Engaging Strategies are instructional practices that you may use throughout your class to help students practice SEL skills. They can vary in complexity and length and are designed to help students to intentionally practice what they are learning academically while also strengthening SEL skills.

**Four Corner Thinking**

- The four corners of the room are designated as strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree, strongly disagree.
- After each statement, students move to the corner and discuss why they made their selection.
- A spokesperson in each corner shares out the group’s thinking.
- Repeat statement to give students a chance to change their position.
- **Discussion prompts:** Why are you in the corner of the room you selected? Why have you reacted to the statement the way you have? What are the reasons you decided to be there opposed to the other three corners? What have you learned about your peers’ responses to the statements posted?
- **Voice & Voice Modification:** Call out a series of decisions that are made, and students will pick the corner that best matches their experience. Explain the four corners –
  1. Students make this decision on their own. The teacher supports the students’ choices.
  2. The teacher makes this decision on her or his own. Students are expected to follow it.
  3. Teacher and students decide what to do together, negotiating when they have differences of opinion.
  4. Someone else who isn’t in the classroom decides. This could include the principal, parents, curriculum planners, the state legislature, and others.

**SEL Competencies:** Self-awareness, Social Awareness, Relationship Skills
**Feelings Charades**

- Have students practice acting out different feelings while others guess the feeling.
- Talk about the feelings and ask for examples of when students felt that way.
- Discuss different strategies students can use when they are feeling different ways. (Mindful Breathing, 5-4-3-2-1)
- **Modification:** Students can draw the feelings or describe a situation that might make someone feel that way.

**SEL Competencies: Self-awareness, Self-management, Responsible Decision-making, Social Awareness**