Teaching Tools- Affective Language

**Restorative Practices:** Affective Statements provide feedback, set boundaries and teach empathy.

I am feeling (state the feeling)….because (name the behavior) and (state the action that you would like to see).

I feel…because or I need…

**Example:**

It’s frustrating to see you on your computer, please put it away.

David, I was really happy that you worked for the entire class period today. Your hard work is really paying off.

I feel hurt when I hear people speak unkindly to each other. What I’d like is for all of us to be mindful of our words and speak respectfully to each other.

**Watch this!** Video Clip on Affective Statements

**Conscious Discipline:** I Messages (pages 142-143 in *Building Resilient Classrooms* by Dr. Becky Bailey)

Children are not born knowing the difference between respect and disrespect. We must teach them. When children attack us physically and verbally, we can dodge blows, say hurtful words, deliver negative consequences, and send children to the office…… or we can use the disruption to teach respectfulness and assertiveness by using an I Message.

- **Style 1:** “I don’t like it when you___.” Follow with an assertive command and relate it to safety.
- **Style 2:** “When you ___, I feel ____ because ____.” Follow with an assertive command.

Example: “I don’t like it when you interrupt. I can’t remember what I was saying. Raise your hand and I will call on you. Do it now for practice.”