

#### Creating Social Skill Lessons



Presented by Melissa Dubie, M.A., Educational Consultant





#### Why Social Skills?

Addresses Core Autism Deficits



#### From the DSM-5

- Persistent deficits in social communication and social interaction across multiple contexts
  - Deficits in social-emotional reciprocity
  - Deficits in nonverbal communicative behaviors used for social interaction
  - Deficits in developing, maintaining, and understanding relationships
  - Narrow Interests and Repetitive Behaviors





#### Why Social Skills?

 Lifespan approach: Communication and social deficits are the biggest obstacle to successful employment of individuals with ASD (Hendricks,

2010)







### How to Figure Out Which Social Skills Need to Teach

- Look at IEP
- Do an informal assessment
- Observe and talk to student
- Take data
- Talk to staff
- Talk to parents





#### **Informal Assessments:**

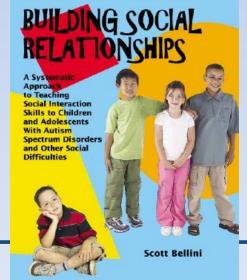
#### Autism Social Skills Profile

(Bellini, 2006)

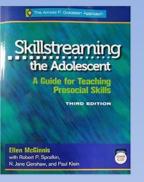
- Designed specifically for ASD
- Looks at initiation skills, reciprocity, perspective taking, non-verbal communication intervention planning and intervention

progress monitoring tool

- Ages 6 − 17
- Cost: about \$50





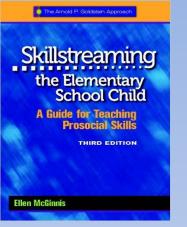


### Skillstreaming the Adolescent: A Guide for Teaching Prosocial Skills, 3rd Edition (with CD)

(McGinnis, 2015)

- Designed to teach essential 50 prosocial skills to adolescents
- Supplements the curriculum Skillstreaming the Adolescent: Student Manual
- Lessons include modeling, role-playing, performance feedback, and generalization to teach the essential prosocial skills through step by step guidelines, suggested situations for modeling, and managing behavior problems.
- Ages adolescents
- Cost: \$47





# Skillstreaming the Elementary School Child: New Strategies and Perspectives for Teaching Prosocial Skills Revised Edition (McGinnis & Goldstein)

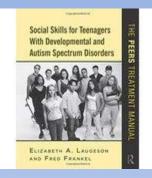
- 600 easy to use lesson plans for elementary age students
- Supplements the curriculum details in Skillstreaming the Elementary School Child
- Students will learn to goal set, problem solve, impulse control, cooperating, anticipating consequences, and thinking aloud.
- Cost: \$65





#### Superflex ... A Superhero Social Thinking Curriculum (Madrigal, Garcia Winner, & Knopp, 2008)

- Designed specifically for educators, parents, and therapists working with students with Asperger Syndrome, high functioning autism, ADHD, and other diagnosed and undiagnosed social difficulties
- Superflex combines a book, comic book, and CD to teach students how to overcome their challenges in different social situations (unthinkables) to overcome their challenges by using the thinkables as possible strategies.
- Thinking About You Thinking About Me and You are a Social Detective are prerequisite books
- Ages: grades K-5 and immature older students who respond to visual books
- Cost: \$52



#### Social Skills for Teenagers with Developmental and Autism Spectrum Disorder: The PEERS Treatment Manual

(E. Laugeson, 2010)

- Designed specifically for teenagers who are working on building friendships
- It is the core of two other books to use as a curriculum including The Science of Making Friends and The PEERS Curriculum for School Based Professionals
- Teen and parent directed parallel programs
- Cost is \$50





# Then Interview the Student's Individually

- Possible Questions:
  - What do you think you need to work on regarding social skills? (ask parents and teachers too)
  - Do you have friends? What do you do together?
  - Do you play games? Do you know the rules of any games? Are you alright with loosing?
  - Do you know how to work in groups?
  - What do you do when your angry at school?
- Notice how the student responds (e.g., reciprocal responds conversation, body posture, etc)



#### Common Topics for Instruction of Lower Functioning Students

- General social life skills such as:
  - Waiting
  - Independent hygiene routines
  - Walking alongside someone
- Tolerating being next to others
- Responding to initiations
- Initiating interactions
- Repetitive social interaction routines (songs, actions etc.)
- Simple turn taking routines with objects
- Appropriate ways to communicate within the interaction (e.g. Using visual supports for greeting, saying no, saying good bye)
- Replacing any socially inappropriate behaviors with more socially acceptable ones.



### Common Topics for Instruction of Higher Functioning Students

Initiating conversations

- Responding to initiations
- Taking turns talking
- Nonverbal communication skills: how to use and interpret facial expressions (especially subtle facial expressions) and body language
- Listening and noticing other people's communication when you are talking
- Changing topics
- Asking questions
- Disagreeing
- Inviting a third person

- Leaving a conversation
- Ending a conversation
- Recovering the conversation when something goes wrong (such as someone misunderstands what you are saying)
- Small talk the purpose and the technique
- Acquaintances and friendships definitions, why they are important and how to make and maintain them
- Rude behaviors
- Tolerating different viewpoints
- Understanding and interpreting more complex emotional issues such as empathy



# Let Me Introduce You to Ean Concerns from FBA

- Freshman in high school
- ASD and OHI (epilepsy)
- On medication for seizures, anxiety, ADHD, and mood stabilizer
- Function of behavior is to escape the situation
- Antecedents include: need for justice/fairness, misinterprets social situations, asked to write, change in schedule or people working with him





LEVEL	BEHAVIOR
LEVEL	
5	Ean is using profanity,
	yelling, clearing off
	desks/tables, walking out of
	class (not going to
	designated area), leaving
	building, being disrespectful
4	Ean is arguing, using mean
	sarcasm, refusing to do
	what is asked,
	saying/yelling, "something
	is not fair!" using profanity
3	Ean has a red face, grits his
3	teeth, grimaces, says, "no
	one likes me" or "I'm not
	good enough" type of
	negative self-talk
2	Ean says, "I can't, I am an
	idiot or I am stupid", This
	work is hard, grunting
	Work is flata, graffing
1	Ean is calm, fun, smiling,
	jokes around, fun sarcasm





#### Where to Start?

### Make a list of all of the skills student needs to learn and the details need to teach.

#### Anger/Profanity

- Identify triggers to my anger
- Altering or avoiding trigger to my anger
- Better ways to think about and deal with the triggers to my anger
- Calming myself when I am angry
- Talking versus acting out my feelings
- Tell a safe person I am angry
- Problem solve the issue to create a new solution
- Learn words to replace my profanity
- Learn to leave the area to use profanity in my safe spot
- Use my 5 point scale





#### **Google Docs Example**

- Dealing with My Anxiety
- Social Initiation
- Social Response Skills
- Getting Along with Others
- Dealing with School Demands





#### **Start Gathering Resources Available**

- IRCA website (<u>www.iidc.Indiana.edu/irca</u>) has article: Social Skills Curriculum for Individuals on the Autism Spectrum by Barb Fogarty and Kristie Lofland
- Contact our lending library at IIDC by calling (800) 437-7924 or emailing Sharon Soto (ssoto@Indiana.edu)
- Explore websites (google you tube, social skills and autism)
  - Jill Kuzma <a href="https://jillkuzma.wordpress.com/">https://jillkuzma.wordpress.com/</a>
  - Anna Vagin http://www.socialtime.org/Socialtime/Welcome 1.html
- Then make a list of lessons to utilize (my google docs)





### Figure Out How Going to Collect Data on the Skills Learning

- Systematic Observation
- Event or frequency recording
- Interval recording (every 2 minutes for 16 minutes block of time)





#### **Create a Training Format**

- Lessons: Specific topic and instruction
  - Give examples, provide visuals, review previous lessons that build on each topic
- Role-play/Practice: Students will need time to practice.
   First model the skill; then video model. Video the students practicing the skill.
  - Adult leaders coach students on how to improve skills
- Feedback: During the role-play, use self-reflection, and ask other students to give positive suggestions.

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Center for

- Give individualized feedback to students
- Pair new skill with reinforcer to generalize the skill



### **Embedding Instructional Strategies** or Materials

- How do you student's learn best?
  - Visual supports (power point, tablets)
  - Videos (for examples)
  - Reinforcements
- It is important to implement evidence based practices that work best for individuals on the autism spectrum

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Free online modules to use as a tool



## Autism Focused Intervention Resources and Modules (AFIRM)

http://afirm.fpg.unc.edu/

Login Si

Sign Up

**AFIRM** 

Autism Focused Intervention Resources and Modules

**AFIRM Modules** 

Learn with AFIRM

Selecting EBPs

Username or e-mail

mdubie@indiana.edu

Password

•••••

Request new password

Log in

Access free AFIRM online modules and resources for each of the 27 evidence-based practices

identified by the National Professional Development Center on Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)

Sign Up

It's free and only takes a few minutes

Earn a free professional development certificate for completing each EBP module

Learn with AFIRM

through engaging case examples, videos, and interactive

Download resources and materials

that support your use of EBPs



#### **Autism Internet Modules (AIM)**

#### www.autisminternetmodules.org





Module List Help

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#### **Using EBP Fidelity Checklists**

http://autismpdc.fpg.unc.edu/evidence-basedpractices



The National Professional Development Center on Autism Spectrum Disorder

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**ABOUT NPDC** 

**NEWS** 

**EVIDENCE-BASED PRACTICES** 



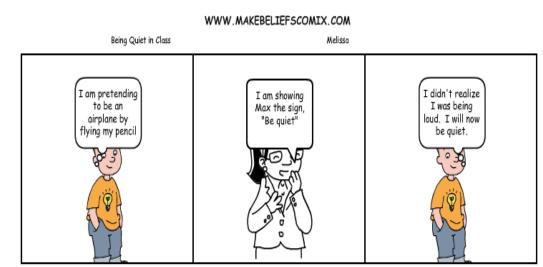


Since 2007, the National Professional Development Center on Autism Spectrum Disorder (NPDC) has worked to develop free professional resources for teachers, therapists, and technical assistance providers who work with individuals with ASD. Resources include detailed information on how to plan, implement, and monitor specific evidence-based practices.



### Implement Evidence Based Practices

- Peer Mediated
   Instruction
- Social Narratives
- Comic StripConversations
- Behavior Mapping
- Power Cards



This comic strip was created at MakeBeliefsComix.com. Go there to make one yourselfl





#### **Using Educational Apps to Create Animated Videos**

- Take student's interest to teach social skills
  - Plotagon app



– Tellagami app



Bitstrips



Make iMovie







#### **Comic Strip: Max Talking With Peers**

Max: Zooming Pencil Loudly

Peer: Show Visual to Be Quiet

Max: Look at visual and give quiet gesture to his lip

Peer: Smile to show yes

#### WWW.MAKEBELIEFSCOMIX.COM

Being Quiet in Class

Melissa



Indiana Resource Center for Autism

This comic strip was created at MakeBeliefsComix.com. Go there to make one yourself!



### Tips for Implementing EBP's for Social Skills

- All students with ASD need time to work on social skills. It is as important as academic skills
- Take baseline data before starting an EBP
- Use materials appropriate to student's age
- Use students in "real movie" whenever possible
- Use frequent reinforcements to teach social skills





### Thanks!

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