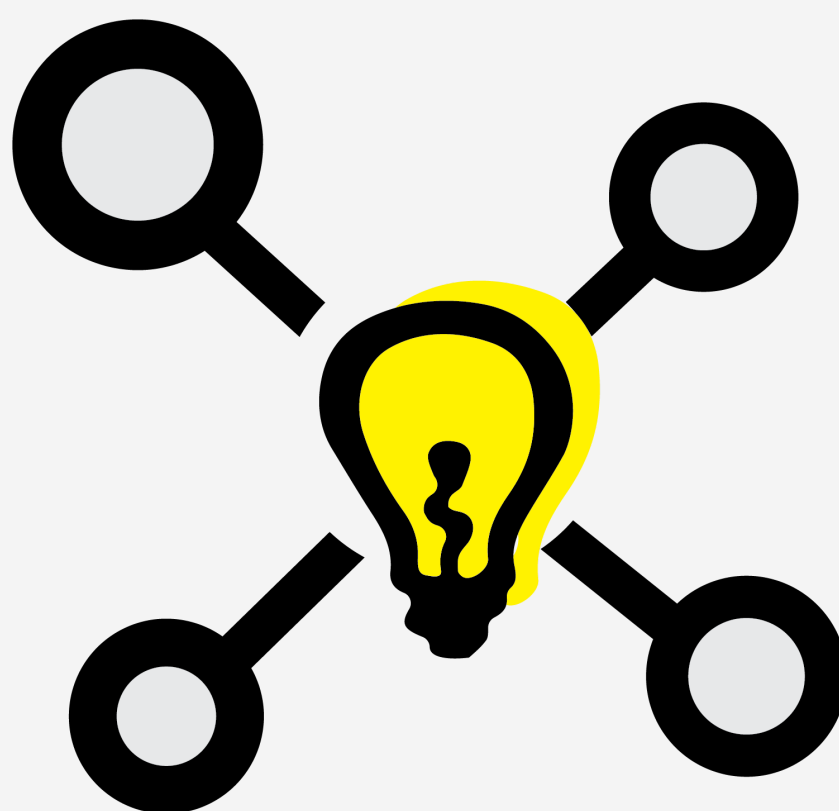


FREE DOWNLOADABLE

Top 5 Ways to Encourage Black Leaders in Education



BLACKSEL.ORG



Dear Educators,

This free downloadable is just a reminder of who you are and WHY you chose to be an educator. We all need that push to constantly remember why we believe in activating a growth mindset on a daily basis and couple that with modeling key Social-Emotional Learning skills this will be a game-changer to your everyday routine.

CHECK OUT 5 WAYS WE ENCOURAGE YOU TO KEEP GOING!



ONE

Remember your why!

In the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, enslaved Africans used education as a tool for emancipation and liberation. These slaves knew and believed that learning to read and write could aid them in acquiring their freedom from institutional slavery. Then those who learned how to read and write, risked their lives to teach literacy skills to other enslaved people. They believed this was their social responsibility and they saw it as a political act that challenged slavery's mandate.

If you are a black educator—you are doing that NOW! You are walking in your ancestor's footsteps and following their path in believing that education is a form of liberation for black people.

Every single black child that you touch and reach is being impacted by those who have come before us because *YOU* decided to take the torch.

As you start your day, ALWAYS remember that you are living out a dream that our ancestors fought so hard for, using the act of teaching as a form of freedom and liberation. By your commitment, you are giving black students hope and unlocking doors to the freedom of their minds by the growth and opportunities they receive.



TWO

The facts- Black students NEED YOU!

ACES data shows us...

Black students who were exposed to Black teachers by third grade were 13% more likely to enroll in college. If kids had two Black teachers by third grade, Hart said, the likelihood of college enrollment jumped to 32%. Hart and her colleagues call this the *role-model effect*.

Black and brown administrators and teachers play an important role for black students- to see leaders of color in the hallways who believe that they can understand them in a way that others can't.

The REALationships between a black student and teacher/administration are critical during these challenging times. Please keep this top of mind when reflecting on your influences in the spaces that you serve.



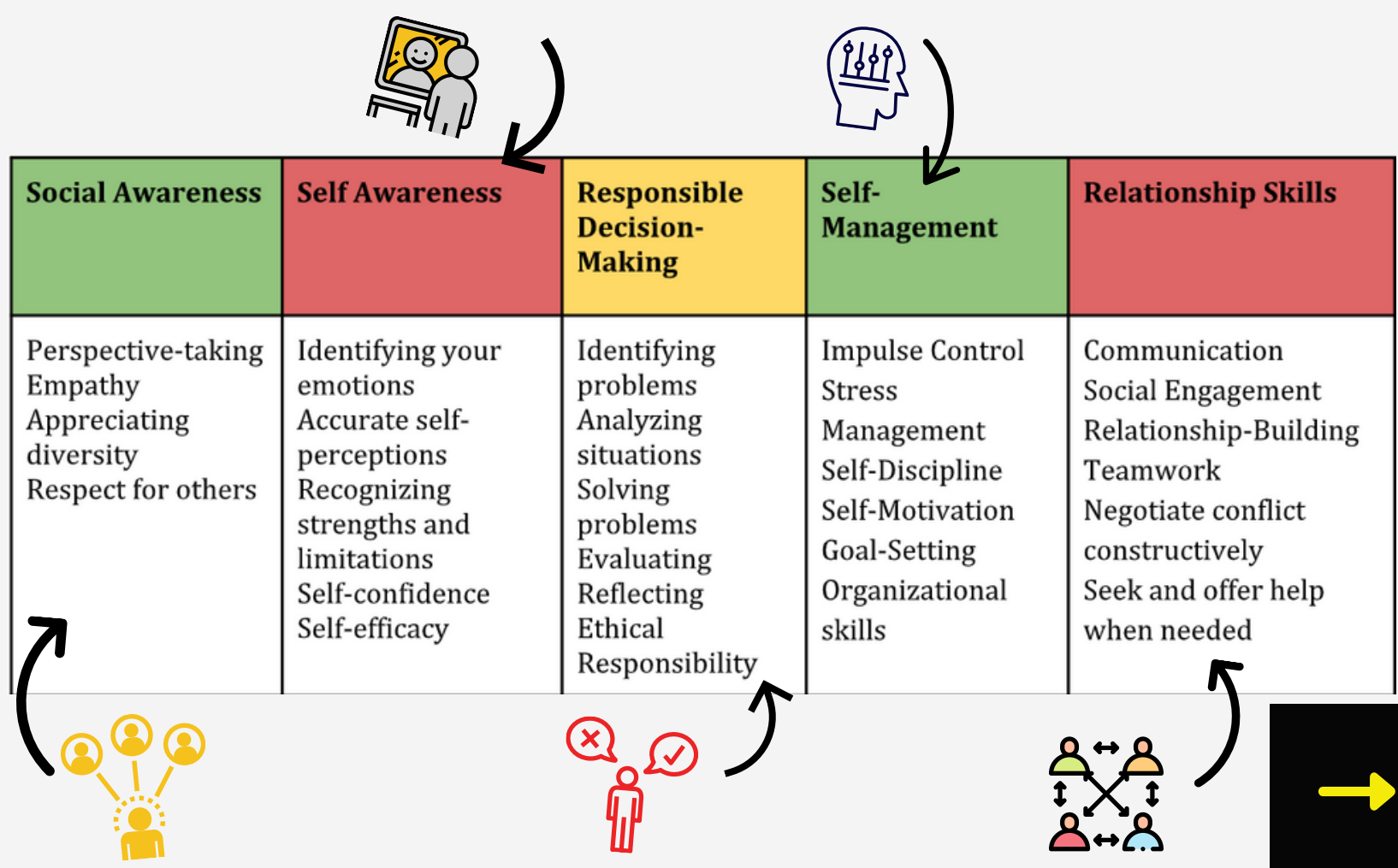
THREE

Modeling Social-Emotional Learning Skills

Showing up in your position is not just what black students need, but modeling social-emotional skills in the home AND in school are what our children truly need to see. Understanding how to communicate effectively- not just cut people off when you're mad, is what they need to see. Managing your emotions and regulating your emotions in times of frustration or embarrassment is what they need to see.

Modeling SEL competencies throughout the school day and holding students accountable to core values that they believe in not only helps their social-emotional learning skills, but it builds their character.

THE RESELIENCE™ TOOLS



FOUR

Emancipatory Pedagogy

Emancipatory pedagogy refers to a process of teaching that aims to free the teacher and the student from the mental restrictions imposed by the mainstream culture on the way they perceive things.

Culturally responsive and culturally affirming resources matter, and we need to push them now more than ever. However, an overarching pedagogy that supports all of this is emancipatory pedagogy. If we are pushing culturally responsive and culturally affirming resources, we might as well allow our children to know the power they have through the history of who they really are.

A growing body of research has made it increasingly apparent that adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) are a critical public health issue. ACEs are potentially traumatic experiences and events, ranging from abuse and neglect to living with an adult with a mental illness. They can have negative, lasting effects on health and well-being in childhood or later in life.

In the United States, 61% of black children and 51% of Hispanic children have experienced at least one ACE, compared to 40% of white children. In every part of the country, the lowest rate of ACEs was among Asian children. In most areas, the population most at risk was black children.

EMANCIPATORY PEDAGOGY CONTINUED



FOUR

Emancipatory Pedagogy

CONTINUED

The article “How Poverty Taxes The Brain” by Emily Badger talks about how scientists have discovered that being poor actually impairs our cognitive ability.

Refer to the article here:

<https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2013-08-29/how-poverty-taxes-the-brain>

According to Stanford Psychologist, The Covid-19 crisis has taken a psychological toll on people of all ages, but one group especially affected is teenagers. School closures and enforced social distancing have cut off many teens from psychological support, putting them at higher risk of developing anxiety and depression.

Our kids are going through a lot and we need to be bold enough to teach them how we have survived and how resilient they can be. African-American people have been resilient since the beginning of time, and they need to know the leaders that have paved the way.



FIVE

Know Your POWER!

Being confident and knowing your power are two different things.

Many people are confident to some, but get silent in rooms with others. Knowing your power is just that in EVERY room you are in.

It's time for us to reclaim our community, reclaim our classrooms and reclaim our power. When you know your power, your everyday INFLUENCE can live up to it.

I charge you to **activate a growth mindset** every day and practice self-efficacy to see how you're growing. Once we know our power, our students, communities, and families will be greatly impacted as a result!





For more information on black SEL- the social-emotional learning hub for Black people visit www.blackSEL.org.

If you would like to be highlighted on our blog or join our webinars we would love to hear from you- email: info@blackSEL.org.

