The Second Step Program: Are Kindergarteners Climbing Towards Social Success?

Megan Byrne, '07
Illinois Wesleyan University

Stevie Miller
Illinois Wesleyan University

Leah Nillas, Faculty Advisor
Illinois Wesleyan University

Follow this and additional works at: http://digitalcommons.iwu.edu/jwprc

Byrne, '07, Megan; Miller, Stevie; and Nillas, Faculty Advisor, Leah, "The Second Step Program: Are Kindergarteners Climbing Towards Social Success?" (2007). John Wesley Powell Student Research Conference. 8.
http://digitalcommons.iwu.edu/jwprc/2007/posters2/8

This Event is brought to you for free and open access by The Ames Library, the Andrew W. Mellon Center for Curricular and Faculty Development, the Office of the Provost and the Office of the President. It has been accepted for inclusion in Digital Commons @ IWU by the faculty at Illinois Wesleyan University. For more information, please contact digitalcommons@iwu.edu.
©Copyright is owned by the author of this document.
THE SECOND STEP PROGRAM: ARE KINDERGARTENERS CLIMBING TOWARDS SOCIAL SUCCESS?

Megan Byrne, Stevie Miller, and Leah Nillas*
Educational Studies Department, Illinois Wesleyan University

The Second Step Program, a violence prevention program, teaches students to express their feelings and interact positively with others. According to studies, the Second Step Program can be linked to improvements in student behavior and decreased aggression (Frey, Bobbit Nolen, Van Schoiack Edstrom, Hirschstein, 2005).

In kindergarten, children enter a social setting daily where they are expected to interact with others. During this time, many students do not know how to properly behave and interact with others. This makes kindergarten an appropriate level to introduce children to proper social skills and problem solving strategies. The purpose of this study is to determine the effectiveness of the Second Step Program in teaching kindergarteners social interactions and behavior. Kindergarten students were observed in different school environments, and their teachers were interviewed. Research findings will allow teachers and administrators to determine whether the Second Step Program is valuable in teaching children social interactions and appropriate behavior.