

# The Hidden Curriculum:

Social understanding, Social Skills, and Belonging in K-12 Settings, Post-secondary, and Beyond

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# Recess, PE, and Recreational Activities

- Swings
- Monkey Bars
- Slides
- Jump Rope
- Basketball
- Volleyball
- Tetherball
- Kickball
- Tennis
- Jungle Gym
- Flag Football
- Soccer
- 4-Square
- Hopscotch
- Scooters
- Running
- Exercises
- Recreational Games



# The Great Outdoors

- Hiking
- Rock Climbing
- Camping
- Picnics
- Horseback Riding
- Bicycle Riding
- Boating
- Fishing
- Ropes / Challenge Course
- Skiing
- Beach Activities
- Nature Trails
- Exploring the countryside
- Trust Games
- Backpacking



# Common Party Activities

- Pin the Tail on the Donkey
- Bingo
- Board Games
- Parlor Games
- Role Playing & Strategy games
- Dancing
- Barbeque
- Swimming
- Jacuzzi
- Small Talk Conversations with others and getting to know each other
- Formal Dinner
- Lounging in the backyards
- Holiday or Family Related Celebrations / Traditions
- Gift Exchanges





## Signs Teachers and Parents Should Watch For That May Indicate a Child has a Social Skills Deficit

- Child is always by himself/herself at lunch time
- Child has very few or no friends his/her own age
- Child does not know the common things of youth culture of their peers know
- Has trouble connecting with others in their community
- Child participates in very few or no extracurricular or community activities
- Child has trouble fitting in with other children in school
- Poor performance in reading and processing of narrative/story type reading, while understanding factual material very well



# Subtle Language of the Social Environment

- Body Language
- Gestures
- Behaviors and Procedures for various social situations
- Subtle Cues
- Eye Contact
- Non-verbal recognition of peer relationships
- Interaction with other peers in ones own age group
- Understanding peoples feelings
- Non-verbal communication and messages
- Showing someone you are interested in them
- Giving your attention to a person or thing
- Tone of voice and voice volume





# Friendships

**“Some people have no friends because they were never taught the skills to be a friend”**

Quote from an online discussion board, when I asked the question, “should social and friendship skills be taught in school”. The class was a class for students learning to be teachers at San Diego State University.



# Digging Deeper into the “Hidden Curriculum”

- Communication
- Body Language
- Conversation Skills
- Character
- Manners
- Etiquette
- Social Graces
- Friendships
- Social Relationships
- Recreation
- Leisure
- Fitness
- Arts
- Creativity
- Rules of common games and sports
- To Have Fun!!!!