

# Thermostat or Thermometer?

*Creating Systematic Interventions for New to School Early Learners to Increase Appropriate Behaviors and Improve Social Skills*

**Laura Morris, Selina Ivy, Lorin R. Furlow,  
Brazosport ISD**



TCASE

interactive

2023

*you are our people*

**Thermostat or Thermometer?**

*Creating Systematic Intervention for New To School Early Learners to Increase Appropriate Behaviors and Improve Social Skills*



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**Learner Outcomes:**

The Learner will identify collaborative practices and organizational systems to support implementation of evidence based on strategies to increase social emotional skills and increase appropriate behaviors.



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**HELLO! I'm...**



Laura Morris

- Principal, A.P. Beutel Elementary
- Education - 29 years
- Campus Principal - 15 years
- 2021 National Blue Ribbon School
- Champion for ALL students



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**HELLO! I'm...**

Selina Ivy

- Assistant Principal, A.P. Beutel Elementary
- Education - 23 years
  - Elementary 15 years (2 years as A.P.)
  - Jr. High/Middle school - 8 years
- 2023 Elementary A.P. of the Year
- I believe that every student should have the opportunity to succeed, academically and socially.

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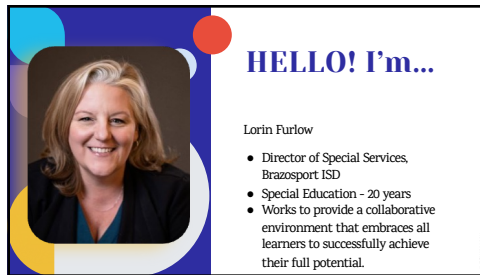
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**HELLO! I'm...**

Lorin Furlow

- Director of Special Services, Brazosport ISD
- Special Education - 20 years
- Works to provide a collaborative environment that embraces all learners to successfully achieve their full potential.

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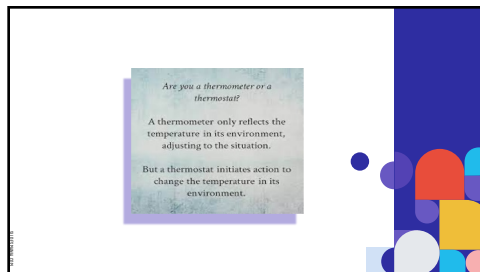
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*Are you a thermometer or a thermostat?*

A thermometer only reflects the temperature in its environment, adjusting to the situation.

But a thermostat initiates action to change the temperature in its environment.

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**Behaviors**

A slide with a blue header and decorative circles. It features a thermometer icon on the left and the word "Behaviors" in bold black text in the center.

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**Recess**

**Lunch**

**SOMEBODY CALL**

A slide with a blue header and decorative circles. It features the words "Recess" and "Lunch" in purple and blue respectively, and a video thumbnail for "SOMEBODY CALL" in the center.

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**Office Referrals!**

Kindergarten Discipline Referrals

Month	Referrals
August	1
September	3
October	5
November	4
December	3

A slide with a blue header and decorative circles. It features the title "Office Referrals!" and a bar chart titled "Kindergarten Discipline Referrals" showing the number of referrals per month from August to December.

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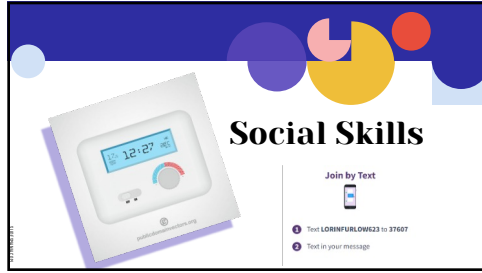
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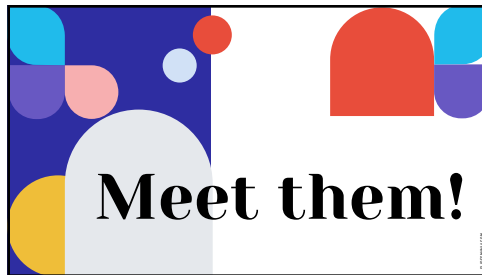
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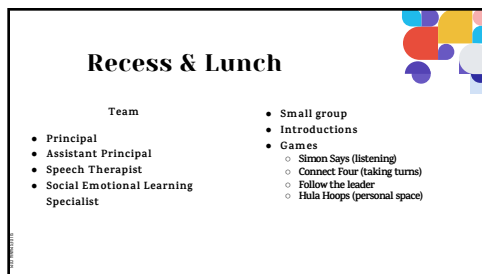
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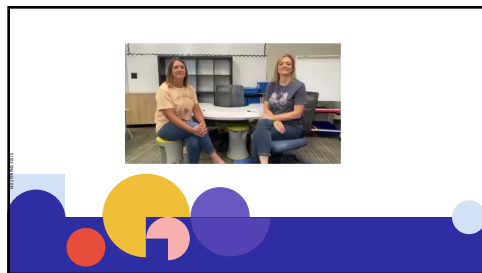
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Sometimes the thing your students need **MOST**, right now, has **NOTHING** to do with what's on your **LESSON PLAN**.



THE CLASSROOM SCHOOL

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### Kindergarten Social Skills Group Activities

**Purpose:** For students to work in small groups to build social and emotional skills and work on fine motor skills while learning kindergarten concepts through play.

Schedule  
45 minutes/3 days a week

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8:10-8:55	Teacher 4	Teacher 1	Teacher 1	Teacher 1	Teacher 4
9:00-9:45	Teacher 5	Teacher 4	Teacher 2	Teacher 2	Teacher 2
9:50-10:35	Teacher 3	Teacher 3	Teacher 3	Teacher 5	Teacher 5

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### Group Expectations



1. Be Kind
2. Level 1 voices
3. Hands to yourself
4. Follow game rules

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# GAMES

**Skills(s): Taking Turns**

- Connect 4
- Chutes and Ladders
- Tic-Tac-Toe Stackable
- Battle w/number cards
- Toot n Otto (like C-4, but spell out toot or otto)

**Skills(s): Fine Motor**

- Mancala w/tweezers & small erasers
- Hungry Dog w/tweezers



**Skill(s): Kinder Concepts**

- Mancala w/tweezers & small erasers
- Letter sounds
- Rhyming Words
- Money game

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## Social and Emotional Groups

S.E.L. Specialist  
Michelle Rodriguez

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## S.E.L. Lessons

**Purpose:** To establish school wide expectations of the "Six Pillars of Character"

- Trustworthiness
- Respect
- Responsibility
- Fairness
- Caring
- Citizenship

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### S.E.L. Lessons Schedule

- August: **Procedures & Expectations**
- September: Growth Mindset/Kindness **School Expectations**
- October: Responsibility **Red Ribbon Week Bullying Awareness**
- November: Respect **Self Confidence & Holiday Support**
- December: **Holiday Support & Behavior best: Support & Shipping/Coordinating**
- January: Trustworthiness: **Communications & Actions**
- February: Caring: **Kindness week & Heart healthy challenge**
- March: Fairness: **Conflict resolution & Behavior best: ISTARS assembly**
- April: STARR Encouragement & citizenship: **Character & STARR**
- May: **Review of the year: Raceo Tour**

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### Board Game Club

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### Board Game Club

**Purpose:**

- Help students build social skills
- Provide students with opportunities to learn how to play classic board games
- Teach students how to interact with peers appropriately
- Learn how to take turns
- Teach good sportsmanship
- Creating new friendships

**Games**

- Dominos
- Sorry
- Trouble
- Uno
- Kerplunk
- Rack-O
- Battleship

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## Club Meetings

**Day/Time:** Wednesdays, 3:50 - 5:00

**Club Sponsors:** Consisted of teachers who jumped in because they saw a need.

- Mrs. Metric, 3rd ELAR
- Mrs. Silvertooth, 3rd SPED co-teacher
- Mrs. Davies, Speech Pathologist
- Mrs. Pyle, 1st grade

**Sponsor Responsibilities:**

- Guide students with question regarding the games
- Guide students with problem solving

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## Did our plan work?

2nd Semester Referrals

Month	Referrals
January	8
February	2
March	1
April	7
May	3

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## What's Next?

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