

Social and Emotional Learning: The Missing Piece to Address Climate Change



ENGAGEMENT = ACTION

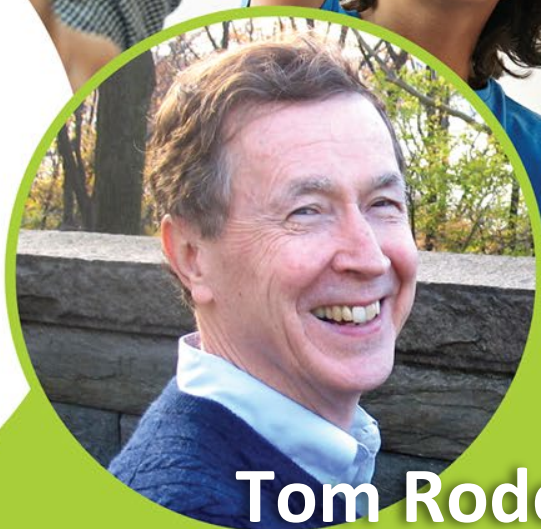
Inspiring the future,
together with One Step

#StompOutCarbon

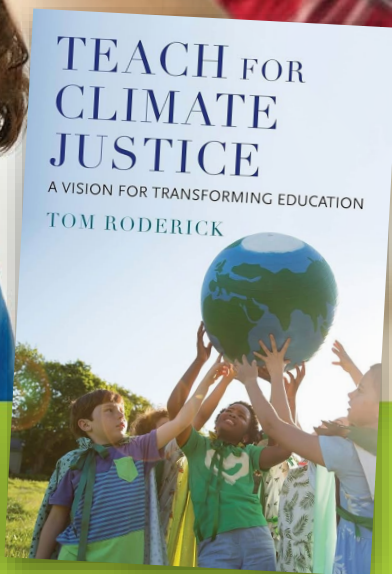




**Meet
Your
Presenter**



Tom Roderick





What We'll Discuss Today

- 💧 What is social and emotional learning (SEL)?
- 💧 Why is it essential for effective climate justice education?
- 💧 How can we integrate SEL into teaching for climate justice?





Overview of the Webinar

I will offer

- **Five SEL strategies** especially relevant for addressing our students' needs in this era of climate emergency
- **Classroom activities** for carrying out each strategy





SEL Strategy #1

Engage Students in Building a Caring Classroom Community

- In this time of climate crisis, our **students need relationships they can count on** and a **community that has their back**.
- An array of SEL activities is available to **strengthen relationships in your classroom** and **build group solidarity**.





Strategy #1 Activities

- **Group games:** Fun ways for students to get to know each other
- **Community agreements:** Students envision the classroom they hope for and take responsibility for creating it
- **Have a heart:** Making the classroom a put-down-free zone





SEL Strategy #2

Teach Students Skills in Active Listening, Understanding & Managing Feelings

- **Active listening** is the foundation for building the **trustworthy friendships and a caring community** so critical for fostering resilience in this era of climate crisis.
- The changes in the climate will trigger feelings big time. **We can learn skills in managing our feelings** so that they work for us and not against us.





Strategy #2 Activities

- The Three Ps of Active Listening
 - Pay attention
 - Provide gentle encouragement
 - Paraphrase (say in your own words)
what you've heard the person say
- Expanding Students' Feelings Vocabularies
- Cooling Down Practices





Strategy #3

Provide Brave Spaces for Students to Share Feelings & Concerns

- Students are increasingly **experiencing climate disasters and other upsetting events** on the news, social media, and first-hand.
- Brave spaces are times set aside when students can **share their feelings, be listened to without judgment**, and realize they are not alone.





Strategy #3 Activities

- Regular Check-ins: ***How is Your Heart Today?***
- Listening Circles
- Guidelines for Responding When a Student Expresses Feelings and Concerns about the Climate Crisis

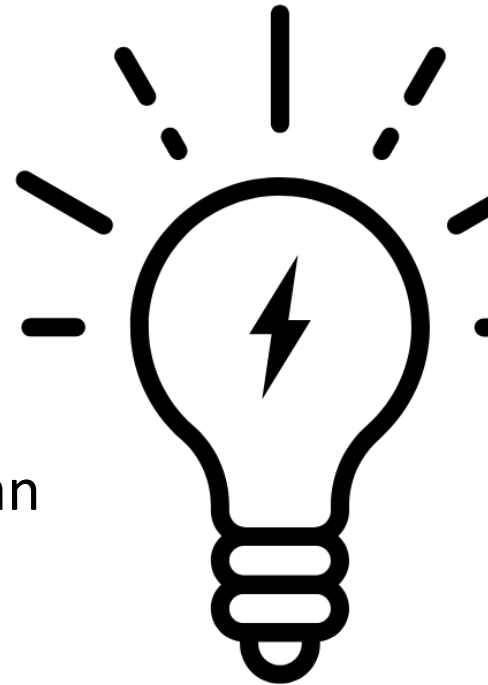




SEL Strategy #4

Facilitate Productive Conversations about Controversial Issues

- To **disagree without being disagreeable** is an essential part of building a community where all have a place at the table.
- **Active listening and anger management** skills can be useful when a topic triggers strong feelings.
- Skillful facilitation by the teacher can **turn hot topics into teachable moments.**





Strategy #4 Activities

- Opinion Continuum
- Guidelines for facilitating productive conversations





Strategy #5 Practice Self-Care

- Educators **carry a heavy emotional burden** as they work with young people who fear for their future
- To be of use to them, we need to **take good care of ourselves.**
- There are regular practices we can use to maintain a **balanced perspective** and stay centered on what's most important.





Strategy #5 Activities



- Practice Active Hope
- Meet Regularly with a Listening Partner
- Pause for Centering and Reconnecting





Integrate SEL into Education for Climate Justice

- Engage Students in Building a Caring Classroom Community
- Teach Students Skills in Active Listening and Understanding and Managing Feelings
- Provide Brave Spaces for Students to Share Feelings and Concerns
- Facilitate Productive Conversations about Controversial Topics
- Practice Self-Care

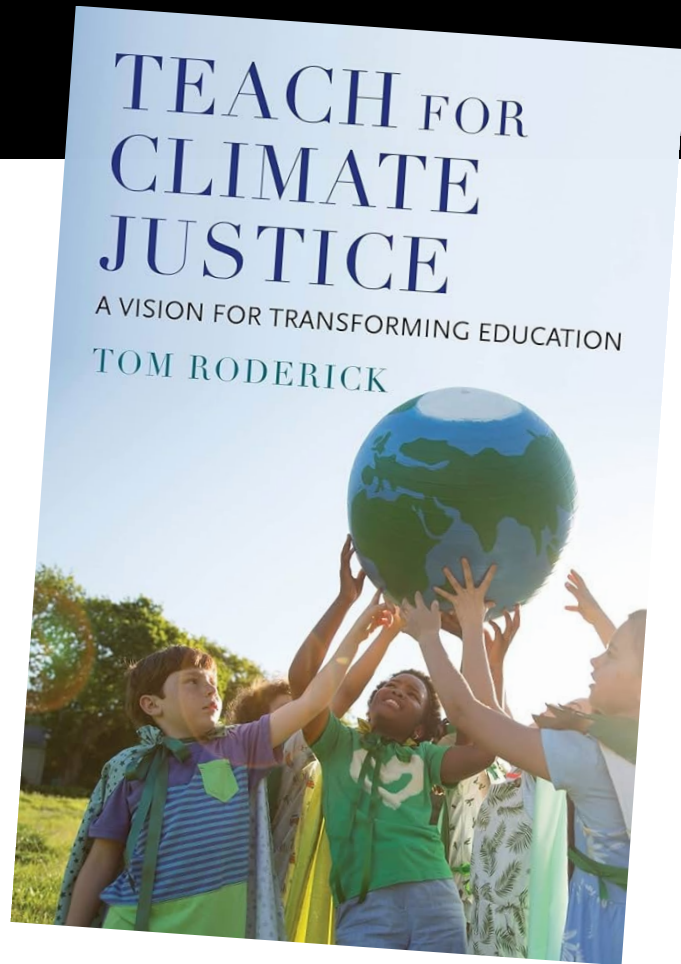




Resources



Available in print or ebook from Harvard Education Press, Amazon, Bookshop, and Barnes and Noble. Available in audiobook from Audible and other sources.





Resources

Handouts describing the activities introduced in the webinar are available, along with other resources, on the **book's website**:



www.teachforclimatejustice.org

Email Tom at:

teachforclimatejustice@gmail.com





Bonus Content: Community Engagement Guide



DOWNLOAD NOW!

 <https://bit.ly/48sHO8j>





WHAT
QUESTIONS
DO YOU
HAVE?



ONE
STEP

*Thanks for joining
us today!*

ENGAGEMENT = ACTION

Activate a 90-Day Free
Trial of One Step!



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