

Targeting Social Skills During Social Distancing: Strategies to Use at Home Across the Spectrum

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April 30, 2020 12 – 1 PM

<https://mssm.zoom.us/j/96925715019>

Meeting ID: 969-2571-5019



Agenda

1. Introductions- Michelle Gorenstein, Psy.D.
2. General Strategies for Teaching Social Skills
3. Specific Skills
 1. Listening
 2. Conversation Skills
 3. Nonverbal Communication
 4. Theory of Mind
4. Question and Answer

General Strategies

- **Target one skill at a time**
 - Developmentally appropriate skills
 - Skills that are needed right now
- **Teach the deficit**
- **Break up abstract concepts into concrete steps**

Asking a friend to play with me



Zoom Ground Rules



General Strategies

- **Use visual supports and concrete steps**
 - Prompt Cards
 - Social Stories (Carol Gray)
 - Comic Strip Conversations
- **Bait the skill**
- **Reinforce desired behavior/response**

Visual Strategies-Prompt Card

TAKING TURNS

Stop 

Wait 

MY Turn! / YOUR Turn!



Rules for Board Games

	Only touch your own pieces.
	Hands away from board unless it is your turn.
	Wait patiently for your turn.
	Win politely - "Good game, thanks for playing."
	Lose politely - "Good game, thanks for playing."
	Have fun with your friends.

5	Screaming-Emergency Only	
4	Outside Voice	
3	Inside Voice	
2	Quiet Voice-Whisper	
1	No talking at all-Silent	

 **Rules for Distance Learning**

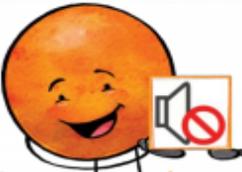


Be on time.

RESPECT



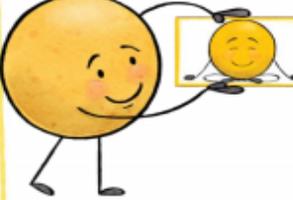
Be respectful when listening, speaking, and writing in the chat box.



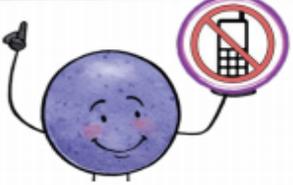
Keep your sound on mute until you are asked to speak.



Turn your video off if you need to do something that you don't want everyone to see (like going to the bathroom)!



Stay in one place.



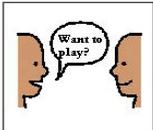
Do not take pictures or video of the meeting.

Visual Strategies – Social Stories and Comic Strip Conversations

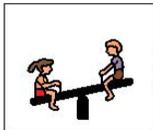
Playing



Sometimes I like to play with other kids.



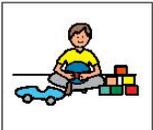
I can ask them, "Do you want to play with me?"



If they say "yes", I can play with them. I will have fun.

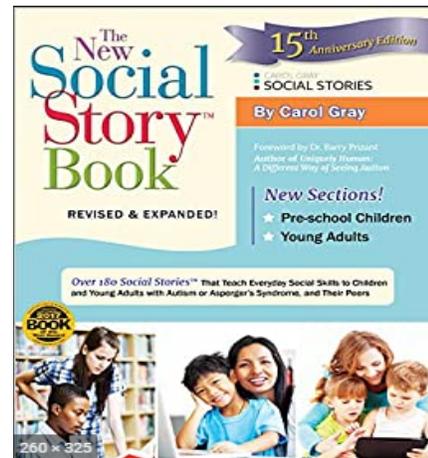


If they say "no", it's ok.

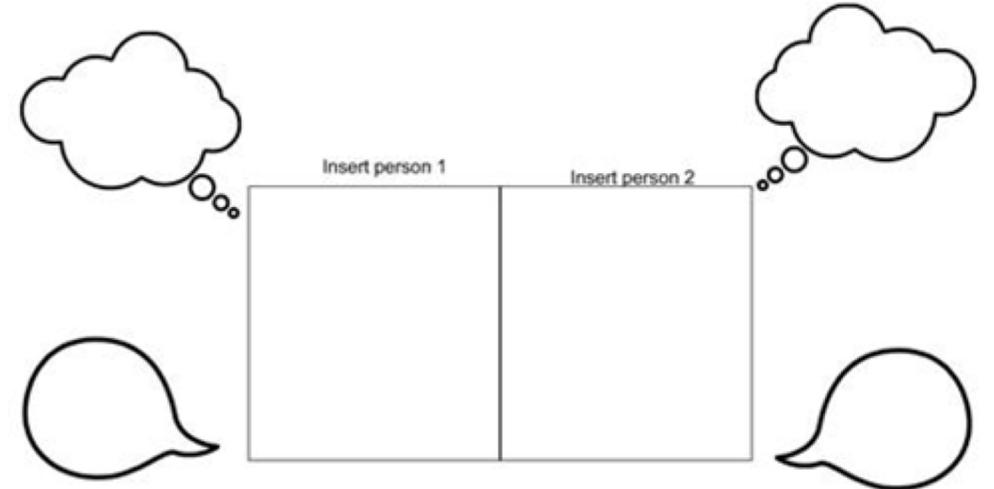


I can ask someone else or play by myself.

Tracy Boyd, 2009



Thinking vs. Saying



To add these speech/thought bubbles to YOUR symbol finder in Boardmaker: Pointer Tool, select thought bubble, Edit - Copy, Open Symbol Fiinder, Edit-Paste, Name it (thought bubble, think, thinking, thought, etc.) and assign it a category (General.)

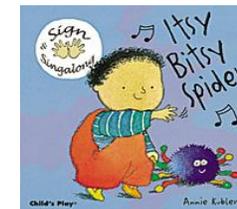
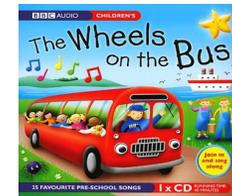
Listening Skills

- Clapping Game- Clap when you hear a target word
- Bingo/Zingo
- Simon Says
- Telephone Game
- Board games such as Guess Who, Battleship



Nonverbal Communication

- Charades
- Simon Does
- Finger Play Songs (for younger children)
 - The Wheels on the Bus
 - The Itsy Bitsy Spider
 - Open, Shut Them
 - Where is Thumbkin
- Follow My Eyes to the Prize



Conversation Skills

Many different skills

- Initiating a conversation
- Asking Questions/Making Comments
- Staying on Topic
- Ending a Conversation
- Sensitive Topics



1. Role Play and Practice Before
2. Call or FaceTime Relative or Friend
3. Social Autopsy

- Conversation jenga, Conversation dice

Social Autopsies Worksheet 

What happened? _____

What was the social error?	Who was hurt by the social error?

What should be done to correct the error? _____

What could be done next time? _____

Theory of Mind- I think, you think

- Watching Television
- Reading a Book
- Stop and ask the child what the character is feeling. If they are able to identify the character's feelings then ask what they are thinking.



Resources

- PBS Kids

<https://www.pbs.org/parents/activity-finder/ages-all/topics-social-skills/shows-all/types-all>

- Do 2 Learn

<https://www.do2learn.com/SocialSkills/overview.htm>

- Everyday Speech (Available on YouTube)

<https://everydayspeech.com/social-skills-videos/>

Questions & Answers

- Thank you for your attention and participation!
- Please write questions into chat feature and let us know of additional topics you would like covered
- For copies of slides, please email:
audrey.rouhandeh@mssm.edu or bari.britvan@mssm.edu