



BEYOND DIFFERENCES[®]

How to talk to students in Response to Crisis



Help children process their emotions in a safe, independent way

"I know today may feel scary, how can I make you feel safe."



Help facilitate conversations about feelings that may not yet have words

*Drawing and/or talking "around" the feeling can expand emotional vocabulary
eg: physical sensations or personal narrative*



Address deeply-entrenched cultural biases that invoke fear or self-doubt

Don't deny or correct a student's observations or worries. Refocusing a student on how they feel in this moment and how their feelings have changed in the past will enable them to see that feelings change



Remind youth of their power and agency to push back against hate

"Your voice is so important, I am so glad that you are here. We are going to get through this together"

Be sure to check back regularly with yourself and with students. Note and articulate how feelings change and ID what makes one feel safe and connected to others.

For more resources on Crisis Response with youth and free SEL curriculum visit our website
BEYOND DIFFERENCES.ORG[®]

