

# Creating Conditions to Thrive

The purpose of this tool is to give teachers the resources they need to meaningfully incorporate the Aspen Institute National Commission on Social, Emotional, and Academic Development (SEAD) themes—Agency, Belonging, Discourse, and Identity—into the teaching of priority standards at grades 6-8. Math teachers are most familiar with the math standards themselves; they are somewhat familiar with the Standards for Mathematical Practice (SMPs), but SEAD may be new. To strengthen social emotional classroom instruction that prioritizes SEAD themes, rather than adding “another thing to do,” a research-based resource has been developed using the lens of equity that connects SEAD themes, SMPs, and proposed student and teacher actions. It will also provide many students better access to high-quality math instruction within the standards.

## HOW TO USE THIS TOOL

The **SEAD Lesson Planning Template** has been developed with a very practical use in mind. Teachers can use it for planning lessons that integrate social emotional themes with the Standards for Mathematical Practice, and they can also use it as a reflective piece to think about lessons just conducted.

Choose the priority math content for grade 6–8. Begin by **identifying and writing the Social, Emotional, and Academic Development theme** into the lesson planning template.

Next identify and write the standard(s) for mathematical practice being addressed. Within the theme guide books are sample actions and strategies to use in classroom instruction. Charts have been provided to record student actions and teacher actions. The examples of strategies and actions for integrating SEAD into mathematics offered in this resource contain several that are linked directly to English learner (EL) instruction. The chart at the end of the template can be used as a Summary of Practices, Best Practices, and Reflections.

## THEMES

English Language Development + Scaffolding

Social, Emotional, and Academic Development

## GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Equitable access to grade-level priority math standards.

Learning opportunities for students to engage with the standards for mathematical practice.

Targeted curricula and practices designed to create equitable access to math instruction for students gaining English proficiency.

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