In this kit, you will find a wonderful children’s book and practical resources you can use to help a child develop important lifelong skills. Use these tips to engage the child in talking about the story, further developing vocabulary, comprehension and a love of reading. Finally, use the provided materials and Activity Instructions to extend and practice new skills.

**BABY FEELS BY KEN KARP**

Using language to label emotions can be helpful not only to learn about emotional vocabulary, but also to respect and validate that it’s okay to feel lots of different things. This, in turn, supports a child’s social-emotional development as well as development of social cognition. When you label emotions—of people in your environment (especially when strong emotions are witnessed), or those your baby expresses—you give words to feelings and reassure her that feelings of all kinds are valued.

**Themes Covered:** faces, emotions

**Skills Developed:** vocabulary, print awareness, reading facial expressions

**Verbal Prompts**

Before reading, say...

While reading...
- Show the pictures of faces and ask what the children think the baby is feeling.

After reading, ask...
- What makes you happy? Sad? Mad? How are you feeling today?

If a baby isn’t talking yet, use words to describe their feelings. For example, when your baby is laughing or smiling, say, “You look happy.” Name your own feelings, too. Babies understand language long before they speak.
FEELINGS FACES

Help children learn the meaning of facial expressions by creating Feelings Faces

Supplies You’ll Need

- One piece of construction paper or six paper plates per child (larger sizes work better for very young children)
- Template—construction paper circles
- Template—babies’ faces
- Black magic marker (thick line)
- Tape or glue stick
- Scissors
- Single hole punch
- Large plastic bag(s) or other container

Kit Assembly Instructions

1. Cut out images of babies’ faces that show different emotions.

2. For younger children, glue or tape each picture in the center of a paper plate. For older children, use the template to cut 6 circles of construction paper and tape or glue images to them.

3. Write (print) the name of the emotion over the image.

4. Hole punch the top of each construction paper circle and loosely tie together with other pieces to form a picture ring.

5. Place in the bag or container.

For Construction Paper Circles
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Surprised</th>
<th>Happy</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sad</td>
<td>Angry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Confused</td>
<td>Silly</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Follow These Steps

1. Place all plates face down, and either turn one over yourself, or allow your baby to choose which plate she wants you to flip over (either by simply doing it herself, or by pointing to, gazing at, or moving her body toward the desired plate).

2. Talk about what you see in the picture, and how that baby/child feels. Tell a story about why that baby feels that way. Each time you do this, you might tell a different story, to keep it interesting.

3. For older toddlers, ask questions like, “What makes you happy? Sad? Scared?” etc.
FIVE LITTLE DUCKS AND THEIR FEELINGS

Help children learn the words for feelings with this song and activity!

Supplies You’ll Need

- Template—face drawings
- Scissors
- Five pieces of different pastel colored pieces of flannel and one piece of white flannel
- 3x5 note cards
- Permanent markers
- Large plastic bag(s) or other container

Kit Assembly Instructions

1. Cut a clean circle around the faces on the template.
2. Trace around each face on a separate piece of pastel colored flannel.
3. Use a marker to draw the features on each face.
4. Cut the white flannel into five strips.
5. Write one of the emotions on each strip—happy, sad, angry, silly, sleepy.
6. Put the flannel faces and word strips in the plastic bag or container.
**Follow These Steps to Do This Activity With One Child**

1. Find the song Five Little Ducks and Their Feelings on YouTube, or type in this address: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZOtLRqokqh0](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZOtLRqokqh0)

2. Get faces and words out of the bag.

3. Sit on the floor with the child and play the song/video once. Point out the words as they appear on the video. Sing along and encourage the child to sing. Make facial expressions and movements that align with how the ducks are feeling.

4. Play the song again, and as you are singing, set out the face that matches the feeling in the song. For example, when you see the happy duck, set out the happy face. Play the song again and when they sing about each feeling, put the word for that feeling beside the face that has that feeling.

5. Talk about each feeling. Ask the child when she has that feeling. Ask the child to point to that face or the word.

**Follow These Steps to Do This Activity With a Group of Children**

1. Set up for group time by queuing up the song, getting faces and words out of the bag and propping up a flannel board.

2. Sit on the floor with the children and play the song/video once. Point out the words as they appear on the video. Sing along and encourage the children to sing. Make facial expressions and movements that align with how the ducks are feeling.

3. Play the song again, still singing, and add the faces to the flannel board by matching the feelings on the face to the feelings in the song. (e.g. when they sing about the duck that is happy, put up the happy face).

4. Repeat the song. When they sing about each feeling, put the word for that feeling under the duck that has that feeling.

5. Talk about each feeling. Ask children when they have the feeling. Let the kids take turns pointing to that face and/or the word.
HEAD TO TOES (AGES 0-2)

Help babies and toddlers learn the names of body parts with this activity!

**Kit Assembly Instructions**

Include the book and *Tips for the Reader* in the kit.
HEAD TO TOES (AGES 0-2)
Help babies and toddlers learn the names of body parts with this activity!

Follow These Steps
Follow along with the book and ask the child to point to each place on his or her body!
Writing Feeling Words (Ages 3-5)

Help kids follow along with Baby Feels with these Feeling Words!

Supplies You’ll Need

- Template—Feelings & Faces template for each child
- Crayons or washable markers
- Plastic bag(s) or other container

Kit Assembly Instructions

1. Make a copy of the template for each child.
2. Place the template along with crayons or markers in a bag or container.
3. Include the book and Tips for the Reader in the kit.
Right now I feel | Feelings & Faces

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>angry</td>
<td>sad</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>silly</td>
<td>mad</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sleepy</td>
<td>worried</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>frustrated</td>
<td>funny face!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>happy</td>
<td>calm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>content</td>
<td>nervous</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>surprised</td>
<td>excited</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Follow These Steps

Ask the child to write how they are feeling at the top of the page, color the faces, and practice writing the feeling words. If your child is just beginning to write, you may ask them to write the first letter only. Or, write the word and let your child trace or copy it.

To practice letter-sound recognition, point to the beginning letter of a feeling word and ask the child what sound that the letter makes.