Pyramid Model Quarterly Newsletter

a framework for promoting the social and emotional development of young children



As we swing into the warmer weather of Spring, excitement is in the air. We are looking forward to opening our windows, picking out seeds to plant, and waiting in anticipation for the vibrant colors to come alive outside again.

At *Ready. Set. Grow!* we show up with this same excitement and anticipation as we support educators and caregivers to sow seeds of positivity and watch children thrive! By being intentional in how we spend our time and the way we communicate with children, we can decrease challenging behaviors and promote positive behavior outcomes.

This edition's resource spotlight offers ways to sow those seeds of positivity through implementing Pyramid Model Strategies that create time for connection, shift our communication, and offer positive, descriptive feedback in response to appropriate behaviors.

Pyramid Model Resource Spotlight

Planting seeds is only the first step in a thriving garden. What truly helps those seeds grow is the care we give them day after day—sunlight, water, and patient attention. In the same way, the positive relationships we build with children grow stronger through small, intentional interactions that communicate care, trust, and encouragement.

The resources featured below highlight meaningful strategies that help nurture those interactions. From strengthening communication to carving out dedicated connection time and offering encouraging feedback, these practices help create the conditions where children—and the relationships we share with them—can truly flourish!



Communication is Key

Open, honest, and consistent communication strengthens trust and understanding within classrooms and families. This resource helps you provide directions in positive ways that help children succeed in meeting expectations.



Banking Time

Setting aside intentional, one-on-one time with children builds strong emotional connections. These moments of focused attention deposit trust and security that last far beyond the present. This resource outlines how intentional focus on relationship building can support positive behavior change.



Positive Descriptive Feedback

Noticing and naming what children are doing well encourages confidence and reinforces positive behaviors. Specific, genuine feedback helps children understand their strengths and continue building them. This resource offers guidance on a powerful strategy for teaching new skills and maintaining learned skills while strengthening relationships.

Together, these practices help us sow seeds of positivity that blossom into resilience, confidence, and healthy relationships in classrooms and at home.

In our homes, growth begins with connection. Using these resources and strategies can support creating nurturing home environments where children feel heard, supported, and empowered to grow.

If you are interested in the Ready. Set. Grow! Team supporting you to implement any of the strategies in your classroom or home, you can **make a request below!**

Request Ready. Set. Grow! Supports

Partner Spotlight



The Regional Intervention Program (RIP) is a parent-implemented, professionally-supported program for young children and their families who are experiencing challenging behaviors. RIP has been serving families with young children since 1969. This unique, internationally-recognized program guides parents in learning the skills to work directly with their own children while they receive training and support from experienced RIP families.

SAVE THE DATE!
The 3rd Annual RIP Spring Festival is schedule for Saturday, May 9th at their Nashville location, 5020 Darlington Dr. Nashville, TN 37211. Come out for a morning of fun that is safe for the whole family and learn more about the ways that RIP program can support you and your family and community.

Ready. Set. Train!

Calling All Early Childhood Professionals!

Ready. Set. Grow! is hosting their spring online training event, **The Big Five: Five Classroom-Wide Practices to Improve Behavior in Early Childhood Settings on March 27th at 11AM.**

Through this training, we will discuss the 5 "must have" classroom practices that need to consistently be in place, to provide the most opportunity for every child to succeed, even if they have undesirable behaviors. These practices help build predictability, safety, security, and skill sets to make challenging behaviors less probable and guide children into more appropriate behaviors.

Sign up before registration closes!

Register Here

Positive Solutions for Families

Positive Solutions for Families is a no-cost, evidence-based program designed to help families build strong relationships, promote positive behavior, and support children's social and emotional development. Through practical strategies and guided discussions, families, educators, and caregivers gain tools to better understand their children, strengthen communication, and create supportive home environments.

We are excited to announce that **registration for Positive Solutions for Families will be available for our April and June classes**. Families are encouraged to enroll during these open registration periods to take advantage of this valuable opportunity to learn, connect, and grow together.

For more information about session dates, times, and enrollment details:

Click Here

Employee Spotlight

Ellen Lippman



My name is Ellen and I am the Data Coordinator for the *Ready. Set. Grow!* Program.

I started my career in education as a first grade teacher and quickly realized the importance of social and emotional skills for children's success. I then worked as a school counselor where I got to specialize in supporting students' social and emotional development.

I joined *Ready. Set. Grow!* In 2022. In my role, I enjoy using data to demonstrate the importance of our services and working with partners statewide to create systems that support children and families.

To make a referral or learn more, visit us at **TNVoices.org** or email **early.childhood@tnvoices.org**

This project is funded under a grant contract with the State of Tennessee, Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services.

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