**Visual Strategies for Promoting Communication**

**When Teaching Social Skills**

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| **Assessment Tools** | **Description** |
| Social Skills Improve System | Available for purchase through Pearson |
| Scott Bellini Autism Social Skills Profile  <http://sociallyspeakingllc.com/my-mission-for-socially/free-pdfs/autism_social_skills_profil.pdf> | Free to download |

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| **Apps** | **Description** |
| Autism Speaks  <http://www.autismspeaks.org/autism-apps?tid_1=39926&tid=39941&tid_2=All&keys>= | Autism speaks has the search capability of searching by category or skill. It then returns a comprehensive list of available apps for that category. The link provided comes from a social skills search. It contains 6 pages of Apps to choose from, along with their reviews. |
| iCreate Social Skills Stories: $4.99 | To view a description: <https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/i-create...-social-skills/id513666306?mt=8> |
| Conversation Social Stories & Simple PECS Communication Tool: $3.99 | To view a description: <https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/conversation-social-stories/id485658095?mt=8> |
| Autism & PDD Picture Stories: Free | To view a description: <https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/autism-pdd-picture-stories/id835090882?mt=8>  They have several versions including: Community, family, friends, etc. |
| Everyday Social Stories: $1.99 | To view a description: <https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/everyday-social-skills/id375396536?mt=8> |
| Social Skills Quest: $21.99 | To view a description: <https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/social-quest/id556089006?mt=8> |
| Conversation Builder: $19.99 | To view a description: <https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/conversationbuilder/id413939366?mt=8> |
| Other Apps to search: Comic apps |  |

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| **Resources** | **Description** |
| Visual Strategies for Improving Communication,  Linda Hodgdon | This book is full of samples and lessons covering visually mediated communication, tools for the teacher to include across environments, visual directions, communicating no, etc. |
| Social Skills Activities for Special Children,  Darlene Mannix | Includes 142 ready-to-use lessons with reproducible activity sheets for social skills inside and outside of the classroom. |
| Visual Support for Children With ASD,  Vera Bernard-Opitz  Pgs. 201-221 address communication | Can be ordered through AAPC Publishing, includes ideas and samples of basic structure, tasks, communication, teaching content areas, social behavior, self-help, etc. |
| Building Social Relationships: A Systematic Approach to Teaching Social Interaction Skills to Children and Adolescents with ASD and Other Social Difficulties, Scot Bellini | A Five-step, easy-to-use model that addresses the need for social programming for children with ASD. It provides an assessment and an organized way to create an individualized social skills program. |
| Reaching Out, Joining In: Teaching Social Skills to Young Children with Autism  Mary Jane Weiss & Sandra Harris | Recommendations on what to social skills need to be taught and how to teach them. |
| [www.do2learn.com](http://www.dotolearn.com) | Free visual aids for picture communication, social skills, songs and games. Click on |
| [www.symbolstix.com](http://www.symbolstix.com) | Online subscription to a Web-based search engine for over 12,000 symbols. $49.00 per year |
| <http://www.pbisworld.com/tier-1/teach-social-skills/> | Great site! Lots of free lesson plans and ideas as well as directions to other useful resources. |
| National Professional Development Center on ASD  <http://autismpdc.fpg.unc.edu/content/social-skills-groups> | This site provides information in pdf format on social skills groups, the steps to teaching social skills, data collection, etc. |
| Social Behavior Mapping  Michelle Garcia Winner | Full of already made visuals for ok and not okay behaviors! Would need to modify for kiddos on a lower cognitive level.  [www.socialthinking.com](http://www.socialthinking.com). Also look for Superflex characters! |
| John Shaul  <http://autismteachingstrategies.com/free-social-skills-downloads-2/> | Free online resources and great links to you tube videos teaching social skills. |
| Speaking of Speech: <http://www.speakingofspeech.com/Social_Skills_Pragmatics.html> | Lots of free, already made materials for social behaviors and teaching social skills! |
| Lindy McDaniel’s Considerate Classroom Blog  <http://considerateclassroom.blogspot.com/2013/10/aidedlanguageboards.html--> Here is the link to the aided language videos and post  <http://considerateclassroom.blogspot.com/2014/03/using-structured-learning-activities-to.html> --- here is another link on the importance of teaching social skills and how to set that up at a very low level. | Great ideas for tasks, structuring the environment and communication aided language. Too much to mention! |
| Ideas for Video Modeling | Use Video Self-Monitoring – to learn more, watch this video: <http://www.siskin.org/www/docs/208/vsm-videos/video-self-modeling-videos-buggey.html>  Sites that contain already-made videos:  [www.teachertube.com](http://www.teachertube.com)  [www.howcast.com](http://www.howcast.com)  [www.voicethread.com](http://www.voicethread.com)  [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com) : On Youtube, join Tahirih Bushey of Autism Games subscribe (They have lots of already made videos and will email you when new ones are uploaded)  [www.schooltube.com](http://www.schooltube.com)  [www.autismgames.blogspot.com](http://www.autismgames.blogspot.com)  Use commercials to teach social skills, i.e., Sonic, Doritos, other super bowl commercials  Use Free online animation websites to bring comic strips to life: KerPoof, Go!Animate, Xtranormal make movies, etc. |