



Depression and Bipolar Support Alliance

Mood Crew Tools for Understanding Emotions



Hello!

My name is Lonely and I am glad you found this DBSA Mood Crew workbook! My friends and I created this workbook for children to better understand emotions.

The DBSA Mood Crew has a lot of experience with emotions, so we put our heads together to create games, worksheets, and activities that will illustrate what we are all about. Adults may find these activities and games helpful tools to start talking about emotions with children. (Adults have fun with this, too!)

If you have ever met my friend Angry, you'll know that some emotions can be difficult. However, once you get to know Angry better, you might realize that we all feel that way sometimes. The DBSA Mood Crew wants everyone to know that it is okay to feel all kinds of emotions. The more you get to know us, the better you will be able to recognize who we are and when you feel like we do.

I am really not great at making friends, so I hope it's not too forward to ask if you'd join me in exploring this DBSA Mood Crew workbook. If you are ready, come and get to know us better!

With Feeling,

Lonely

Lonely



Meet the Mood Crew





FAVORITE COLOR: ORANGE

FAVORITE FOOD: GUMMY WORMS & FUNNEL CAKES

WHAT I'M LIKE: READY FOR FUN, ENERGETIC, CAN'T SIT STILL

THINGS I LIKE TO DO: ROLLER COASTERS, DANCE PARTIES, TRAMPOLINES

I'm Excited.

Excited is elated to be joining the DBSA Mood Crew! Excited is full of anticipation for all the fun the Mood Crew is going to have together. He is known for his upbeat personality and readiness to dive into any new opportunity. Excited is thankful that his teacher let him know about this opportunity!







FAVORITE COLOR: RED

FAVORITE FOOD: NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS

WHAT I'M LIKE: AGGRESSIVE, MEAN, IRRITABLE

THINGS I LIKE TO DO:

SCREAMING, STOMPING, YELLING, SPITTING (SOMETIMES)



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I'm Angry.

Angry is feeling somewhat annoyed to be making her DBSA debut. She doesn't really get why she needs to do this anyway. Angry is known for her famous aggression. Some of her favorite pastimes are screaming, stomping, and yelling. Angry would like to yell at her parents, Bitter and Furious, for even making her do this whole thing.





FAVORITE COLOR: GREEN FAVORITE FOOD: SUSHI WHAT I'M LIKE: RELAXED, EASY-GOING, READY TO HELP

THINGS I LIKE TO DO: YOGA, WATCHING SUNSETS, LONG WALKS

I'm Calm.

Calm is feeling at peace now that she is in the DBSA Mood Crew! Calm has been working on deep belly breaths and is ready to share how good that feels with the other Mood Crew friends. Calm is always there to lend a shoulder to her friends. Calm would like to thank her therapist, Serene, for recommending her to be in the DBSA Mood Crew.



MOOD CREW BIOS





FAVORITE COLOR: ALL OF THEM **FAVORITE FOOD: PIZZA**

WHAT I'M LIKE: OPTIMISTIC, CHEERFUL, FRIENDLY

THINGS I LIKE TO DO: SMILE. LAUGH. MAKE NEW FRIENDS

I'm Happy.

Happy is pleased to be making her DBSA Mood Crew debut! Happy is always optimistic and has a great outlook on life. Happy is able to put things in perspective and see the positive in situations. Happy has hard days sometimes but always is around to help friends cope. She would like to thank their parents Cheerful and Joyful for all their support!



MOOD CREW BIOS





FAVORITE COLOR: BLUE

FAVORITE FOOD: TUNA SANDWICHES

WHAT I'M LIKE: READY FOR NEW ADVENTURES, AMBITIOUS

THINGS I LIKE TO DO: BASKETBALL, SKATEBOARDING



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I'm Confident.

Confident joins the DBSA Mood Crew feeling ready to jump in! Confident tends to feel assured that things will go well. She brings her hopeful attitude and determination to the group. Confident has been told she is a natural leader with a go-getter spirit. Confident would like to thank her Grandma, Tenacity, for having her join the DBSA Mood Crew!





FAVORITE COLOR: GRAY FAVORITE FOOD: HOT DOGS

WHAT I'M LIKE: AWKWARD AROUND MOST PEOPLE, BUT TRYING TO CHANGE

THINGS I LIKE TO DO: BIRD WATCHING, HIDE-AND-SEEK



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I'm Embarrassed.

Embarrassed has been flustered since joining the DBSA Mood Crew. Embarrassed tends to be somewhat timid, so joining the DBSA Mood Crew will be quite the experience. Embarrassed was encouraged by his friend Confident to join the Crew.





FAVORITE COLOR: YELLOW

FAVORITE FOOD: CHEESE STICKS

WHAT I'M LIKE: I'M MY OWN BEST FRIEND

THINGS I LIKE TO DO: READING, DRAWING

I'm Lonely.

Lonely is feeling less isolated since being invited to join the DBSA Mood Crew. Lonely tends to spend a great deal of time by himself and is interested in seeing where this will go. Lonely's father, Solitude, told Lonely that joining the DBSA Mood Crew would be a good way to make new friends. Lonely hasn't always been great at meeting new people, but will give it a try.



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FAVORITE COLOR: BLUE FAVORITE FOOD: CHOCOLATE

WHAT I'M LIKE: DRAMATIC, KNOWN FOR CRYING

THINGS I LIKE TO DO: CUDDLING WITH MY CAT, NAPPING

I'm Sad.

Sad has a lifetime of experience in the performing space and was referred to join the DBSA Mood Crew by his agent, Melancholy. If there is one thing you should know about Sad it's that despite his reputation, he really does get along well with Happy (rumors about their feud date back to the late '90s).







FAVORITE COLOR: PURPLE

FAVORITE FOOD: MARSHMALLOWS

WHAT I'M LIKE: NERVOUS, UNSURE, SHY

THINGS I LIKE TO DO:

I'VE ALREADY SHARED TOO MUCH!



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I'm Scared.

Scared is having a great deal of trouble writing this bio. He is somewhat afraid and startled to take such a big step and join the DBSA Mood Crew. Scared doesn't know what to share about himself except that he would prefer not to. Scared found out about the DBSA Mood Crew through his friend, Panic, who declined DBSA's initial offer to be in the DBSA Mood Crew.

MOOD CREW BIOS





FAVORITE COLOR: DO I HAVE TO CHOOSE ONE?

FAVORITE FOOD: BREAD

WHAT I'M LIKE: QUIET, CONCERNED

THINGS I LIKE TO DO: WATCH CLOUDS FLOAT BY

I'm Worried.

Worried is feeling a bit anxious about joining the DBSA Mood Crew. What if something goes wrong? If there is one thing you should know about Worried, it is that she spends a great deal of time thinking, or as Worried's therapist would say, overthinking. Worried found out about DBSA Mood Crew through her friend Scared, who said, "If I'm joining this thing, you can too!"



Work with the Crew



Angry

Feeling angry is when we feel mad or upset about something.

Times we might feel angry:

- When we don't get to play because we have to do our school work
- When people misunderstand what we are saying
- When something doesn't go well for us

When we feel angry, our body might feel like:

- Our face is hot and red
- Our muscles are tight and tense
- Our heartbeat is faster than normal

Understanding Angry / Questions for learning:

What are some times a person might feel **angry**?

When you feel angry, what does your body feel like?

Write about a time that you felt **angry**. What was it like?





Calm

Feeling calm is when we feel relaxed. When we feel calm, we feel peaceful.

Times we might feel calm:

- When we are falling asleep at night
- When we are doing something relaxing like coloring
- When we are with the people we love like our friends and family

When we feel calm, our body might feel like:

- Our muscles are relaxed
- We are able to listen and focus
- Our heartbeat feels steady

Understanding Calm / Questions for learning:

What are some times a person might feel calm?

When you feel calm, what does your body feel like?

Write about a time that you felt calm. What was it like?



MOOD CREW WORKSHEET



Confident

Feeling confident is feeling sure that things are going well. When we feel confident, we feel good about ourselves.

Times we might feel confident:

- When we get a good grade on our homework
- When friends tell us we have done a good job
- When we feel proud of an accomplishment

When we feel confident, our body might feel like:

- We are standing up straight and tall
- We are ready to speak up and say what we think
- We have more energy than normal

Understanding Confident / Questions for learning:

What are some times a person might feel confident?

When you feel confident, what does your body feel like?

Write about a time that you felt confident. What was it like?



MOOD CREW WORKSHEET

Embarrassed

Feeling embarrassed is feeling uncomfortable because we may not feel understood by others or sometimes make a mistake.

Times we might feel embarrassed:

- If we have to speak in front of the whole class
- If we make a mistake in front of our friends
- When we meet new people and might not know what to say

When we feel embarrassed, our body might feel like:

- The palms of our hands are sweaty
- Our heart is beating faster than normal
- We want hide our faces from others

Understanding Embarrassed / Questions for learning:

What are some times a person might feel embarrassed?

When you feel embarrassed, what does your body feel like?

Write about a time that you felt embarrassed. What was it like?



Excited

Feeling excited is being eager and enthusiastic. Often we feel excited when something fun is happening.

Times we might feel excited:

- When it is our birthday
- When we are going to have time off from school
- When we are going somewhere exciting like the zoo or on vacation

When we feel excited, our body might feel like:

- We want to jump up and down
- Our eyes are wide open
- Laughing and having big smiles

Understanding Excited / Questions for learning:

What are some times a person might feel excited?

When you feel excited, what does your body feel like?

Write about a time that you felt excited. What was it like?





Worried

Feeling worried is feeling concerned that something may be wrong. When we feel worried, we may feel afraid that something we don't like will happen.

Times we might feel worried:

- If we don't know whether or not we did well on our homework
- If we forget something we were supposed to bring for school
- When we are missing someone like a friend we haven't heard from in a while

When we feel worried, our body might feel like:

- Our heart is beating faster than normal
- We are frozen in place or stuck
- Our stomach feels empty or uncomfortable

Understanding Worried / Questions for learning:

What are some times a person might feel worried?

When you feel worried, what does your body feel like?

Write about a time that you felt worried. What was it like?



Нарру

Feeling happy is being cheerful, pleased, or glad. When we feel happy, we feel good about things.

Times we might feel happy:

- When we get good grades on our homework
- When we get to play with our friends
- When we get a new toy

When we feel happy, our body might feel like:

- We have a big smile on our faces
- We feel energy and want to move around a lot
- We stand up straight with our shoulders back

Understanding Happy / Questions for learning:

What are some times a person might feel happy?

When you feel happy, what does your body feel like?

Write about a time that you felt happy. What was it like?





Lonely

Feeling lonely is the feeling we get when we are not around our friends or family and we want to be.

Times we might feel lonely:

- When we haven't seen our friends in awhile
- When we don't have anyone to play with
- When we have nothing to do and we feel bored

When we feel lonely, our body might feel like:

- Our eyes are heavy or tired
- Curling up to give ourselves a hug
- Our shoulders turn inward

Understanding Lonely / Questions for learning:

What are some times a person might feel lonely?

When you feel lonely, what does your body feel like?

Write about a time that you felt lonely. What was it like?





Sad

Feeling sad is the feeling of being upset. Sometimes when we are sad we cry, and that's okay.

Times we might feel sad:

- When we miss our friends or family or feel left out
- When we don't get to do what we want to
- When something we love breaks or gets lost

When we feel sad, our body might feel like:

- We want to cry or we do cry
- Our stomach doesn't feel good
- We feel low energy, maybe even kind of tired or sleepy

Understanding Sad / Questions for learning:

What are some times a person might feel sad?

When you feel sad, what does your body feel like?

Write about a time that you felt sad. What was it like?



Scared

Feeling scared is when we have a fear of something. When we feel scared we may feel jumpy, or nervous.

Times we might feel scared:

- When we hear a loud or strange noise and we don't know where it is coming from
- When we are unsure what is going on or when we feel unsafe
- When we watch a scary movie

When we feel scared, our body might feel like:

- We are breathing faster than normal
- Our muscles feel tight and tense
- We feel like we want to run away or are afraid to move

Understanding Scared / Questions for learning:

What are some times a person might feel scared?

When you feel scared, what does your body feel like?

Write about a time that you felt scared. What was it like?



Color Us In!





I'm Happy.





I'm Angry.





I'm Calm.





I'm Confident.





I'm Embarrassed.





I'm Excited.





I'm Lonely.





I'm Sad.





I'm Scared.





I'm Worried.

Dialogues






Questions for learning:

- Have you ever been in Worried's shoes before?
- How did Calm help Worried?
- Do you have someone that helps you like Calm helped Worried?
- Have you ever been able to help someone feel more calm?

Let's Stay Together

Нарру

Hey, what are you two doing sitting over here? The rest of us are putting together a puzzle at the table. Do you want to join us?

No. It's no use trying to do anything.

Sad

Go on, Happy, we'll just keep each other company for right now. Sad is my only friend.

Maybe forever.

Hey, Sad. Nothing is forever.

It feels like it's always like this. Always.

Happy, it's no use.

Maybe if you joined us at the table, you would feel better.

I could go with you, but then Sad would be... lonely.

It's ok. You can leave me to play with Happy. If you want.

Lonely

Are you sure?

No.

Well gee whiz, Sad.

You two seem to be stuck together.

We are related.

I should have known! You two look a lot alike.



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- What helps you feel better when you're sad?
- Are you able to talk to your friends or family when you feel lonely?

The Smoosh Factor Confident Angry Hey Angry, how come you're not eating your lunch? I am angry! I know! I'm Confident! This is no time for jokes, Confident! Ok, ok. Sorry. Yes, let's be serious. Why are you upset? My mom put a banana in my lunch and she knows I don't like bananas. Oh I see. Maybe your mom forgot that you don't like bananas? ...maybe. My mom puts bananas in my lunch because she wants me to eat fruit. But you like bananas. I do not! That's true. See? Maybe you would be angry just like me if you didn't like them. Maybe. Bananas are smooshy and gross. Do you like other kinds of fruit? Some. What kinds do you like? Oranges. Any other kind?



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She is pretty cool, I guess. Thanks, Confident.

Questions for learning:

- What would you have done if you were Angry?
- How did Confident help Angry?
- Can you think of a time you were angry and upset?
- Confident suggested to Angry to talk to her mom about what made her upset. Can you think of a time when you were able to talk to someone who made you angry?

Tripping into Confidence





Scared

Turn on your Heartlight

Hey, Scared, what's going on?

Excited

I'm afraid!

What are you afraid of?

The dark!

l understand, sometimes the dark can be scary.

It sure can be!

But, it can also be fun.

What is it?

Well, it's dark outside now. Let's get flashlights and go outside—c'mon!

Ok, but will you hold my hand?

Sure, let's go!

I have an idea!

- SCARED AND EXCITED GO OUTSIDE. —

It's so dark out here. My heart is beating so fast!

I know, mine too!

Are you afraid too?

No! But our bodies do some of the same things when we are scared or excited. Isn't that neat?

Yeah, I didn't know that.

Ok. Let's sit here.



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Mood Crew Games

Moods in Motion is a game for children and adults to explore ten core moods:

Happy • Excited • Calm • Scared • Confident

Worried • Lonely • Sad • Angry • Embarrassed



Acting out an emotion gives kids (and adults) a chance to feel what happens in their bodies when specific emotions arise. Connecting mind to body while an emotion is occurring can be grounding, which helps us choose to respond to something rather than react.

MIRROR, MIRROR

Instructions

SET-UP

Print the downloadable DBSA Mood Crew cards from the DBSA website. Cut out cards.

GAME PLAY

- 1. Shuffle the cards so that they are in random order.
- 2. Each player will pick a card and follow directions below.

Directions:

Mirror, Mirror is a chance to help each player see what their bodies do when they're acting out an emotion. In this game, the player will pick a card and demonstrate their interpretation of what the specific emotion looks like. The other players will mirror them by doing the same movements.

Note to Adults:

Since each player will have their own interpretation/movement for a given emotion, ask the kids how it feels in their body to create the movement or mirror the other players to increase their awareness of how they're moving.





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Acting out an emotion gives kids (and adults) a chance to feel what happens in their bodies when specific emotions arise. Connecting mind to body while an emotion is occurring can be grounding, which helps us choose to respond to something rather than react.

BIG TO SMALL

Instructions

SET-UP

Print the downloadable DBSA Mood Crew cards from the DBSA website. Cut out cards.

GAME PLAY

- 1. Shuffle the cards so that they are in random order.
- 2. Each player will pick a card and follow directions below.

Directions:

In Big to Small, the player will pick a card and demonstrate what an emotion looks like when it's big and then contrast it with what it looks like when it's small. While each player is in a version of the emotion (big or small), they have to say what their body is physically doing (arms in the air, bouncing legs, tapping feet, etc).

Example:

If a player picks "Excited," a demonstration of big might be jumping up and down with hands in the air as though they're at a baseball game. A demonstration of small might be expressed with wide eyes and a delightful smile.

Note to Adults:

If the young player isn't able to notice what their body is doing, help them by stating the movement and if possible, mirror them so that they can see.

> American Legion Child Welfare Foundation



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Happy • Excited • Calm • Scared • Confident

Worried • Lonely • Sad • Angry • Embarrassed

Draw & Write Drawing and writing is another way of making a mind/body connection. Though the movement is small while writing and drawing, the body and mind are creating something together, which increases awareness.

DRAW ALL THE THINGS

Instructions

SET-UP

Print the downloadable DBSA Mood Crew cards from the DBSA website. Cut out cards.

Gather blank paper and writing/coloring utensils: pencils, crayons, markers (if age appropriate).

GAME PLAY

- 1. Shuffle the cards so that they are in random order.
- 2. Each player will pick a card and follow directions below.

Directions:

In this activity, each participant takes a card and draws a picture of something that makes them feel the emotion of the card they chose. After each player is finished, ask them to talk about what they drew and why.

Note to Adults:

With curiosity, point out attributes of the picture, ie. colors, size, shapes, etc.





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Draw & Write Drawing and writing is another way of making a mind/body connection. Though the movement is small while writing and drawing, the body and mind are creating something together, which increases awareness.

WRITERS WRITE

Instructions

SET-UP

Print the downloadable DBSA Mood Crew cards from the DBSA website. Cut out cards.

Gather blank paper and writing/coloring utensils: pencils, crayons, markers (if age appropriate).

GAME PLAY

- 1. Shuffle the cards so that they are in random order.
- 2. Each player will pick a card and follow directions below.

Directions:

In this activity, each participant takes a card and writes a short story about the emotion they chose. When finished writing, share your stories with each other.

Note to Adults:

Every child is different and has varying levels of writing abilities. If the child wants to write a couple words, they can still share the story they have about the emotion without writing out the full story.





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MOOD CREW Matching Moods Game

Matching Moods is a game that is meant to help children identify and discuss emotions.

Instructions

SET-UP

Print the downloadable DBSA Mood Crew cards from the DBSA website. Cut out cards.

GAME PLAY

- 1. Shuffle the cards so that they are in random order.
- 2. Lay cards out with Mood Crew character facing down.
- 3. One at a time, flip over the cards until someone finds a match.
- **4.** When someone does find a match, the facilitator (parent, caregiver, clinician, educator) should ask the child a question about that emotion.

Examples of questions you can ask during game play:

- Can you tell me what that emotion means?
- Can you think of a time that you felt that emotion?
- When you feel this emotion, what expression does your face make?
- Can you tell me a story about a character that feels that emotion?
- Can you remember a time when you observed someone else feeling that emotion? Why do you think they felt that way?
- 5. Once someone gets a match and answers one of the questions above (or a related question you create), they get to keep the match and the next player picks.
- 6. The game play ends when all the cards have been collected. The winner is the player with the highest number of matches.



















Embarrassed





Embarrassed



MOOD CREW MOOD TRACKER

Days of the Feels





NAME

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WEEK OF

About DBSA

The Depression and Bipolar Support Alliance (DBSA) provides hope, help, support, and education for millions of people who live with mood disorders. DBSA's mission is to serve the estimated 21 million people throughout the U.S. who live with mood disorders. We believe in the strength and resilience of each person and support the individual's right to create his / her / their own path to wellness. DBSA also serves caregivers, families, and friends of people living with mood disorders, because we know that family and social support are central to recovery and wellness.

Find out more information on www.DBSAlliance.org.



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