

Resources for Teaching Social Skills

The following is a list of resources for teaching social skills to children from preschool age through high school. These resources are appropriate for both group and individual therapy. Ages/grades listed below are approximate; some materials are appropriate across ages. For a recommended “starter kit” of materials, see items that are **bolded**.

I. Social Stories/Scripts

All ages

1. The Original Social Story Book, by Jenison Public Schools, Amazon.
2. **Social Skills Stories: Functional Picture Stories for Readers and Nonreaders K-12**, by Anne Marie Johnson and Jackie L. Susnik, Mayer-Johnson Co.
3. More Social Stories: Very Personal Picture Stories for Readers and Nonreaders K-12, by Anne Marie Johnson, Mayer-Johnson Co.
4. **Autism and PDD Social Skills Lessons, 5 books in the series: Getting Along, Community, Behavior, School, Home**, by Pam Britton Reese and Nena C. Challenner, Linguisticsystems.
5. **The Social Skills Picture Book: Teaching Play, Emotion, and Communication to Children with Autism**, by Jed Baker, Future Horizons.
6. Writing Social Stories with Carol Gray, by Carol Gray, Future Horizons.
7. Easy Stories for Social Skills (ages 4-8), by Patty Schuchardt, Academic Communication Associates.
8. The New Social Story Book: Illustrated Edition, by Carol Gray, Linguisticsystems.

II. Social Skills Lessons/Materials

Preschool-Kindergarten

1. **Ready to Use Social Skills Lessons and Activities for Grades PreK-K**, by Ruth Weltmann Begun (Editor), Pearson Education.
2. **Skill-Streaming in Early Childhood: Teaching Pro-social Skills to the Preschool and Kindergarten Child**, book and program forms booklet, by Ellen McGinnis and Arnold Goldstein, Research Press.
3. **204 Fold and Say Social Skills**, by Deena Mahler, Super Duper Publications.
4. Relationship Intervention in Young Children, by Steven Gutstein and Rachelle Sheely, Amazon.
5. Teaching Children with Autism to Mind Read: A Practical Guide for Teachers and Parents, by Patricia Howlin, Amazon.
6. **The Social Skills Picture Book: Teaching Play, Emotion, and Communication to Children with Autism**, by Jed Baker, Future Horizons.
7. **Teaching Play Skills to Children with ASD**, by Melinda Smith, DRL Books.
8. Classwide Social Skills Program, Kindergarten and Early Childhood Version, by Joel Hundert and Penny Burlak.
9. **Do, Watch, Listen, Say**, by Kathleen Ann Quill (ages 1-6), Thinking Publications.
10. Connecting with Others, Grades K-2, by Rita Richardson, WPS.
11. Adventures in Pragmatic Problem Solving, by Larry Mattes, Academic Communication Associates.
12. Let's Share Our Feelings, (ages 4-10), Academic Communication Associates.
13. Many Moods and Feelings, (ages 4-9), Academic Communication Associates.

Elementary Grades (1st-4th)

1. **Social Star: General Interaction Skills** (Book1), by Nancy Gajewski, Patty Hirn, and Patty Mayo, Thinking Publications.
2. **Social Star: Peer Interaction Skills** (Book 2), by Nancy Gajewski, Patty Hirn, and Patty Mayo, Thinking Publications.
3. **Social Star: Conflict Resolution and Community Interaction Skills** (Book 3), by Nancy Gajewski, Patty Hirn, and Patty Mayo, Thinking Publications.
4. Manners Matter, by Debbie Pincus (grades 3-7).
5. **Social Skills Activities for Special Children**, by Darlene Mannix (grades 2-8), Pearson Education.
6. Relationship Intervention in Young Children, by Steven Gutstein and Rachelle Sheely, Amazon.
7. Teach Me Language, by Freeman and Drake, Amazon.
8. Social Skills Intervention Guide, by Gresham and Elliott, 1991, AGS, Amazon.
9. Discover: Skills for Life, 1996 AGS, Amazon.
10. Skillstreaming the Elementary School Child: New Strategies and Perspectives for Teaching Prosocial Skills, by Ellen McGinnis and Arnold Goldstein, Research Press.
11. Comic Strip Conversations, by Carol Gray, Jenison Public Schools, Michigan, Thinking Publications.
12. Connecting with Others, Grades K-2 and 3-5, by Rita Richardson, WPS.

Secondary Grades and Adolescents (4th grade and up)

1. SLLS Social Skills Group Manual.
2. Making and Keeping Friends: Ready to Use Lessons, Stories, and Activities for Building Relationships, grades 4-8, by John J. Schmidt, Amazon.
3. **Ready to Use Social Skills Lessons and Activities for Grades 4-8**, by Ruth Weltmann Begun (Editor), Pearson Education.
4. **SSS: Social Skills Strategies Book A**, by Nancy Gajewski and Patty Mayo, Thinking Publications.
5. **SSS: Social Skills Strategies Book B**, by Nancy Gajewski and Patty Mayo, Thinking Publications.
6. Social Skills Intervention Guide, by Gresham and Elliott, 1991, AGS, Amazon.
7. Discover: Skills for Life, 1996 AGS, Amazon.
8. Relationship Intervention in Children, Adolescents and Adults, by Steven Gutstein and Rachelle Sheely, Amazon.
9. Scripting: Social Communication of Adolescents, by Patty Mayo and Patti Waldo, Thinking Publications.
10. **RAPP: Resource for Activities for Peer Pragmatics**, by Nancy McConnell and Carolyn M. Blagden, Linguisystems.
11. Navigating the Social World: A Curriculum for Individuals with Asperger's Syndrome, High Functioning Autism and Related Disorders, by Jeanette McAfee, M.D., forward by Dr. Tony Attwood, Future Horizons.
12. Learning Social Skills for Everyday Situations: A Resource for Individuals with Disabilities, Academic Communication Associates.
13. Social Skills Activities for Secondary Students with Special Needs, by Darlene Mannix, (ages 12-17), Academic Communication Associates.
14. Room 28, (formerly The Conflict Resolution Program), (ages 11-18), Linguisystems.
15. That's Life! Social Language, (ages 12-18), Linguisystems.
16. Connecting with Others, Grades 6-8 and 9-12, by Rita Richardson, WPS.

Secondary Grades and Adolescents (4th grade and up) continued

17. Group Exercises for Enhancing Social Skills and Self-Esteem, by SiriNam S. Khalsa, M.S. Ed., WPS.
18. The Social Skills Handbook: Practical Activities for Social Communication, by Sue Hutchings, Jayne Comins, and Judy Offlier, WPS.
19. **Inside Out: What Makes the Individual with Social-Cognitive Issues Tick?**, by Michelle Garcia Winners, Thinking Publications.
20. **Thinking About You, Thinking About Me**, by Michelle Garcia Winners, Thinking Publications.
21. Social Communication: Activities to Improve Peer Interactions and Self Esteem, by M. Ann Marquis and Elaine Addy-Trout, Thinking Publications.
22. Talkabout, by Alex Kelly, WPS.

Other (various ages)

1. Teaching Asperger's Students Social Skills Through Acting, Future Horizons.
2. Social Skills Training, by Dr. Jed Baker, Future Horizons.
3. **Say and Do Positive Pragmatics Fun Sheets, Super Duper Publications.**
4. **Sort and Say Feelings Magnetic Board, Super Duper Publications.**
5. Autism and PDD: Expanding Social Options, (ages 6-18), Linguisystems.
6. Feelings Desk Cards, WPS.
7. Emotions ColorCards, WPS.
8. Talk Blocks, WPS.
9. Social Harmony (CD with music), (grades K-6), Thinking Publications.

III. Board Games

1. **Communicate, (grades 4 and up), use with SSS: Social Skills Strategies Books A and B, Thinking Publications.**
2. **Communicate Junior, (grades 1-4), use with Social Star Books 1-3, Thinking Publications.**
3. Maxwell's Manor, (ages 4-9), Linguisystems.
4. Friendzee, (ages 7-11), Linguisystems.
5. **10 Say and Do Positive Pragmatic Game Boards, Super Duper Publications.**
6. **Friendship Island, © 1999 Franklin Learning Systems, Inc., WPS.**
7. Use Your I's, Donna McGoff, teaches children how to express feelings, WPS.
8. **Family Pastimes cooperative board games: Sleeping Grump (ages 4-7), The Secret Door (ages 5 and up), Snowstorm (ages 5 and up), and Granny's House (ages 4-7).**
9. Pragmatic Problem Solving Adventure Game, Academic Communication Associates.
10. What Do You Say? A Pragmatic Language Game, Academic Communication Associates.
11. Ask and Answer Social Skills Game, Super Duper Publications.
12. Mind Your Manners Social Skills Game, Super Duper Publications.
13. Socially Speaking Game, Super Duper Publications.
14. Practicing Pragmatics Fun Deck, Super Duper Publications.
15. The Emotions Game (ages 5-12), Linguisystems.
16. No Glamour Social Language/Behavior Cards (ages 5-11), Linguisystems.
17. **The Non-Verbal Language Kit (ages 7-16), Linguisystems.**
18. That's Life: A Game of Social Language (ages 12-16), Linguisystems.
19. Assertion Game (adolescents), WPS.
20. Bullies to Buddies, WPS.
21. Bully Buster Game, WPS.

Board Games continued

22. The Social Skills Game (ages 8 and up), WPS.
23. Social Video Skits (adolescents), WPS.
24. Equipped for Life (adolescents), WPS.
25. The Self Control Game (ages 8 and up), WPS.
26. Exploring My Anger (ages 5-12), WPS.
27. Exploring My Self-Esteem (ages 5 to 12), WPS.
28. Talk It Out (adolescents), WPS.
29. The Feelings Game (8 and up), WPS.
30. Angry Animals (ages 5-12), WPS.
31. Emotional Bingo (ages 6-18), WPS.
32. Dealing with Feelings Card Game, WPS.
33. Self Esteem Games (book by Barbara Sher, ages 3-12), WPS.
34. Peacetown-Conflict Resolution Game (ages 7-12), WPS.
35. The Peach Path (ages 6-14), WPS.
36. The Social Conflict Game (ages 8 and up), WPS.

IV. Online Games

1. **Free online games: do2learn.com has games that teach about facial expressions and feelings; quia.com has a game that teaches about feelings.**
2. Team Asperger's, www.ccoder.com/GainingFace/

V. Children's Books with Social Themes

Preschool-Kindergarten through Early Elementary ages

a) Dealing with Feelings

- **I'm Mad, by Elizabeth Crary**
- **I'm Frustrated, by Elizabeth Crary**
- I'm Proud, by Elizabeth Crary
- I'm Furious, by Elizabeth Crary
- I'm Excited, by Elizabeth Crary
- **When I Feel Angry, by Cornelia Maude Spelman**
- Andrew's Angry Words, by Dortehea Lachner
- **The Feelings Book, by Todd Parr**
- But I Want It, by Dr. Laura Schlessinger

b) Solving Social Problems

- I Want It, by Elizabeth Crary
- I Want to Play, by Elizabeth Crary
- My Name is Not Dummy, by Elizabeth Crary
- I'm Lost, by Elizabeth Crary
- I Can't Wait, by Elizabeth Crary
- Mommy Don't Go, by Elizabeth Crary

c) Dealing with Bullying/Teasing

- The Berenstain Bears and the Bully, by Stan and Jan Berenstain
- **Simon's Hook: A Story About Teases and Put-downs, by Karen Gedig Burnett**

Children's Books with Social Themes continued

- Nobody Knew What to Do: A Story About Bullying, by Becky Ray McCain
- **Stand Tall Molly Lou Melon**, by Patty Lovell, WPS.
- Too Smart for Bullies, by Robert Kahn, Future Horizons.
- Just a Bully, by Mercer Mayer

d) Friendship Skills

- **Feeling Left Out**, by Kate Petty and Charlotte Firmin
- **Will I Have a Friend**, by Miriam Cohen
- My Friends and Me: A First Look at Friendship, by Pat Thomas
- **Enemy Pie**, by Derek Munson
- **Nobody Likes Me**, by Raoul Krischanitz
- Be a Friend, by Regina Burch
- **How To Be a Friend**, Laurie Krasny Brown and Marc Brown
- **Friends**, Helme Heine
- **Tobin Learns to Make a Friend**, by Diane Murrell, Future Horizons, Amazon.
- Being Friends, by Karen Beumont, WPS, Amazon.
- We Can Get Along, by Lauren Murphey Payne

e) Learning about rules

- The Tale of Peter Rabbit, by Beatrix Potter

f) Sharing

- Two Can Share Too, by Janelle Cherrington
- Pooh, I Can Share Too, by Caoline Kenneth
- Care Bears: The Day Nobody Shared, by Nancy Parent
- It's My Turn, by David Bedford and Elaine Fiela
- **Share and Take Turns**, by Cheri J. Meiners

g) Listening

- Listen Buddy, by Helen Lester
- **Listen and Learn**, by Cheri J. Meiners

h) Dealing with being different

- **Odd Velvet**, by Mary E. Whitcomb
- **It's Okay To Be Different**, by Todd Parr

i) Other social skills

- The Berenstain Bears Learn All About Strangers, by Stan and Jan Berenstain
- The Berenstain Bears Get the Gimmies, by Stan and Jan Berenstain
- The Berenstain Bears and the Trouble with Friends, by Stan and Jan Berenstain
- The Berenstain Bears Forget Their Manners, by Stan and Jan Berenstain
- Franklin's New Friend, by Helene Heine
- A Kids Guide to Making Friends, by Joy Wilt

Children's Books with Social Themes continued

- Understand and Care, by Cheri J. Meiners
- Blabber Mouse, by True Kelly, (ages 5-10)
- Too Safe for Strangers, by Robert Kahn, Future Horizons
- **The Real Winner, by Charise Neugebauer (cooperation)**
- People Say Hello, by Will Barber
- **Let's Talk About series of books by Joy Berry, Scholastic Inc., Amazon**

VI. CD-ROMS

1. **My School Day, available through socialskillbuilder.com or superduperinc.com.** Includes modules for lunch, recess, classroom, hallway, etc. For each module, there are 4 levels: level 1 is a video clip of real children and situations, level 2 is multiple choice, level 3 is interactive (e.g., click on body parts that tell you she is listening, etc.), and level 4 is question and answer. Topics include listening, following directions, waiting your turn, walking quietly in the hall, joining in play, teasing, etc.
2. The Birthday Party, socialskillbuilder.com or superduperinc.com
3. My Community, socialskillbuilder.com
4. Sanford's Social Skills, Thinking Publications
5. Nickel Takes on Teasing, Thinking Publications
6. Nickel Takes on Stealing, Thinking Publications
7. Mind Reading, learn to identify facial expressions and emotions, Future Horizons

VII. Social Skills Assessment Measures

1. SSRS: Social Skills Rating System by AGS (ages 2-18, parent/teacher/student questionnaires available).
2. **Questionnaires located in SSS: Social Skills Strategies and Skillstreaming books noted above.**
3. Test of Pragmatic Language (TOPL).
4. Test of Problem Solving-Elementary and Adolescent (TOPS).
5. Teaching Children with Autism to Mind Read: A Practical Guide for Teachers and Parents, by Patricia Howlin.
6. Pragmatic Communication Skills Protocol (ages 3 and up), Academic Communication Associates.
7. Assessing and Promoting Social Competence in Preschool Children, by Michael J. Guralnick and Mabel L. Rice, Thinking Publications.
8. Non-verbal language assessment protocol (informal) from The Non-Verbal Language Kit, by Carolyn LoGuidice and Margaret Warner-pgs. 49-56, Linguisystems.

This resource list is based on a list created by Jennifer Harris, MS-CCC, SLP, *Speech, Language, and Learning Services* in Bellevue, WA, with additions by Karen Toth, PhC.