



**ALIGNMENT CHART  
LEARNING FOR JUSTICE LESSONS**

# Second Step® Elementary and Second Step® Middle School

SECOND STEP® ELEMENTARY CLASSROOM KITS

**Learning for Justice (formerly known as Teaching Tolerance) has designed a robust set of lessons with direct instruction on identity, diversity, justice, and action that complement and enhance social-emotional skills. Committee for Children has curated a set of Learning for Justice lessons that are aligned to Second Step Elementary and Second Step Middle School, as well as the CASEL core social-emotional learning (SEL) competencies. We recommend teaching these lessons in tandem with your Second Step® implementation to incorporate diversity, equity, and social justice work into your classroom's SEL plan.**

## What Is Second Step?

Second Step programs are universal, classroom-based, and designed to increase students' school success and decrease problem behaviors by promoting social-emotional competence. Second Step programs also include foundational skills essential for combating racism and promoting social justice, such as perspective-taking, empathy, and social connectedness. Second Step programs are recognized as CASEL "SElect," and Second Step lessons are closely aligned with CASEL's core competencies.

emotional competence for all students. CASEL has identified five interrelated SEL core competencies: self-management, self-awareness, social awareness, relationship skills, and responsible decision-making.

## What Is CASEL?

Collaborative for Academic, Social, and Emotional Learning (CASEL) is the nation's leading organization advancing the development of academic, social, and

## What Is Learning for Justice?

A respected leader in the field of anti-racism and anti-bias, Learning for Justice provides resources to educators who work with children from kindergarten through high school. These resources include classroom lessons, webinars, grants, podcasts, policy guides, and more. The lessons outlined in this chart enhance and support Learning for Justice's SEL work and align with Second Step programs. We encourage you to visit [learningforjustice.org](https://learningforjustice.org) to explore the organization's full offerings.

## Alignment of Second Step® Programs with Learning for Justice Lessons

	Learning for Justice Lesson	Grade Level	CASEL Domain	Equity Domain	In this lesson, students will . . .	Second Step® Grade					
						K	1	2	3	4	5
Grades K-5	<a href="#">It's Okay to Feel Different</a>	K-5	Social Awareness	Identity, Diversity	Develop an understanding of the importance of diversity in a community.						
	<a href="#">Me and We: We Are All Similar and Different</a>	K-5	Social Awareness	Diversity	Explore and appreciate the various similarities we all share, as well as our differences.	L5	L8	L8	L6, L8	L4, L6	L5, L6
	<a href="#">My Family Rocks!</a>	K-5	Social Awareness	Diversity	Explore the definition of family, learn about different kinds of family structures, and explore what makes their own family unique.	L5	L8	L8	L6, L8	L4, L6	L5, L6
	<a href="#">Every Family Is the Same. Every Family Is Different.</a>	K-5	Social Awareness	Diversity	Learn the concepts of "same" and "different," and create a graphic organizer that reflects similarities and differences between their family and a classmate's family.	L5	L8	L8	L6, L8	L4, L6	L5, L6
	<a href="#">Stitching It Together</a>	K-5	Social Awareness	Diversity	Synthesize everything they've learned throughout the series to create a quilt that tells the story of their families and how they contribute to the classroom community.	L5	L8	L8	L6, L8	L4, L6	L5, L6
	<a href="#">Who Is an Immigrant?</a>	K-5	Self-Awareness, Social Awareness	Identity	Examine themselves within various contexts—including family, culture, and community—as a means to better understand who they are as individuals and in relation to people around them.						
	<a href="#">Different Colors of Beauty</a>	K-5	Self-Awareness, Social Awareness	Identity, Diversity, Justice, Action	Develop their racial or ethnic identities in a safe and open classroom environment.						
	<a href="#">Sharing Our Colors: Writing Poetry</a>	K-5	Self-Awareness	Identity	Explore their own sense of racial identity by reading and writing poetry.						
	<a href="#">Family Colors: Interviewing Our Families</a>	K-5	Self-Awareness	Diversity	Interview their families and develop a historical understanding of racial bias.						

Not all Learning for Justice lessons on this chart have an alignment with a specific Second Step lesson. Please teach these lessons in an order that makes sense for your classroom, in tandem with your SEL implementation.

## Alignment of Second Step® Programs with Learning for Justice Lessons (continued)

	Learning for Justice Lesson	Grade Level	CASEL Domain	Equity Domain	In this lesson, students will . . .	Second Step Grade					
						K	1	2	3	4	5
Grades K-5	<a href="#">Art and Activism</a>	K-5	Self-Awareness, Social Awareness, Responsible Decision-Making	Action	Examine the ways art relates to community leadership and activism.						
	<a href="#">Cultural Relevancy in the Cafeteria</a>	3-5	Social Awareness	Justice	Learn about the dietary guidelines of various ethnic and religious groups and then analyze their cafeteria's food offerings.				L6, L8	L4, L6	L5, L6
	<a href="#">Communication—The Total Impact of Your Message</a>	3-5	Social Awareness	Diversity	Learn to embrace the concept of being culturally responsive and culturally sensitive.						
	<a href="#">In Our Own Words: A Storybook with a Purpose</a>	3-5	Relationship Skills, Responsible Decision-Making	Action	Create and develop a culminating project to empower others in their community to stand up and make a difference.				L9	L9	L8
	<a href="#">Looking Closely at Ourselves</a>	3-5	Self-Awareness	Identity	Explore race and self-identity by creating self-portraits to help develop detailed observational skills and use these skills in relation to themselves and others.						
	<a href="#">What's So Bad About "That's So Gay"?</a>	3-5	Social Awareness	Justice	Examine how inappropriate language can hurt, and think of ways to end this kind of name-calling.						

## Alignment of Second Step® Programs with Learning for Justice Lessons (continued)

	Learning for Justice Lesson	Grade Level	CASEL Domain	Equity Domain	In this lesson, students will . . .	Second Step® Grade		
						6	7	8
Grades 6–12	<a href="#">Looking Closely at Ourselves</a>	6–8, 9–12	Self-Awareness	Identity	Explore race and self-identity by creating self-portraits to help develop detailed observational skills and use these skills in relation to themselves and others.		L8	L2
	<a href="#">Using Photographs to Teach Social Justice   Exploring Identity</a>	6–8, 9–12	Self-Awareness, Social Awareness	Diversity	Analyze two photographs, each dealing with a different element of identity.		L8	L2
	<a href="#">The Shape of Home</a>	6–8, 9–12	Self-Awareness, Social Awareness	Diversity, Justice	Explore diverse concepts of “home” and find ways to deal with loss and make fellow students feel welcome at school.		L1	L15
	<a href="#">Dealing with Dilemmas: Upstanders, Bystanders, and Whistle-Blowers</a>	6–8	Relationship Skills, Responsible Decision-Making	Action	Think about how to resolve difficult ethical decisions related to injustice by role-playing, researching people who have made ethical decisions, and writing about their own role models.	L12	L12	L11
	<a href="#">Accepting Size Differences</a>	6–8	Social Awareness	Diversity	Evaluate their own biases related to size differences.	L8		L9
	<a href="#">Analyzing How Words Communicate Bias</a>	6–8	Social Awareness, Self-Awareness, Responsible Decision-Making	Justice, Action	Identify how writers can reveal their biases through their word choice and tone.	L23	L23	
	<a href="#">Beauty Is Skin Deep</a>	6–8, 9–12	Self-Awareness, Social Awareness	Diversity, Justice	Reflect on the ways they have experienced or participated in bias based on physical size and appearance, and discuss how society's expectations about body image and appearance affect people.			L9
	<a href="#">Challenging Gender Stereotyping and Homophobia in Sports</a>	6–8, 9–12	Social Awareness, Responsible Decision-Making	Action	Discuss common characteristics and stereotypes that are associated with athletes.			L8
	<a href="#">Debunking Stereotypes About Muslims and Islam</a>	6–8, 9–12	Social Awareness	Justice	Identify similarities and differences between the US Muslim population and the entire US population, as well as dispel common stereotypes about Islam.		L8	
	<a href="#">Defusing School Violence</a>	6–8, 9–12	Social Awareness, Responsible Decision-Making	Identity, Diversity, Action, Justice	Explore the complexities of a situation in which immigrant students attend a school that is plagued with racially motivated violence.			L12

## Alignment of Second Step® Programs with Learning for Justice Lessons (continued)

	Learning for Justice Lesson	Grade Level	CASEL Domain	Equity Domain	In this lesson, students will . . .	Second Step® Grade		
						6	7	8
Grades 6–12	<a href="#">Exploring Bias and Discrimination in Hiring Practices</a>	6–8	Social Awareness, Responsible Decision-Making	Justice	Reflect on themes of fairness, perception, discrimination, and legality with regard to employment and examine their own biases and related experiences.		L8	L8
	<a href="#">Female Identity and Gender Expectations</a>	6–8, 9–12	Self-Awareness, Social Awareness	Justice	Explore different aspects of gender for today's girls and women.		L8–13	L8–13
	<a href="#">Fighting Prejudice and Discrimination of Differently Abled People</a>	6–8, 9–12	Social Awareness, Responsible Decision-Making	Justice, Action	Work toward understanding what it means to have a learning disability.	L8	L8	
	<a href="#">One Survivor Remembers: Bullies and Bystanders</a>	6–8, 9–12	Social Awareness, Self-Awareness, Responsible Decision-Making	Action	Be reminded that they have the power to stand up when someone else is being maligned, bullied, or harassed.	L11, L12	L12	L11
	<a href="#">Recognizing Discrimination</a>	6–8	Social Awareness	Action	Reflect on real-world examples to help them identify peaceful ways to respond to discrimination.		L12	
	<a href="#">Sounds of Change</a>	6–8, 9–12	Social Awareness, Self-Awareness, Responsible Decision-Making	Identity, Diversity, Action, Justice	Analyze and reflect on messages presented in songs, and express their own views about important issues addressed in some songs.	L9		
	<a href="#">The New Mad Men</a>	6–8, 9–12	Social Awareness, Responsible Decision-Making	Identity, Diversity, Action, Justice	Explore how changing demographics in the United States have changed the face of advertising.			L9
	<a href="#">Understanding Disabilities</a>	6–8, 9–12	Social Awareness	Diversity	Increase knowledge about people with disabilities and explore ways to sensitively communicate with those individuals.			L8
	<a href="#">What's So Bad About "That's So Gay"?</a>	6–8	Social Awareness	Justice	Examine how inappropriate language can hurt, and think of ways to end this kind of name-calling.		L11	
	<a href="#">Cliques in Schools</a>	6–8, 9–12	Social Awareness, Relationship Skills	Action	Examine the cliques within their school community and ways to integrate the student body and form relationships across, and in spite of, controlling cliques.	L20		

## Alignment of Second Step® Programs with Learning for Justice Lessons (continued)

	Learning for Justice Lesson	Grade Level	CASEL Domain	Equity Domain	In this lesson, students will ...	Second Step Grade		
						6	7	8
Grades 6–12	<u>Communication—The Total Impact of Your Message</u>	6–8, 9–12	Social Awareness	Diversity	Learn to embrace the concept of being culturally responsive and culturally sensitive.	L22	L22	L22
	<u>Cultural Relevancy in the Cafeteria</u>	6–8, 9–12	Social Awareness, Relationship Skills	Justice	Learn about the dietary guidelines of various ethnic and religious groups and then analyze their cafeteria's food offerings.			L12
	<u>Me and We: We Are All Similar and Different</u>	6–8, 9–12	Social Awareness	Diversity	Explore and appreciate the various similarities we all share, as well as our differences.			L20



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