

Problem Solving PLAYING TOGETHER

K/1st

Christina Learns
About Playing
Together



Want to
watch



Social Emotional Learning

note to the educator

This lesson on **Playing Together** can be used on its own or as part of larger Problem Solving unit. The activities are truly **developmentally appropriate** for your youngest learners (K/1st) and require zero independent reading.

It's flexibly designed to accommodate any SEL delivery method or schedule.

It was also created using SEL **research-based** best practices:

- Focus on 1 or more specific skills
- Includes activities to practice the skill(s)
- Incorporates cooperative learning
- Provides opportunity for self-reflection

resource includes:

- Short story
- Whole group activity
- Independent or small group practice activity
- Closing circle questions
- Extension activity
- Poster/coloring pages
- Recommended book companions

short story

Christina Learns About Playing Together



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Christina learns that playing with others can be a lot of fun but she might need to be a flexible problem-solver.

short story

"Do you see anyone else that needs a partner?" Ms. Johnson asked. Christina looks around and notices that Su Jin is sitting alone. "I want to be my partner?" Christina asks. Christina and Su Jin play together all of gym class. They are having a great time! "Thanks for being my partner," Su Jin says.



Ms. Perez walked by and noticed Christina feeling upset. "What is wrong, Christina?" Ms. Perez asked. "I want to play with Joshua but I don't want to play with the blocks. I want to play with the cars," she said. "Hmm, seems like you have a problem. How do you think you could solve this?"

Ms. Perez asked. "I don't know," Christina responded.



The morning storm had passed by lunch recess so Christina and her class were able to play outside. She really wanted to play soccer with her friends. "Kiara, do you want to play soccer with me?" Christina asked. "No, I am playing tag, sorry," Kiara replied. Christina asked a few more of her classmates if they wanted to play soccer but they all said no. "I guess I can play soccer by myself," Christina thought.



The next day at recess, Christina asked Naomie if she wanted to play soccer. "Not right now, I want to play on the slide," Naomie said. Christina thought about what Ms. Perez suggested the day before. She still wanted to play soccer, but she wanted to play with a friend even more. She didn't want to be stuck playing alone again. "Okay, I'll play on the slide for a little bit, too!" Christina replied.



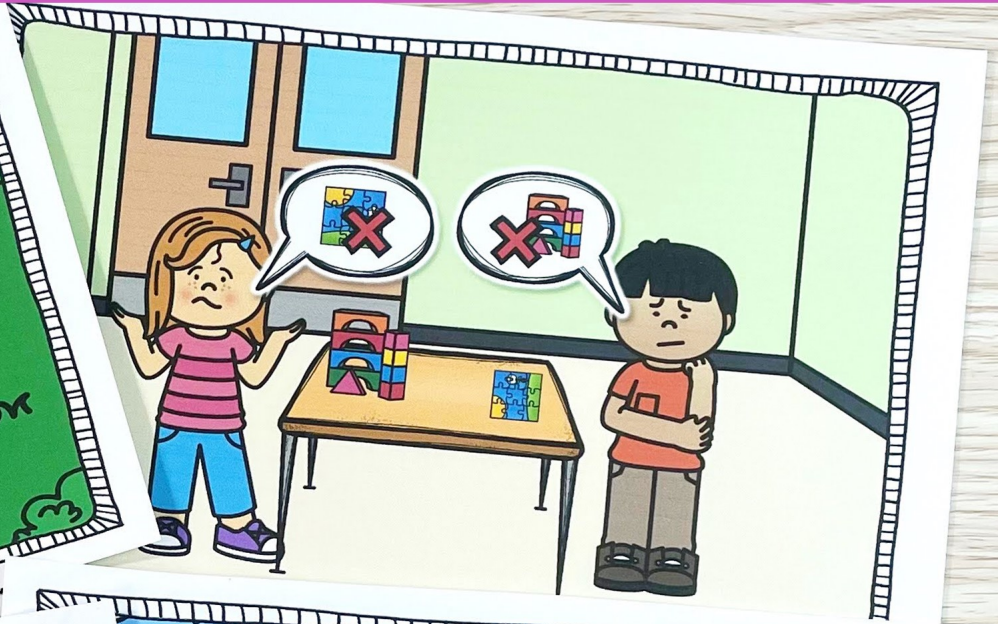
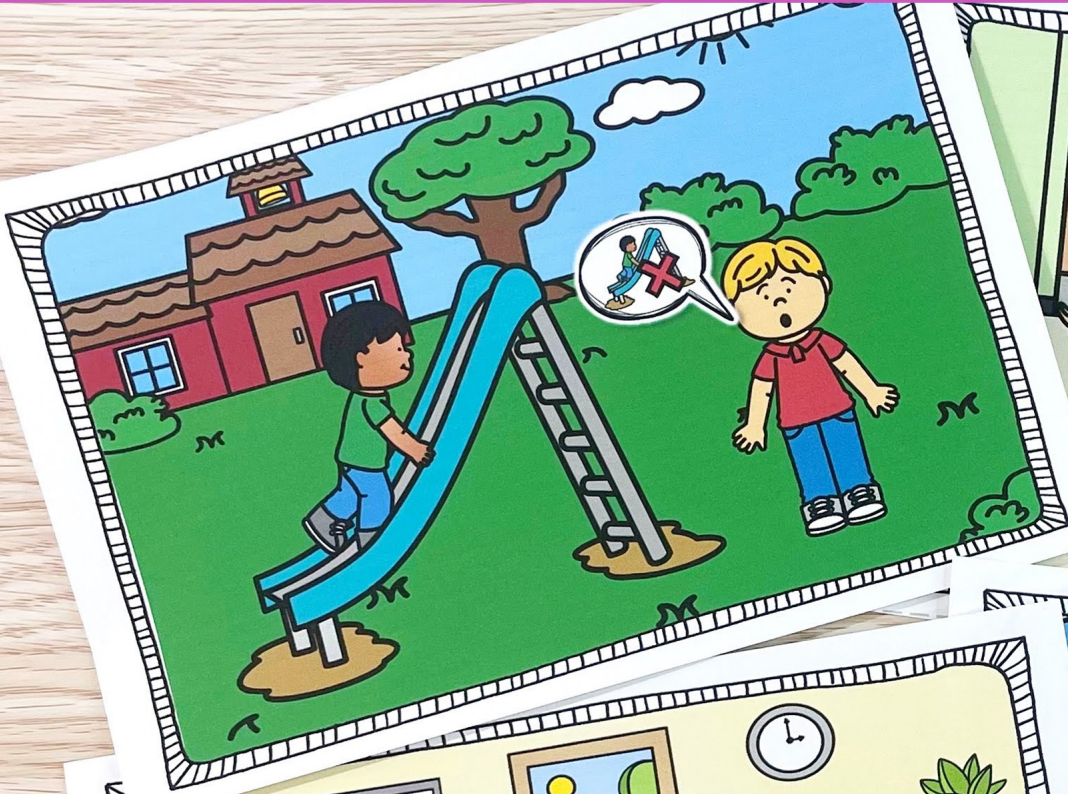
13 pages

whole group activity



Puzzle activity to practice working together.

independent/small group activity

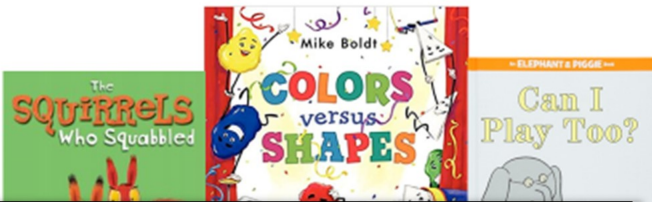


Practice identifying problems and solutions to problems kids face during play at school.

extensions

Book Companions

This lesson can be used without any stories, but the following picture books would make for great companions. Click on the covers to find them on Amazon.



Reinforcing Playing Together

Your students just received a lesson about PLAYING TOGETHER. Below is an extension and reinforcement activity you can use with your class to make their learning stick!

Gather class as a whole and instruct students to stand at the carpet (or near desk spots) and wait to hear a number called. When a number is called students will gather in groups representing that number.

- Say, "The number I am calling is... 6!" Once students gather in groups of 6 ask them to give each other a high-five.

Name: _____

We can play together!



Playing together can be a lot of fun!

Name: _____

We can play together!



Playing together can be a lot of fun!

We can play together!

how to use

Use for one lesson or multiple lessons.

Can also be used for small group/ tier 2 support.

PACING GUIDE (25-30 minute lesson)

- Story (7-10 minutes)
- Whole group activity (5 to 7 minutes)
- Introduce small group activity (5 minutes)
- Small group practice activity (2 pictures per group –7-10 minutes)
- Closing circle question: (3-5 minutes)

PACING GUIDE (45 minute lesson)

- Same as above, but use all of the pictures for each small group.
- Students color the "I can" page
- Read a recommended book companion

PACING GUIDE (super mini lessons, weeklong)

Mon	Read and discuss story
Tues	Whole group activity
Wed	Small group practice activity
Thurs	Extension activity + recommended read aloud
Fri	Color "I Can" page + closing circle

how to use

Love technology?

Use the included
slideshow to guide
the activities.



Want a tech-free
option?

Everything can be
done screen-free
with printables.

Hi, I'm Sara! I create resources for elementary students, counselors, and teachers that improve social emotional learning and help students be their best selves. My focus is creating resources that are *effective* (using research-based best practices) and *engaging* (through collaborative learning and relevant scenarios) for all types of learners and populations.



Education

B.A. from Michigan State University
Psychology and Anthropology

M.S. from Vanderbilt University
Community, Research, and Action

M.Ed. From Vanderbilt University
Human Development Counseling:
School Counseling & Mental Health

Experience

I'm a school counselor from a large southeastern school district with a wonderfully diverse group of students. I create and implement a data-based comprehensive school counseling program while helping classroom teachers and administrators implement schoolwide SEL and restorative practices. I also share my ideas and resources to reach students and help educators across the world!

Let's
Connect:

