# Social and Emotional Competence

Parents support *healthy social and emotional development in children* when they model how to express and communicate emotions effectively, self-regulate, and make friends, which are *crucial skills to learn*.

## **Knowledge of Parenting**& Child Development

Having a good working knowledge of child development helps parents understand what behaviors and milestones should be expected at different ages, and helps ensure children grow healthy and strong.

#### Social Connections

Parents and caregivers with a social network of emotionally supportive friends, family, and neighbors often find that it is easier to care for their children and themselves.



Protective Factors



## Nurturing & Attachment

When parents and children have strong, warm feelings for one another, children develop trust that their parents will provide what they need to thrive, including love, acceptance, positive guidance, and protection.

### **Concrete Supports**

Families who are able to *meet their*basic needs (adequate shelter,
clothing, and food) are better able
to ensure the safety and well-being
of their children.



Parents who can *cope with the* stresses of everyday life have resilience; they have the flexibility and inner strength necessary to adapt and bounce back.

Adapted from <u>Prevent Child Abuse North Carolina.</u> To learn more about the Protective Factors visit <u>Child Welfare Information Gateway</u> and <u>Center for the Study of Social Policy/Strengthening Families</u>.