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.
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.

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.
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.
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.
12. Let’s Share Our Feelings, (ages 4-10), 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.
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**.
3. **Ready to Use Social Skills Lessons and Activities for Grades 4-8**, by Ruth Weltmann Begun (Editor), Pearson Education.
8. **Relationship Intervention in Children, Adolescents and Adults**, by Steven Gutstein and Rachelle Sheely, Amazon.
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 (4\textsuperscript{th} grade and up) continued

17. Group Exercises for Enhancing Social Skills and Self-Esteem, by SiriNam S. Khalsa, M.S. Ed., WPS.
20. Thinking About You, Thinking About Me, by Michelle Garcia Winners, Thinking Publications.
22. Talkabout, by Alex Kelly, WPS.

Other (various ages)
1. Teaching Asperger’s Students Social Skills Through Acting, Future Horizons.
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
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.
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).
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.
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 Dorthea 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
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).


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.