



# A<sup>2</sup>


## Academics Through Agency



HARVARD  
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A vibrant underwater photograph of a coral reef. The foreground is dominated by a dense cluster of orange and yellow branching corals. To the right, there are large, flat, orange-colored coral structures. The background shows a deep blue ocean with sunlight filtering through the water, creating a shimmering effect. The overall scene is a rich and diverse marine ecosystem.

What is an  
Ecosystem?

# Ecosystems

An **ecosystem** includes all of the living things (plants, animals and organisms) in a given area, interacting with each other, and also with their non-living environments (weather, earth, sun, soil, climate, atmosphere). ... In an **ecosystem**, each organism has its own niche or role to play.

Adapted from National Geographic Encyclopedia





**Our  
Classrooms  
are  
Ecosystems**

# Classrooms as Ecosystems



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# Academics Through Agency

Strengthening Classroom Communities by  
Maximizing the **POWERS** within each and every learner

## 2

Classroom  
Practices

EmPOWERing  
Individual  
Interventions

POWERful  
multimodal activities,  
lessons, and content

POWERfully designing predictable  
routines, inclusive norms and  
structures

CULTURALLY RESPONSIVE &  
SUSTAINING PRACTICES

Foundational  
Competencies

WARM, DEMANDING  
AND RECIPROCAL  
ALLIANCES

CRITICAL  
SELF-AWARENESS

SHIFTING  
POWER

# Enhancing SEL Competencies



# RULER Curriculum

*The RULER Approach to Social and Emotional Learning* is a school-wide approach designed for use in kindergarten through eighth grade to promote emotional literacy, which includes Recognizing, Understanding, Labeling, Expressing, and Regulating emotions (the “RULER” skills).

## **RULER**

- R**ecognizing emotions in self and others
- U**nderstanding the causes and consequences of emotions
- L**abeling emotions accurately
- E**xpressing emotions appropriately
- R**egulating emotions effectively



# Second Step Curriculum



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## What Is Second Step?

It's a difference you can feel the moment you step through the doors to a Second Step school: a sense of safety and respect grounded in the social-emotional health and well-being of the entire school community.

Second Step is a program rooted in social-emotional learning (SEL) that helps transform schools into supportive, successful learning environments uniquely equipped to encourage children to thrive. More than just a classroom curriculum, Second Step's holistic approach helps create a more empathetic society by providing education professionals, families, and the larger community with tools to enable them to take an active role in the social-emotional growth and safety of today's children.

## Supporting an Integrated Approach to Education

Working in tandem with respected standards, benchmarks, and laws to reach a common goal

Discover the power of a program that supports your educational goals beyond social-emotional learning (SEL). By aligning with academic standards, interventions, and more, Second Step integrates with—and supports—your current programs and objectives. Explore our alignment charts to see how Second Step aligns with laws, programs, and standards.

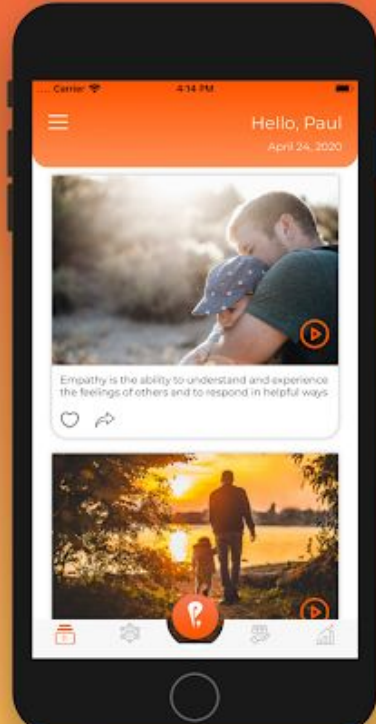
# Second Step

[Resources for Educators and Families](#)

[On Demand Webinars](#)

# Resources

Experience and Activity  
designed for Parents



Calm



**Thank you. We look forward to support your SEL journey.**

**For more information:**

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