

# Escondido Education Foundation Grant Evaluation

**Applicant's Name:** Norine Leverton  
**School:** Farr Avenue Elementary School  
**Project Title:** A *Little Spot* SEL Kits and Book Series  
**Dollar Amount:** \$500  
**Subject Area:** Library  
**Grant Type:** Classroom Project  
**Grade Level:** TK – 5<sup>th</sup>  
**Number of Classes That Participated:** 24  
**Number of Students That Participated:** 490  
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## Evaluation Questions:

### 1. What empirical evidence, if any, do you have to submit to evaluate your project?

The *A Little Spot* SEL Kits and Book Series has provided our school library with valuable hands-on learning experiences that have fostered self-awareness, emotional regulation skills, and social skills. The empirical evidence I witnessed included enhanced engagement during our read alouds and at our calm corner. Students loved voting on which emotion to read about during our read aloud. I used the feeling cards to discuss each emotion and allow students to vote on which one they were curious to learn more about. Students were then able to read and check out all the books from the series. I love that the kit included emotional regulation tools that I added to our calm corner to reinforce the read aloud lesson. Many students have enjoyed using these tools at the calm corner to learn the skills needed to regulate their emotions. I also used the plushies during the read aloud and placed them around the library to further demonstrate that the library is a safe space for students to explore their emotions.



## 2. What observations have you recorded and reviewed as evidence your project was successful? Where do you think you could improve?

I introduced the *A Little Spot* SEL Kits and Book Series during kindness week in February. I used the large flashcards to explain each emotion to the students. I then allowed them to vote on which emotion they wanted to read about. Most classes voted on the *A Little Spot of Love* book since we were celebrating love and kindness that week. The book talked about all the ways you can show love and kindness to friends. It also talked about the importance of self love and saying positive affirmations. After reading the book we also discussed all of the skills we learned about in the book like showing love through: high fives, fist bumps, a wave, or thumbs up. We also discussed examples of how you can show love through words, actions, quality time, affection, and gifts. Students were then able to check out and read all of the books from the series. The books are very popular with the kids and have been circulating every week! I have also witnessed students using the new tools effectively at the calm corner. Overall I have noticed that the books and tools have been a great addition to our space and have reinforced our library expectations and contributed to the library being a safe and inclusive space for all students.





### **3. If you continue with this project next year, what would you do differently?**

I plan on continuing to use all of the materials in the years to come in the library. I would like to continue using the books for our read aloud during kindness week. I also will continue to have the tools available for students at the calm corner. The plushies have also been a great addition to our library space. The kit also included teacher manuals with lessons. I have barcoded these materials and added them to our teacher resource section so teachers can check them out. The only issue I had with the materials was that the books only come in paperback. I would like to find a way to cover the books to make them more durable for future use. In the meantime they are holding up well.

### **4. Have you saved all receipts?**

Yes, please see receipts attached.