



Erasmus + VET Strategic Partnership

IENE 8 - Empowering migrant and refugee families with parenting skills

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TITLE OF THE TOOL:

EXPLORE AND LISTEN IN MIDDLE CHILDHOOD (6-12 YEARS)

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TITLE:

Explore and Listen in middle childhood (6-12 years)

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

1. To present the key aspects of social and emotional development during the middle childhood
2. To raise awareness about difficulties of communication experienced by refugee children
3. To help at-risk refugee parents of children from 6 to 12 years old to improve social and communication development of their children

WHAT ARE THE CHILD DEVELOPMENT IN MIDDLE CHILDHOOD (6-12 YEARS)

In the years between 6 and 12 , middle childhood, children develop a sense of self-esteem and individuality, comparing themselves with their peers, become competent, independent, self-aware, and involved in the world beyond their families.

Children at 12 years have entered a highly emotional space. They are just beginning to cope with hormonal changes. They're also hitting a time when peers will have the most influence on them.

Social relationships and roles change dramatically as children enter school, join programs, and become involved with peers and adults outside their families.

Children begin to be more separate from parents. They want to be poised and have self-control, but they are often clumsy and in conflict.

KEY POINTS

Social and Emotional Development milestones

Children at ages 6-10:

- Become able to understand the viewpoint of others: are aware that others can have different thoughts.
- Can focus on several aspects of a problem at a time.
- Can communicate better and longer with others, express themselves and understand things.
- Can better understand and internalize moral rules of behavior (right/wrong; good/bad; wonderful/terrible).
- Begin to understand that what is fair is related to merit: who works harder deserves special treat.

- Are better able to empathize with other people and accept the idea of giving special consideration to those in greater need.
- Are able to view themselves based on: how they perform in school; capacity to make friends; and their physical appearance.
- Understand they can feel two emotions at the same time .
- Are intensely interested in peers, prefer same sex friends; develop friendships marked by give and take, mutual trust and shared experiences.
- Feel that belonging and acceptance by peers is very important.
- Have great concern with justice and fairness; what is fair or equal is important and some children may try to get even and become verbally or physically aggressive.
- Continue to develop social skills like empathy and compassion.
- Become more able to do things by themselves and as a result, their relationship with parents changes.

Children at ages **11-12**:

- Begin to develop personal values
- Learn to make appropriate decisions to resolve conflicts arising from the influence of peers
- Define themselves through environment, friends, clothes, culture, TV, etc.
- Develop the understanding that there are consequences to their actions
- Learn to analyze risk factors
- Show empathy
- Learn to handle emotions such as fear, frustration and rejection
- Learn to express individual ideas in appropriate ways
- Begin to accept personal and community responsibility
- Develop leadership skills
- Develop persistence
- Explore and examine rules to make sure the rules are fair
- Identify themselves with a peer group;
- Learn to accept and value other points of view
- Communicate with peers through a variety of methods
- Demonstrate the ability to set personal goals

Speech, language and communication milestones

Children beyond 8 years, usually will:

- Use language to predict and draw conclusions
- Use long and complex sentences
- Understand other points of view and show that they agree or disagree

- Keep a conversation going by giving reasons and explaining choices
- Start conversations with adults and children they don't know

ACTIVITY

Starting from the examples, please, describe some **means you can help your child to improve the communication development.**

<p>What's happening? <i>(Description of the social and communication your child development events)</i></p> <p>Examples</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • psychological trauma, often associated with conflict. • struggle to join in group conversations • difficult to understand language where the meaning isn't clearly stated e.g. when the conversation involves new concepts or involves new people. • challenges in expressing complex thoughts and feelings verbally when children do that in a second or subsequent language, in expressing complex or challenging thoughts and emotions in in other than their mother tongue, or explore expression through art, play or other types of symbolic representation. 	
<p>How can I tell? <i>(indicators you can look in order to determine whether or not the development event has take place or is taking place)</i></p> <p>Examples</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stop talking. • Prepare yourself for listening. • Focus on what is being said. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Listen to ideas not just words. • Wait and watch for non-verbal communication. • Maintain eye contact wherever possible. • Listen to the words and try to picture what the speaker is saying 	
<p>How can I help? <i>(Suggested ways you can support child communication development at his/her age)</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •

REFLECTION

Think to **psycho educational interventions** to support your child who have experienced traumatic events in their *social* and communication development.

SELF ASSESSMENT

List the **most important Social and Emotional Development** skills that you consider your child developed at different rates than usually children of his/her age.

REFERENCES

1. Social and Emotional Development: Ages 11-13,
<https://www.kidcentraltn.com/development/11-13-years/social-and-emotional-development-ages-11-13.html>
2. Health of refugee and migrant children,
http://www.euro.who.int/_data/assets/pdf_file/0011/388361/tc-health-children-eng.pdf?ua=1
 On MY Way - A guide to Support Middle Years Child Development
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