

# **UTAH PYRAMID MODEL**

Spring 2025





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Welcome to the Utah Pyramid Model quarterly newsletter! This publication is designed to keep you informed and engaged with the latest updates, resources, and reports related to the Pyramid Model framework in Utah. Whether you're a practitioner, parent, or community member, our goal is to provide you with valuable information to support the development of social and emotional skills in young children. Through this newsletter, we'll share program highlights, training opportunities, and stories of success, ensuring you stay connected with the ongoing work to promote positive outcomes for children across the state.



# Program Spotlight: Weber School District

Weber School District held a family night to teach parents about problem solving, including practicing recognizing different emotions, making a solution suitcase and learning the Tucker Turtle strategies. Each family was able to take home their solution suitcase to continue problem-solving at home.



Strategies in the solution suitcase included

- Ask for a hug.
- Share.
- Wait and take turns.
- Take a break.
- Ask a teacher.
- Ignore.
- And more!



# Resource Spotlight: How to Make a Solution Suitcase

Solution suitcases are a great visual tool to have around the classroom or home!

## Step 1: Obtain Materials

- Print off the solution kit cards from NCPMI
- Print off a suitcase, use a file folder, or bring in an old briefcase.
- Gather scissors, and either Velcro or glue.



## Step 2: Put Suitcase Together

- Have kids cut out the solution cards.
- Velcro if possible, or glue the cards to the suitcase

## Step 3: Teach Children to Use the Kit

- In small groups, teach children what each of the solutions are. Demonstrate how to share, how to get a timer, etc.
- Once they have a grasp on the skills, demonstrate how to use the solution suitcase.
- Keep the suitcase in an accessible spot so children can grab it whenever they need.
- Continuously refer to it when problems arise.

## BONUS: Alternate Solution Holders

The solutions don't have to be kept in a "suitcase." The cards can be hole-punched and attached to a key ring, or they can hang on a lanyard. As long as children know where the cards are, the solution cards can work in any format.





**Project ECHO:**

## **Transitions and the Pyramid Model**

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Our last ECHO session took place February 24 with a panel from Mandy Zeschke, Program Coordinator for Davis Early Intervention and Davis County, Jacque Alderete, Service Coordinator from Up to 3 Early Intervention, and Cherice Mendez, Assistant Program Coordinator at DDI Vantage. They discussed "Transitioning from Early Intervention (Part C) to Preschool (Part B). Watch the full session below.



Transitioning from  
Early Intervention (Part C)  
to Preschool (Part B)

### **Past Sessions**

Watch all our past sessions on our website.

[\*\*Watch Past Sessions\*\*](#)



# Updates

## Expanding the Pyramid Model to Early Intervention

Utah Pyramid Model is making a focused effort to expand throughout EI programs across Utah. EI emphasizes services in natural environments and using a family-centered approach. The Early Interventionist Pyramid Practices Fidelity Instrument (EIPFFI) organizes these practices into 6 categories:

Building Partnerships  
with Families

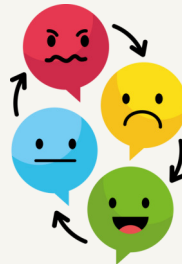
Dyadic Relationships

Social Emotional Development

Children with  
Challenging Behavior

Family-centered Coaching

Social Emotional  
Assessment



## We are excited to be working with the following EI programs:

Central Utah Early Intervention

South East Early Intervention

Davis Early Intervention

SUU Early Intervention

DDI Vantage Early Intervention

Up to 3\*

Kids on the Move

USDB PIP Blind and Visually Impaired

Kids Who Count

USDB PIP Deaf and Hard of Hearing

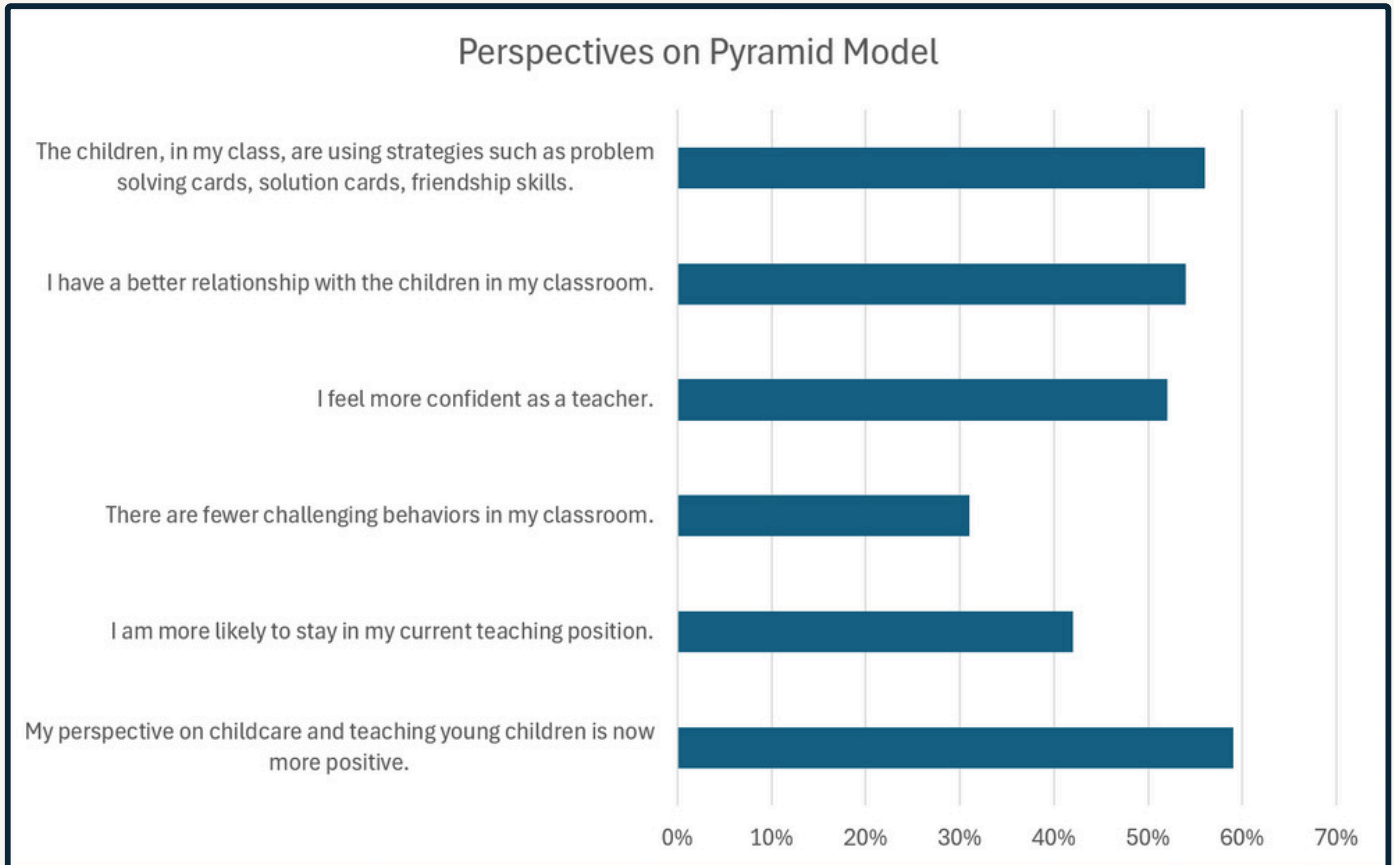
Roots for Kids

\*Up to 3 has implemented  
Pyramid Model to 80% fidelity  
program-wide



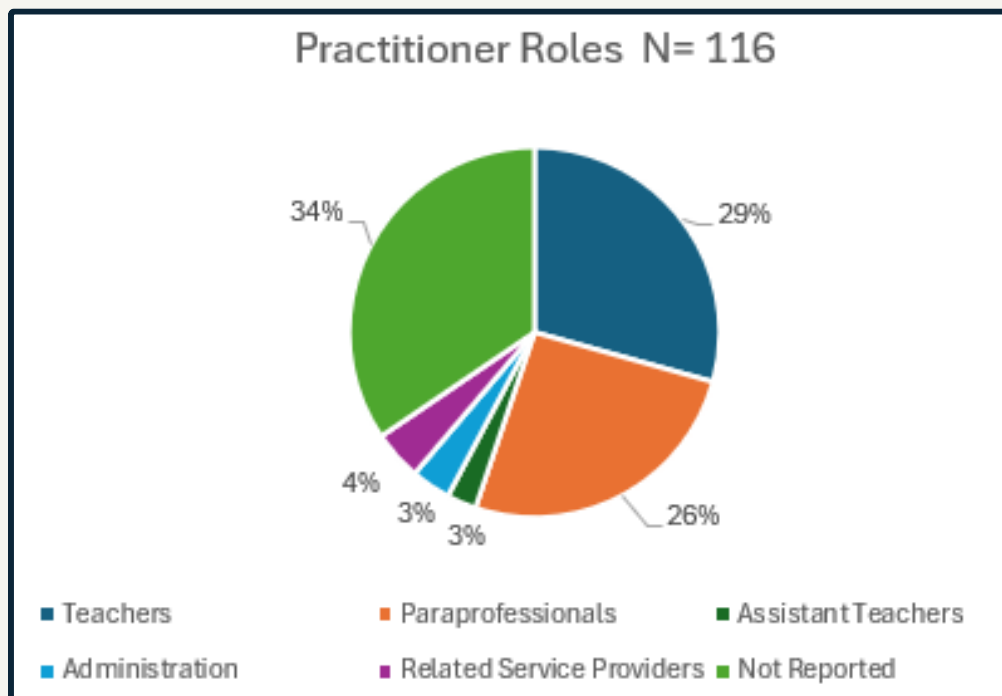
# Reporting Practitioner Survey

Utah Pyramid Model conducted a survey to 116 practitioners currently training in the Pyramid Model. Practitioners, in most cases, have had overwhelmingly positive reactions to how the Pyramid Model has helped them and their classrooms.



“THANK YOU!  
Teaching our children  
emotional  
intelligence and self  
regulation is  
changing the world  
(and healing us  
adults).”

-Survey Respondent





# About the Pyramid Model

The Pyramid Model is a framework to promote children's social and emotional development and decrease challenging behaviors. The model is divided into 3 tiers:



For additional information, watch the video below or visit <https://idrpp.usu.edu/projects/pyramid/>





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