to discuss conflict rather than time out)
- Monitor competitive games (be the referee or assign one)
- Give positive praise when you notice: sharing, compromising, inclusion, turn taking etc.
- · Including a friend to sheltered recess/lunch
- Having a buddy system in place to support the transition

49



**CEBM RESOURCES CENTER Tier 2 Targeted Practices** DESIGNATED AREA IN THE CLASSROOM

50

52

# What does a student at Tier 3 typically look like?

- Tier 3 refers to approx. 5-9% of the student population
- They require more intensified and personalized support than what Tiers 1-2 practices can provide
- They can have triggering dysregulated emotion which prevents them from being successful full-time in a classroom without individualized support
- They do better on a one-to-one basis, with a significant adult
- They benefit from having an adapted schedule where they spend blocs of time in alternate locations in the school, where they can have moments of respite, as well as opportunities to move and expend energy
- They require adult ongoing supervision during unstructured times (sheltered recess/lunch, progressive transitions)
- \* It's important to have a clear and explicit action plan or IEP for these students to help monitor their progress and ensure all adults involved have common information and are on the same page.



# Tier 3 individualized practices during class time or transitions

How <u>support staff</u> can get involved at Tier 3 (for few students on a one-to-one basis):

- · Implementing student daily check-ins.
- Being involved in creating the adapted schedule and supporting the student in an alternate location (e.g. NSC) during those blocs of time.
- Introducing and modeling (while in the NSC) the use of tools/materials, which have been assigned to the student.
- Creating materials (visuals, checklists, get-ready-do-done, firstthen, etc.) to support students with their executive functioning challenges.
- Supporting and collaborating with the teacher during debriefs (involved in the repair/recovery process)

53

# **Attachment practices at Tier 3**

- Deepening the attachment through one-to-one games and fun activities
- Having 'walk and talks' in the hallway or during recess (being sideby-side is less vulnerable)
- Compensating for the resistance and impulsivity by relying on the structures and routines rather than responding at the symptom level and triggering the student further
- If appropriate, using a humorous and playful approach to defuse and engage students in the face of challenging situations
- Bridging the relationship by not making the behaviour the bottom line
- Reparing the relationship from any fallouts during incidents

Examples in alternate locations at Tier 3

- Adapted or reduced workload
- Modified schedule (half days, blocks in class & out)
- Alternate recess/lunch time (with younger/older)
- Reverse integration (removed from class and visits for periods)
- Integration of specific plans provided by professionals (OT exercises, activities from art therapist, etc.)
- Prolonged morning transition/check-in (breakfast, activity, review of daily schedule)
- Having jobs around the school (carrying things, recycling)
- · Working on special projects
- Extra gym class (joining another group)
- Being a helper (cleaning with janitor, reading to younger students)

54

# **Adult posture at Tier 3**

- Understanding that when a student at Tier 3 is triggered and dysregulated, they are not receptive to our interventions in the moment (must focus on establishing safety for all)
- Not being alienated by their behaviour and keeping the posture of a nurturing provider
- Being neutral, steady, and grounded when intervening and keeping the students' wellbeing in mind
- Backing away from conventional discipline and ultimatums, which may trigger the student further
- Relying on co-regulation, as well as <u>de-escalation</u> strategies if needed
- Relying on the power of teamwork to share the weight and responsibilities (this will help adults keep their posture intact)

55

# **Examples of de-escalation strategies**

- If possible/available, providing a space for them to let off steam.
- Avoiding getting caught in a power struggle, anticipating potential refusal from the student and perceiving their challenging questions/comments as needing to vent.
- Moving away from trying to teach a lesson or reason with the student, especially when their behaviour appears erratic and irrational.
- Setting simple, concise, and realistic limits by offering options/alternatives in a supportive manner; being careful to not overload with too many directives.
- Allowing time for decision making and choosing wisely what is insisted upon.
- Coming alongside the student's frustration, by naming and validating it.
- Sometimes, using a humorous and playful approach, when appropriate, can be helpful to diffuse the situation.
- Not taking it personally; being careful to not overreact (lenses and mirrors).
- Having another adult support or step in if the situation is not defusing.

57

# Daily student check-in at Tier 3



Examples of items to look over at check-in point:

- Genuine touchpoint with the student (connect with them first, talk about their interests for a moment)
- Check their current emotional state
   potential triggers (if any)
- Evaluate their capacity to be in class and their readiness to learn (do they have the necessary materials?)
- Remind them of their strengths to help them towards achieving their goals

https://www.cebmmember.ca/tier-2-targeted-practices

### **Student Action Plan**

Student's needs and challenges	Overall goals	Specific practices and strategies	Selected measures, tools and materials

58

# SUPPORT AND COMPENSATE

When? Where? With whom?

Work with your school team to change the circumstances rather than just trying to control or change the student.

Prevent problematic situations

- Recess / Breaks
  - ✓ With extra supervision
  - ✓ Organized activity
- Hallways
  - ✓ Away from other students
- Bathrooms
  - ✓ Under supervision
- Lunch time
  - ✓ In a quieter space
- Substitute teacher
  - ✓ Make introductions or
  - ✓ Have an alternate "person" the student can be with

59 60

### **TIER 3 – INDIVIDUALIZED Practices**

during transitions



Personalized support measures for:

- Transitions/Hallway
- School yard
- · Lunch time
- Daycare
- School bus

https://www.cebmmember.ca/tier-3-individualized-practices

61

# **Sheltered Recess**



https://www.cebmmember.ca/tier-3-individualized-practices

- Identified students come to NSC/Intervention Room because they are unable to cope within large groups on a behavioral and emotional level
- Some students require this support a few days/week, while others require this fulltime
- Coaching and intervention take place in order to help them learn skills that will help them return to the larger group

# Morning Entry – Sheltered Homeroom

- Identified students come to NSC/Intervention Room at the start of the day as they are unable to cope with morning entry routine in the class group - both on a behavioral and emotional level
- Staff help student navigate their day and anticipate struggles ahead
- Provide encouragement and support for the day in manageable pieces.
- Support staff informs teacher of student's emotional state – be allies, support the student together!

https://www.cebmmember.ca/ tier-3-individualized-practices



62

# **Sheltered Lunch**



https://www.cebmmember.ca/tier-3-individualized-practices

- Identified students come to the NSC/Intervention Room during lunch because they are unable to cope within the larger group on a behavioral and emotional level.
- Provides a safe calm place, where social interactions are emotionally safe.
- Adults supervise and coach appropriate interactions to help children experience, learn and grow.
- It is important that there be a schedule for Sheltered Lunch, some require a 'shelter' a few days/week, others require more.
- The schedule should be posted in a predetermined location for all to see.

63

# End of Day – Sheltered Recap

- · Students who come to the NSC/Intervention Room require additional support than what their classroom teacher can offer.
- The 'Sheltered Recap' (20 30 min, last period of the day) enables the student to leave their group when all is calm in
- Review the day, break it down in segments. Help the student find words to express and manage their frustrations.
- · Congratulate the day's efforts and solicit their good intentions to continue the next day.



https://www.cebmmember.ca/tier-3-individualized-practices

65

# Student Individual Bin

### Contains

- · activities to engage the student if they need a moment of respite
- · less demanding educational work
- can be easily transported to another location or another room



https://www.cebmmember.ca/personal-bin



Oasis/ Nurturing Support Center

- · Provide student with passes to visit the NSC, to work, to talk, to have supervised 'alone time'
- Participation in 'interest clubs' with adult supervision during recess and lunchtime
- · Sheltered recess and/or sheltered lunch in a predetermined location (small group) - orchestrate the schedule to 'divide & conquer' clusters of students who struggle together



https://www.cebm.ca/nurturing-support-centre

66

# **Personal Choice Board**



The personal choice board provides clear boundaries and safe options to release energy and/or expression emotions.

https://www.cebmmember.ca/personal-bin

67 68

# Examples of sensation/emotion playgrounds

- Art music journaling (building a sense of safety and emotional expression)
- Sensation treasure box (building sensory awareness through exploration)
- Draw the music activity (discovering rhythm and intensity though exploration)
- Gingerbread person activity sensation body map (noticing and naming sensations)
- Draw the shape of your feeling Poem about your feeling (noticing and naming emotions)
- Stories and role-playing (emotional expression onestep-removed, exploration of emotions)

69

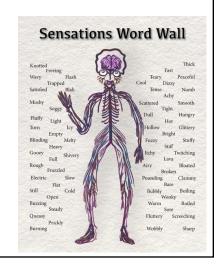
# Body awareness – Sensory experiences

When we accompany students in:

- exploring and making sense of their bodies
- building the language of the nervous system

They begin to identify the solutions and see the possibilities.

LABELS KEEPS STUDENTS STUCK AND REACTIVE



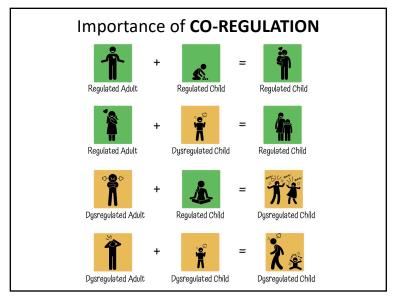
# Children's Literature & Hands-on Activities Body awareness – Sensory experience The payers became a layout proof of the payer became a layout proof of the payers became a la

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A PLACE TO LET IT OUT **EMOTIONS** 'calming down' will come naturally once the emotion has been released **ROOM** POOL NOODLES **BUBBLE WRAP** FOR THROWING FOR KICKING FOR HITTING FOR RIPPING https://www.cebm.ca/emotions-room

74

# An Emotions Room can have multipurposes, not just releasing frustration

Exploratory activities in the prevention mode:

- Noticing our bodies
- Trying out different rhythms
- · Accompanied breathing exercises
- Sensory experiences
- · Movement activities

76 75





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