

CFE Tool of the Month

Name the Emotion!

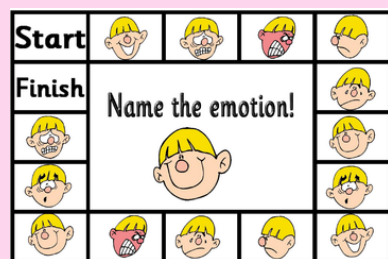
Exploring emotions is an important part of child welfare work. However, many children have a hard time identifying and naming their feelings.

Learning to recognize and verbalize their feelings can help children manage emotions, let others know how they feel at that moment in time, and possibly deescalate problems before they start.

Name the Emotion can be used as a board game for a one-to-one activity, or it can be used as a describing game, almost like charades, for groups of siblings or other children.

As an advocate, it is your job to help advocate for the best interest of the child or children you are assigned to. *Name the Emotion* can help you understand better what your child or children are feeling about their placement, what they are missing or needing from their family of origin, as well as help you bond with them and show them that you care.

What are you waiting for? Get out and play *Name the Emotion* with your kiddos today!



Tell me a time when you felt...



Spotlight!

Congratulations, Selma, for being recognized by your peers!

Selma Lee has been with Big Country CASA since 2014 as a volunteer advocate and started in 2018 as an employee in the Advocate Supervisor role and now shines as a Program Supervisor!



Executive Director, Lee Ann Millender, states, 'Behind those beautiful eyes and smile is a ferocious advocate but don't be surprised when she puts on her velvet gloves and advocates like a stealth bomber. She is brilliant and consistently holds the standard for best interests at the highest levels. She does not back down.'

Program Supervisor, Sandra Shirey, said, "Selma sets the standard for our CASA staff in so many ways: poise, compassion, organization, communication, and attention to detail---and she looks good in pink, too!"

Big Country CASA is better because you are here!

Wildcat Basketball!

ACU has generously provided 10 tickets to Big Country CASA for select Men and Women's home basketball games!

If you would like tickets for a game, please contact Dana Ward at danaward@bigcountrycasa.org.

You must reserve tickets by noon the Monday before the game.

Home Game dates and times can be found here: <https://acusports.com/>



Please reach out to staff or supervisors if you are feeling overwhelmed or in need of assistance!

Don't forget to like,
share, and comment on
our social media posts!



Info Meet Thursdays!

In Person:

February 1st, 9-10am @ Monks Coffee Shop

February 8th, 10-11am @ Tea2Go (North)

February 15th, 2-3pm @ Lustea

February 22nd, 5:15-6:15pm @ Mezamiz

Virtual Info Meet:

February 21st, 7-8pm

Zoom Link: [https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84430834190?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84430834190?pwd=SHZOcXk0UXlNYmdKUjI4bVB0T09xQT09)

[pwd=SHZOcXk0UXlNYmdKUjI4bVB0T09xQT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84430834190?pwd=SHZOcXk0UXlNYmdKUjI4bVB0T09xQT09)

Other Important Dates:

Spring New Volunteer Training - Refer a friend!

Begins March 2, 2024 through April 11, 2024!

For a complete schedule, please visit our website:

www.bigcountrycasa.org

Reminder:

CEU hours start over in 2024 - You have 11 more months to get your 12 hours for the year!

January CEU Opportunity:

Please reach out to Michael Dean at

michaeldean@bigcountrycasa.org

for information on CEU opportunities!

Office Closed:

February 19, 2024 - Presidents Day



Stay tuned for more information on raffle
tickets for sale!

Drawing to be held in June!

Quilt is donated by the Abilene Quilters'
Guild, quilt pattern by Deb Tucker, pieced
by Dianne Hawley and Stephanie
Patterson, quilted by Jana Bailey

What We Do!

CASA was fortunate to host an informational meeting with our friends from the United Way board. This meeting concentrated on what a CASA does and how it impacts our community.



Kathy Arno was able to share her experience with a case that recently had a major turn due to her fierce advocating. Thank you, Kathy, and thank you United Way for all that you do for Big Country CASA.

Links Regarding the Federal Lawsuit Against DFPS Regarding PMC Children

Foster care in Texas: Facing pressure from judge, state reassigns workers to care for children without placement - ABC13 Houston

<https://abc13.com/texas-foster-care-system-child-welfare-workers-reassigned-unlicensed-homes/14353688/#:~:text=Texas%20child%20welfare%20officials%20are,to%20keep%20those%20children%20safer.>

<https://www.texasmonthly.com/news-politics/foster-care-judge-janis-jack/#:~:text=the%20mistreatment%20of%20children%20in,ignored%20her%20fines%20and%20threats.&text=Patrick%20Michels%20is%20a%20podcast%20producer%20at%20Texas%20Monthly.>

STRATEGIC PLANNING WILL BE
HAPPENING IN THE SPRING!

ANY VOLUNTEERS CAN LET LEE ANN
KNOW BY CALLING THE OFFICE AT

325-677-6448 OR EMAILING HER:

LMILLENDER@BIGCOUNTRYCASA.ORG

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO PARTICIPATE!



Quote of the month:

"People grow when they are loved well. If you want to help others heal, love them without an agenda."

-Mike McHargue

