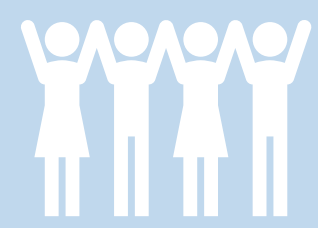




# Improving Children's Development and Readiness for School through Data and Knowledge Mobilization

# 92

Students



# 4

Foundations of HDLH



# 19

Creative products developed



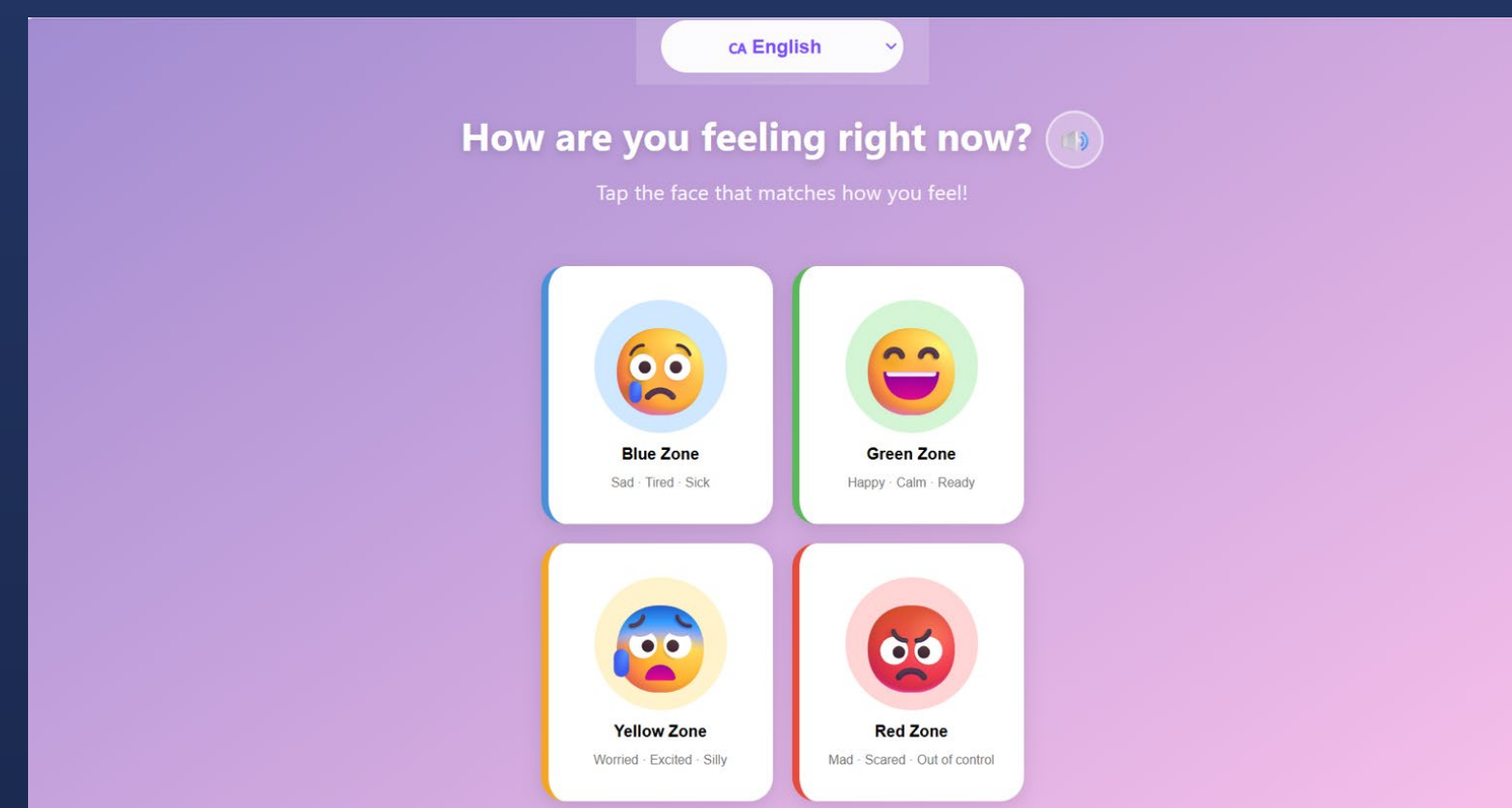
The **Early Development Instrument (EDI)** is a tool used in Durham Region to stay informed about children's development and helps determine their readiness for school. It is a questionnaire completed by teachers for all senior kindergarten children.

**How Does Learning Happen? (HDLH)** is Ontario's pedagogical framework for early years programs. It promotes a view of children as competent, capable, curious, and rich in potential, guiding educators to create inclusive, responsive environments that support holistic development and meaningful relationships.

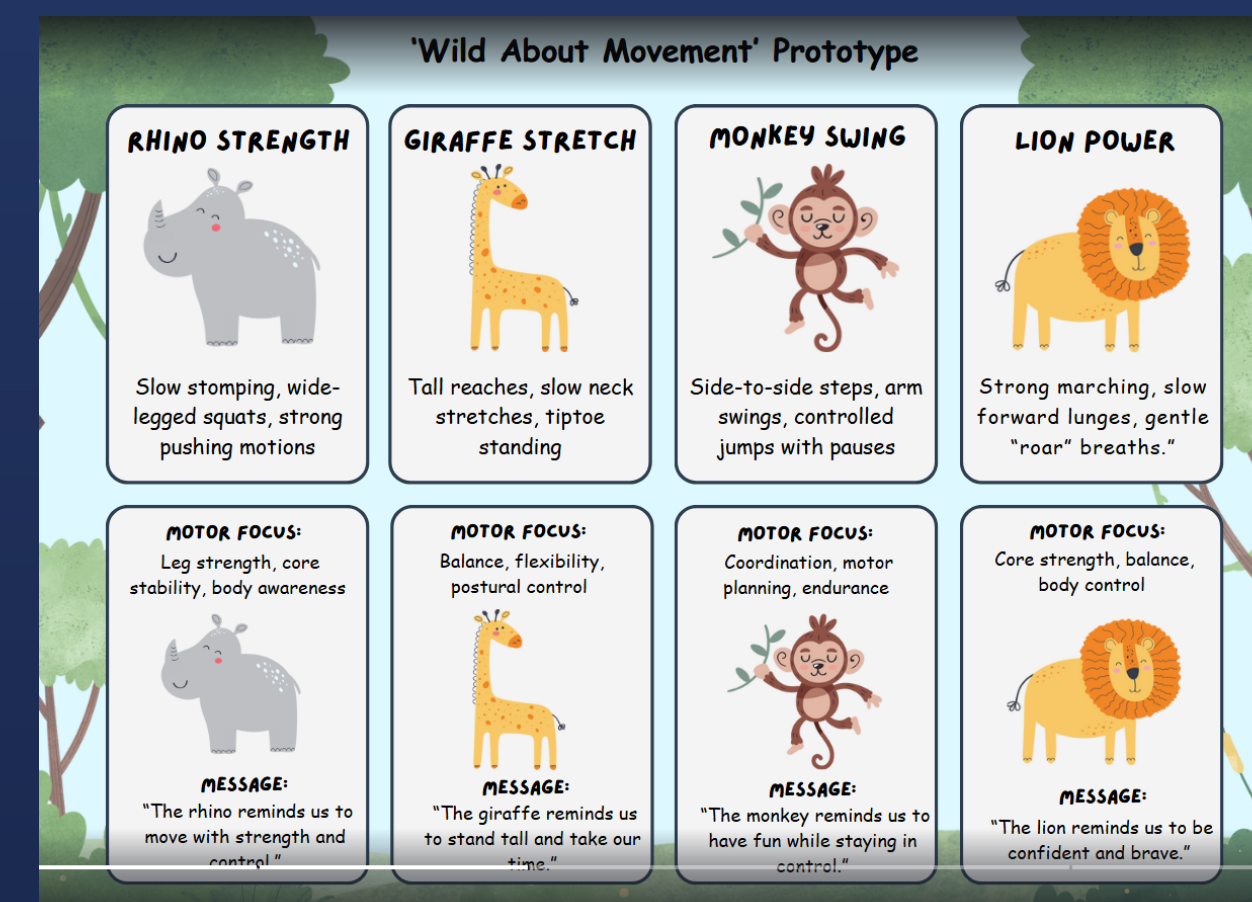
Using data and information from the EDI and HDLH, Ontario Tech University students in the 'Holistic Learning in Early Childhood Education' course developed **evidence-based products** for our early learning and child care community.

Some examples included:

### Emotional Maturity Digital Mindfulness App



### Physical Health and Well-Being Toolkit



The EDI measures children's ability to meet age-appropriate developmental expectations across the following five development domains:



**Physical Health and Well-Being**



**Social Competence**



**Emotional Maturity**

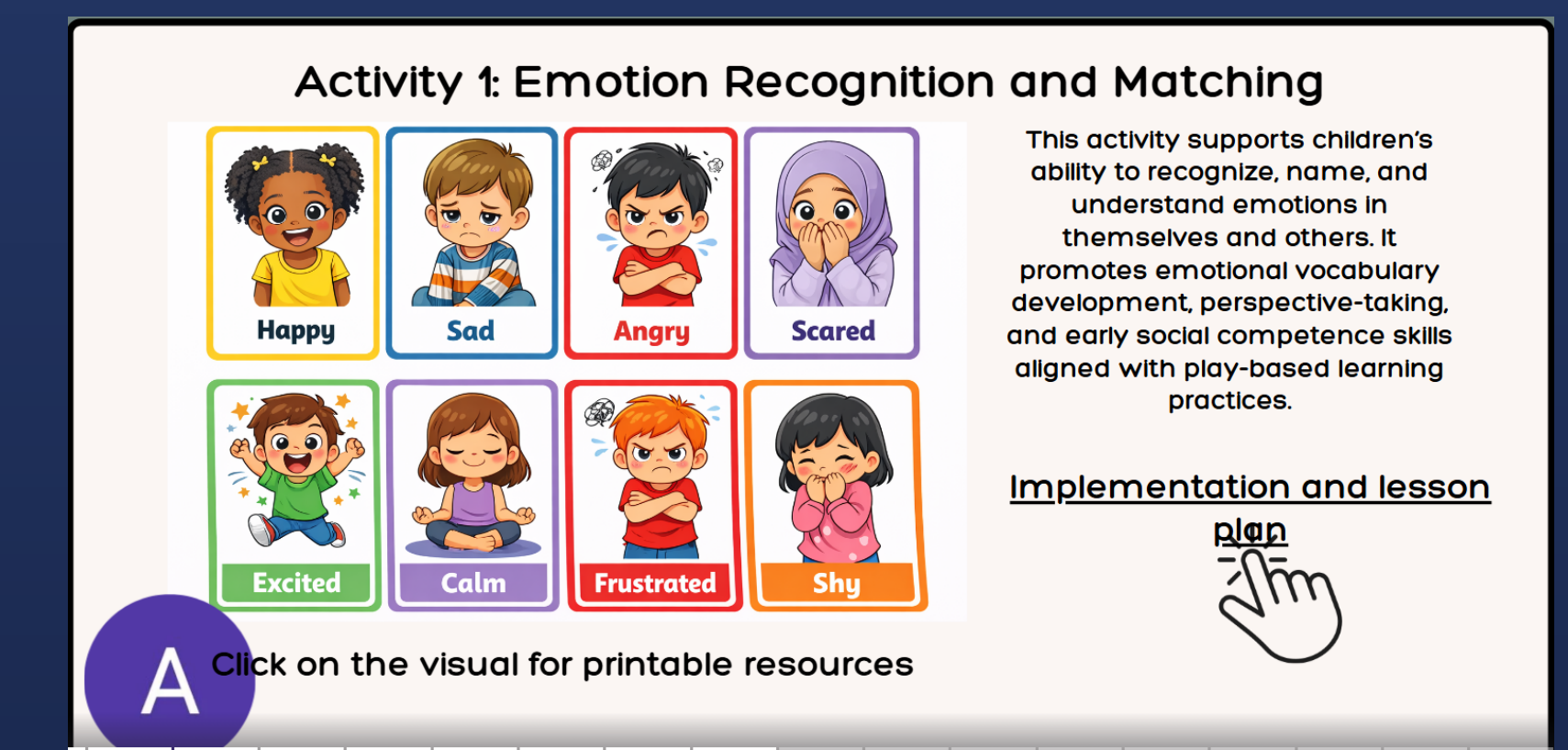


**Language and Cognitive Development**



**Communication Skills and General Knowledge**

### Social Competence Toolkit





★★★★★  
**4.48 out of 5**  
**Average rating of their CityStudio experience**

**58**  
**students completed the survey**



**91%**  
 Agreed or strongly agreed that the learning experience was valuable.

**85%**  
 Agreed or strongly agreed that the experience taught them new skills.

**86%**  
 Agreed or strongly agreed that they enjoyed working collaboratively with others

**97%**  
 Believed their final project/product will help children and their parents/families in Durham Region.

"I really enjoyed how the CityStudio project made the course feel connected to real community needs rather than just theory. It helped me see the impact of our learning in a practical way and pushed me to think more creatively and collaboratively."

**93%**  
 Agreed or strongly agreed that they enjoyed working with real-world data.

"The part I liked best about the CityStudio project was the opportunity to connect what we learned in the course to real-world community issues. It allowed me to think about how our ideas and projects could make a positive impact beyond the classroom. I especially enjoyed collaborating with classmates, sharing perspectives, and developing solutions together. Through this project, I learned the value of community engagement and how working with others can help create meaningful change. It also helped me develop skills such as critical thinking, communication, and teamwork."

"I appreciated having the real-world data because it helped me see the vulnerabilities more clearly. This also led to the development of a product that I truly believe could help children with their emotional maturity growth."