Friends and Fitness:
Strong Friendships! Strong Bodies!

Tamara S. Kasper MS, CCC–SLP, BCBA
The presenter wishes to thank
Dr. Vincent J. Carbone, BCBA
for significant contributions
to this presentation

In addition, special thanks to Eric Perez, Personal Trainer and Jordan Semevolos, Personal Trainer for contributions to this presentation
Parents want Social Skills!!

- Functional communication skills
- Reduction in problem behavior
- Happy and fulfilling life
  - Participate in school—succeed academically
  - Friends
- Conversation
“Social Interaction skills are critical to successful social, emotional, and cognitive development. Effective social skills allow us to elicit positive reactions and evaluations from peers as we perform socially approved behaviors” (Ladd & Mize, 1983)

Many parents and teachers know from experience that teaching children with autism to talk is no guarantee that they will engage in conversation (McClannahan & Krantz, 2005).

Many children with autism will learn to request and they will learn to respond to the directions of others, but will lack the ability to engage in reciprocal conversations.

“Communication for social interaction requires a fundamental desire to interact with others and obtain new information and perspectives”

Why do Children with Autism have difficulty with social interaction?

- **Theory of Mind Deficit?** (Astington & Baird, 2005)
- **Reduced ability to understand perspective of others?** (Tager-Flusberg, 1996)
- **TOM deficits prevent internal motivation for social initiations?** (Mundy and Stella, 2000).


Why do Children with Autism have difficulty with social interaction?

- Sharing attention with adults is less reinforcing? (Stone, Ousley, Yoder, Hogan, & Hepburn, 1997) Request items, but not social interaction.
- Limited visual cues? Quill 1997 hypothesized that social contexts lack visual cues and children with ASDs are unable to extract relevant information in the absence of visual cues.
Why do Children with Autism have difficulty with social interaction?

- Bellini (2006) states that “we need to discard the long-held notion that individuals with ASDs lack an interest in developing social relationships. Many do... However, they typically lack the necessary skills”
Why do Children with Autism have difficulty with social interaction?

- "The difficult part is to try to disentangle the notion that emotional empathy merely gives you motivation, a reason to talk to somebody, versus an absolutely critical role in the emergence of language."
- Ramachandran suspects it's the latter because empathy is what allows people to understand the intention behind an action or a phrase.
How do we choose an approach?
Strategies to Improve Social Skills

- Applied Behavior Analysis
- Cognitive Behavioral Therapy
- Social Stories
- Social Scripts
- Teaching the “Hidden Curriculum”
- Video Modeling

http://www.autismspeaks.org/news/news-item/ian-research-findings-social-skills-groups
The National Autism Center’s and National Standards Project 2015

Findings and Conclusions
ADDRESSING THE NEED FOR EVIDENCE BASED PRACTICE GUIDELINES FOR AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDERS
NAC PROJECT

Goals:

1. To provide an update to the previous project, NSP1, published as the National Standards Report in 2009. Specifically, NSP2 reviews peer-reviewed intervention outcome studies for children/adolescents/young adults with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) since the publication of NSP1. The dates of peer-reviewed studies range from 2007 to 2012.

2. To extend the review of intervention outcome literature to include adults (22 years and older) with ASD.

3. To incorporate relevant feedback received regarding NSP1 categorization. The NSP2 report is intended to be more specific than the NSP1 report regarding the interventions it identifies as beneficial.

4. To assist parents, caregivers, educators, and service providers in understanding how to integrate evidence-based interventions into a well-rounded, individualized educational or behavioral program.

http://www.nationalautismcenter.org/resources/
Established Treatments

- Behavioral Interventions
- Cognitive Behavioral Intervention Package
- Modeling
- Peer Training
- Natural Teaching Strategies
- Parent Training
- Scripting
- Social Skills Package
- Story-based Intervention
Established Treatments

Established Treatments

Several studies have effectively addressed socially valid behaviors, focusing on peer groups, promoting entrapment (Magg 2006) and multiple exemplar training across teachers, stimuli, and environments (Stokes & Baer, 1977) to enhance generalization.
Viewing Social Communication as a Behavior Analyst
B. F. Skinner

“Verbal Behavior”

MO/Sd $\rightarrow$ R $\rightarrow$ Sr
Understanding Behavior

Antecedent → Behavior → Consequence

Cookie!

kUgU

kUgU

kUgU
MO = Motivative Operations

- Variables that change the value of the reinforcer
1. Establish the effectiveness of a reinforcer for a particular time/situation
2. Increase the likelihood that a behavior will occur
Characteristics of ABA

- All skill domains addressed
- Skills broken into small components, defined in observable, measurable terms
- Effective for building skills and reducing problem behaviors in people with and without disabilities
- Scientific demonstrations of effectiveness is essential
- Highly individualized
Characteristics of ABA

- Continuously evolving
- Individual needs are assessed by direct observation and measurement
- Each component skill taught through many learning opportunities
- Multiple learning opportunities contrived
- Simple skills built systematically into more complex repertoires
Teach missing components

- “Instead of assessing treatments across the spectrum, we need to focus on analyzing them within the spectrum” (Bellini, p. 101)

- Match instructional strategies to skills deficits
  - (Bellini, 2006)
What components are needed for social interaction?

- “Communication for social interaction requires a fundamental desire to interact with others and obtain new information and perspectives” Mirenda, p. 248
- A. Desire to interact/share attention
- B. Desire to obtain new information
- C. Desire to obtain new perspectives

Understanding Conversation/Social Interaction
Antecedent → Behavior → Consequence

MO for Attention

MO for Information

Request Attention (Eye Gaze, Gesture, Comment)
Request Information

Attention (Eye Gaze, Gesture, Comment)
Provide Information

Attention Information
Attention Ongoing Interaction

Request Information
Request Attention (Eye Gaze, Gesture, Comment)
Social Skills Training

- Joint Attention Training With Adults
- Peer Play (Pairing/Manding/JA Training)
- Party Club (Pairing with reinforcement with adult directed activities/Manding/JA Training)
- Social Communication Therapy Class
- Friends and Fitness
Motivation for Attention

- In typically developing children, joint attention interactions first occur between a child and his or her caregiver (Bakeman & Adamson, 1984, 1986).
- Presumably, typically developing children find the social interaction with their caregiver that results from joint attention to be enjoyable and reinforcing and that this, at least in part, is what motivates the child to continue to engage in joint attention (Bates et al., 1975; Bruner, 1983).
Jones and Carr (2004)—Joint attention is an early developing social skills in which two people (usually a young child and an adult) use gesture and gaze to share attention with respect to interesting objects or events. Impairment in development of joint attention discriminates 80–90% of children with autism from those with other disabilities and it is important to develop this skill in early intervention efforts.
The important role that joint attention plays... skill often facilitate successful outcomes in children with autism (Drasgow and Halle, 1995; Durand, 1990).
There are two ways that a child engages in joint attention:

1. The child either responds to another person’s attention directive (Receptive skill)
2. The child initiates joint attention with another person (Expressive skill)
When a child responds to other’s bids for joint attention, he or she may have learned that looking where someone else is looking might likely be followed by reinforcing objects and events (Corkum and Moore, 1995, 1998; Matsuda & Omori, 2001; Moore & Corkum, 1994).

Corkum and Moore (1995) demonstrated that responding to bids for joint attention could be taught using conditioning.

We cannot assume that this skill would transfer to initiation of bids for attention (mands for attention).
Joint attention

There are two ways that a child engages in joint attention:

- The child either responds to another person’s attention directive (Receptive skill).
- The child initiates joint attention with another person. Directing the other person to adopt the child’s own attentional focus (Expressive skill—Mand or request for attention) (Charman, 1997, 1998: Mundy & Gomes, 1998).
PAIRING

Neutral Stimulus ➙ Reinforcing Stimulus
- Adult
- Peer
- Light-up Balls
- Thomas the Train
- Flaming Hot Cheetos
- Piggy Back Ride
- Cars Movie

After pairing many times, adult or peer presence or attention becomes a conditioned reinforcer.
Understanding Requests for Attention
Antecedent → Behavior → Consequence

- MO for Attention
- Toy/Activity
  Shared Experience
- Request for Attention
- Attention
  Ongoing Interaction
Procedure

- Contrive MO for attention (parent withdraws)
- Trainer prompt the learner to use selected form to request attention (Look! Watch me!)
- Parent provides lavish attention and additional reinforcement
- Many training trials are conducted
- Fade reinforcement to natural consequences
- Ensure that attention is not followed by “work” in the form of additional questions or requests
Asking Questions
Antecedent → Behavior → Consequence

MO for Ice cream
→
MO for Spoon
→
MO for Location of Spoon

Request Information
Where’s the spoon?

Information leads to location of spoon, spoon, and ice cream consumption
Verbal Behavior Milestones Assessment and Placement Program
VB MAPP Social Milestones (18–30 month level)

- Spontaneously participates in activities with other children and spontaneously verbally interacts with them (initiates physical interactions, requests, sustained social play, follows peer instruction, request peer participation)
VB MAPP Prerequisites Level 2 (18–30 month level)

- Frequent and spontaneous requests and multiword requests primarily controlled by motivation
- Labels items and actions and combine nouns and verbs to label with minimum of 200–300 word expressive vocabulary
- Receptive language skills include receptive identification of items in a variety of situations, ability to follow instructions to do a motor task and ability to follow noun–verb instructions.
VB MAPP Prerequisites (18–30 month level)

- Imitates novel actions and specific words and phrases
- Selects or names items from a book or group of items when told feature, function, class for greater than 50 items and can respond to Who? What? and Which? questions regarding feature, function, or class of items presented
VB MAPP Prerequisites (18–30 month level)

- Verbally responds to more than 90 phrases or questions including what, who or where questions without items present. (The Center—mutual interests with peers)
- Clear articulation and beginning to emit 2–3 word utterances
Establish Motivation for Social Interaction
Extensive Language Training
Social Skills Training
Recess Intervention with established game/activity with simple rules
Suggestion of Facilitated Recess/Prompting
Frustration
Motivation for the Group

- Onlooker, observes briefly
- Occasional, brief, unsuccessful attempts at joining play
- Wandering
- Self-stimulatory Behavior
Deficits in social communication/social skills and motor skills in children with autism spectrum disorder restrict access to the social and health benefits of group exercise provided by participation in recess, gym class, community sponsored sports offerings and games played at family gatherings.
Physical Activity Facts

- Regular physical activity in childhood and adolescence improves strength and endurance, helps build healthy bones and muscles, helps control weight, reduces anxiety and stress, increases self-esteem, and may improve blood pressure and cholesterol levels.

Physical Activity Facts

- The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services recommends that young people aged 6–17 years participate in at least 60 minutes of physical activity daily.

Physical Exercise Facts

- When children and adolescents participate in the recommended level of physical activity—at least 60 minutes daily of Moderate Vigorous—multiple health benefits accrue.
There is substantial evidence that physical activity can help improve academic achievement, including grades and standardized test scores.

The articles in this review suggest that physical activity can have an impact on cognitive skills and attitudes and academic behavior, all of which are important components of improved academic performance. These include enhanced concentration and attention as well as improved classroom behavior.

Increasing or maintaining time dedicated to physical education may help, and does not appear to adversely impact, academic performance.
Moderate Vigorous Physical Exercise Reduces Stereotypy

“...experimental literature indicates that physical exercise can positively influence both appropriate and inappropriate behaviors, including stereotypy.”

According to Kern, Koegel and Dunlap (1984) ..”15 minutes of continuous vigorous physical activity was always followed by a reduction in stereotypy.

Component Analysis

- What are the missing skills needed to participate in athletic activities and reap the social and physical benefits?
What component skills are needed for Recess play?

- Peers are Paired with Reinforcement
- Motivation for attention and ongoing interaction
- Physical skills to execute sport/activity
- Tact rules and ability to follow rules
- Tact the ongoing activity
- Social Skills
  - Intermediate Level Social Skills
  - Ability to Join Activity
  - Simple Negotiation
  - Emotional Regulation (Good Sport)
Goals for Friends and Fitness

- Provide motivation, skills, and facilitated practice with careful prompting and prompt fading that children with autism need in order to benefit from social opportunities like recess, gym class, family and neighborhood organized games, and community offered athletics.
Friends and Fitness

- Meets twice weekly at a studio
- Team taught with a personal trainer
- Provides direct instruction with prompting and prompt fading using Direct Instruction cues and procedures
Friends and Fitness

Three primary goal areas:

1. The athletic skills that children need in order to participate in games and athletic activities.

2. The social skills that children need in order to make and maintain friends at such events.

3. The ability to follow directions from a coach or peer who is organizing an opportunity.
Friends and Fitness Goals

- Recognizing games/sports
- Understanding the rules of games/sports
- Pairing games/sports with reinforcement,
- Joining a formal/informal game/activity
- Organizing a game/activity
- Asking others to join
- Predicting the behavior of a peer
- Identifying and rating your own level of volume, fatigue, like/dislike, and speed during an activity
Social Skills Selection

- The Assessment of Basic Language and Learning Skills-Revised (Partington, and/or the Verbal Behavior Milestones Assessment and Placement Program (Sundberg, 2008) were used as a guide for selection of social skills
- Other resources consulted
Greetings
Eye Contact
Cheering for a Friend
Finding a Partner
Asking to Join/Inviting Someone to Join
Working Together
If Someone Doesn’t Answer
Offering Assistance
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GOAL</th>
<th>OBJECTIVE</th>
<th>CRITERIA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>L10 Returns greetings</td>
<td>When another student states his name as part of opening circle, the student will greet him/her:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>a. Greeting</td>
<td>75% of students on probe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>b. Greeting with name</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L18 Asks peers for items (single)</td>
<td>The student will ask peers for (single) items</td>
<td>5/5 contrived opportunities in a community setting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VBM S6: The student will initiate a physical interaction with a peer</td>
<td>The student will physically initiate (flip a fire, throw a ball)</td>
<td>2 times in a 60 minute observation in a community setting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VBM S9: The student will spontaneuously respond to the mands or physical approaches and attempts to engage by peers</td>
<td>The student will independently respond to requests such as “my turn”, “push me”, “come on” or grasping, pulling, guiding of peers.</td>
<td>5 times in a 60 minute observation in a community setting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VBMA 12M Responds to 5 different group instructions or questions without direct prompts in a group</td>
<td>Independently or using observation of peers, the student will respond to group instructions or questions.</td>
<td>5 times in a 60 minute observation in a community setting.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Will improve language skills and group attending</td>
<td>Will respond chorally</td>
<td>When provided with a vocal model and a hand cue will chorally respond in 5/5 opportunities.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Independent ✗ Prompted / Missed Opportunity ✓ time self-stim at 5

Daily Progress Notes
(Please complete at every session.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Child's Name:</th>
<th></th>
<th>Therapist:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Behaviors</th>
<th>Target Behavior Number of Instances</th>
<th>Time:</th>
<th>Date:</th>
<th>Time Met</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Finds partner</td>
<td>1 2 3 4 5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mands to Peers</td>
<td>1 2 3 4 5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joins</td>
<td>1 2 3 4 5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Initiates Phys</td>
<td>1 2 3 4 5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group Instruction</td>
<td>1 2 3 4 5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accepts Items</td>
<td>1 2 3 4 5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coop Peer</td>
<td>1 2 3 4 5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Choral Respond</td>
<td>1 2 3 4 5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Self Stim Circle</td>
<td>1 2 3 4 5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Self Stim Active</td>
<td>1 2 3 4 5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

General Comments:

Therapist Signature: ____________________________
Social Skills—Advanced Rules

- Listening and Remembering What Friends Say
- What to Do if You Didn’t Hear the Instruction
- Playing Without Adult Assistance
- Working Together to Achieve a Goal
- Conversational skills
- Staying on Topic: Add a comment, Ask a Questions (Do, Feel)
- Getting to the Point
- Self–Advocacy: vote, volunteer, clarify, missed
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Goal</th>
<th>Specific Objective</th>
<th>Criterion</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Improve cheering and encouragement of others</td>
<td>Provides encouraging words to others</td>
<td>a. When instructed 5 times per session</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>b. Independently in 5/5 opportunities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improve coaching</td>
<td>Provides directive statement, gestures, models</td>
<td>a. When instructed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>b. Independently in 5/5 opportunities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Execute calming strategies</td>
<td>Imitates or uses 5 calming strategies</td>
<td>a. Simultaneous</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(tickle, calm down count, candle blows, lemon squeezes, float boat/zen)</td>
<td>b. In response to designated Sd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improve negotiation skills</td>
<td>Uses negotiation (bubble gum, train train, eeny meeny, rock paper scissors, talk it out: first/then, combine, 3rd option)</td>
<td>a. Simple when directed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>b. Simple independent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>c. Complex directed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>d. Complex independent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improve ability to offer assistance</td>
<td>Offers and/or initiates assistance</td>
<td>a. Following video model in contrived situations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>b. Contrived situations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>c. Independently in naturally occurring situations. 3/3 contexts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improve ability to work with a partner</td>
<td>When given a group instruction, will approach and ask peer to be partner, stay with peer and tell other peer no as needed</td>
<td>a. Following video model for finding</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>b. No model, when finding</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>c. Stays with 1st and explains In 3/3 opportunities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improve self-advocacy</td>
<td>Will raise hand/follow instruction to vote, volunteer, request clarification, explain being left out/missed</td>
<td>a. Vote</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>b. Volunteer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>c. Seek clarification</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>d. Explain left out 3/3 opportunities</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Daily Progress Notes

(Please complete at every session.)

Child’s Name: ____________________________________________

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Behaviors</th>
<th>Target Behavior</th>
<th>Notes</th>
<th>Time:</th>
<th>Date:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Number of Instances</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cheering</td>
<td>1 2 3 4 5</td>
<td>Words, Gestures</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coaching</td>
<td>1 2 3 4 5</td>
<td>Talk, Show, Do</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coping Strategy</td>
<td>1 2 3 4 5</td>
<td>Tt, cdc, cb, Is, fB, z</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Negotiation</td>
<td>1 2 3 4 5</td>
<td>Simple, Complex</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Offer Assistance</td>
<td>1 2 3 4 5</td>
<td>Contrived, Naturally Occurring</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finds a Partner</td>
<td>1 2 3 4 5</td>
<td>Find, stays, handles less preferred</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Self-Advocacy</td>
<td>1 2 3 4 5</td>
<td>Votes, volunteer, clarify, missed</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conversation</td>
<td>1 2 3 4 5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cooperate Goal</td>
<td>1 2 3 4 5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

General Comments: ____________________________________________

Therapist Signature: ________________________________________
Yellow: Greetings/Farewells
Green: Conversational Starter
Blue: Topic, add a comment, ask a do/feel question
Red: Conversational Stopper
Yellow: Greetings/Farewells
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GOAL</th>
<th>OBJECTIVE</th>
<th>CRITERIA</th>
<th>NOTES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The student will negotiate with a peer</td>
<td>The student will “work it out” with a peer who has desires that differ from his own</td>
<td>2/3 obligatory contexts, 1/3 independently</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The student will identify and use facial expressions and body language</td>
<td>The student will use his body to depict a level of a 5 point scale or receptively identify a level based on the response of another.</td>
<td>4/5 opportunities. Achieved for extremes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The student will independently identify 3 potential solutions to a problem (and receive support to assess and predict success of each choice)</td>
<td>The student will independently identify solutions.</td>
<td>Three solutions to 2/3 contrived or actual problems. Able to identify one.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L25 Adjusts behavior based on changes in peer’s actions in 2/3 obligatory contexts, NEW CRITERIA</td>
<td>The learner will adjust behavior based on changes in peer’s actions</td>
<td>2/3 obligatory contexts without prompts for ¾ sessions FOR MORE COMPLEX SOCIAL SITUATIONS. Adjusts personal space when checks are made. Remains inactive if a basic fix is ineffective.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VBMS: 10 The student will spontaneously join a structured or unstructured peer activity.</td>
<td>The student will independently use strategies for structured and unstructured joining</td>
<td>2/3 obligatory contexts for each type of joining. Needs prompting to get started with complex play. Does not ask peer questions without prompting.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L21 The student will increase independent greetings and farewells</td>
<td>The student will initiate greetings or farewells to peers or respond to their greeting or farewell in a novel situation</td>
<td>3 different peers when appropriate in 60 minute observation in a community setting in ¾ sessions. Limited opportunity as usually late.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The student will observe and label why a peer’s emotion</td>
<td>The student will independently demonstrate</td>
<td>2/3 of obligatory contexts at social skills group IN MORE</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>and predict what a peer will do next. NEW CRITERIA</td>
<td>skill in 2/3 obligatory contexts.</td>
<td>COMPLEX SOCIAL SITUATIONS. Can identify in videos for simple situations.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------------</td>
<td>--------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The student will correctly identify big, little, and medium-sized problems.</td>
<td>The student will independently demonstrate 3/4 opportunities.</td>
<td>3/4 opportunities at social skills group with problems in which he is a player. Can identify in others.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The student will demonstrate understanding of figures of speech “tricky talk”</td>
<td>The student will respond to 5 new figures of speech</td>
<td>In group and via posttest, 20 mastered. Tracking those applied.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Offer assistance</td>
<td>The student will independently recognize when help is needed and offer</td>
<td>2/3 obligatory contexts. 1/3 needs prompts in groups. Will help an adult consistently.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The student will independently rate or produce a level of skill utilizing a 5 point scale. NEW CRITERIA</td>
<td>Identify or demonstrate levels on 2/3 scales and in others!</td>
<td>100% accuracy for 2/3 of the following during posttest. Fatigue, Like, Anxiety</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The student will recognize and play games</td>
<td>Recognize game, identify rules, and actively participate</td>
<td>5 new games or by posttest. (10 GAMES MASTERED)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The student will engage appropriately with people in his environment based on his relationship with these people.</td>
<td>The student will appropriately initiate or respond to peers and adults using his Social Circles.</td>
<td>5/5 during role play 89% in FEBRUARY</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The student will master the three step fix it strategy</td>
<td>Ask once nicely, once strongly and then get an adult for help</td>
<td>2/3 contrived situations.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L27 States what others like/dislike</td>
<td>The student will be able to state items and activities that are enjoyed by others and state which people like a particular item or activity.</td>
<td>2= Knows at least 2 specific things enjoyed or not enjoyed by at least 4 people</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L28 Direct others attention to something of interest to them</td>
<td>The student will be able to know what activities, news, or items would be of interest to</td>
<td>2= Frequently directs several different peers and adults to items and activities that</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Task Description</td>
<td>Description</td>
<td>Target</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------------------------------------------------</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L31 Waits for break in conversation to interrupt</td>
<td>The student will be able to wait for a break in an ongoing conversation before attempting to speak with one of the people involved in the conversation.</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L24 Feedback from peers</td>
<td>The student will be able to follow directions from peers to adjust his behavior to be more socially acceptable.</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The student will observe and label why a peer's emotion and predict what a peer will do next.</td>
<td>The student will independently demonstrate skill in 2/3 obligatory contexts.</td>
<td>2/3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The student will recognize and play games</td>
<td>Recognize game, identify rules, and actively participate</td>
<td>5 new games.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The student will maintain appropriate personal space with peers and adults.</td>
<td>Will maintain personal space while seated in group.</td>
<td>5 consecutive space invader checks during group.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The student will invite two peers to join him in an activity.</td>
<td>Will invite two peers to form a group of three.</td>
<td>On post-test probe.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The student will learn 10 concepts in group format</td>
<td>Receptive, tact or iv</td>
<td>On probe</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Friends and Fitness Data

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
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**L27 States what others like/dislike**

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**L18 Asks peers for items or information**

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**L12 Spontaneously responds to the mands, approaches, & attempts to engage by peers**

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**L25 Adjusts behavior based on changes in peer’s actions in 2/3 obligatory contexts**

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**The student will make a logical inference or prediction in 2/3 opportunities**

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**The student will correctly identify big, little, and medium-sized problems**

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**The student will independently identify potential solution(s) to a problem (and receive support to assess and predict success of each choice)**

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**The student will independently rate or produce a level of skill utilizing a 5 point scale**

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</table>

**The student will recognize and play games**

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</table>

**The student will cheer for and encourage others**

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# Daily Progress Notes

**Friends and Fitness**

**Child's Name:**

**Therapist:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Behaviors</th>
<th>Target Behavior</th>
<th>Time:</th>
<th>Date:</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cool greetings</td>
<td>1 2 3 4 5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eye gaze use</td>
<td>1 2 3 4 5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Game Facts</td>
<td>1 2 3 4 5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emotions/Rate</td>
<td>1 2 3 4 5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adjust behavior</td>
<td>1 2 3 4 5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Offer assistance</td>
<td>1 2 3 4 5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Problem-solving</td>
<td>1 2 3 4 5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Join appro</td>
<td>1 2 3 4 5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coaching</td>
<td>1 2 3 4 5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**General Comments:**

**Therapist Signature:**
# Daily Progress Notes

(Please complete at every session.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Behaviors</th>
<th>Target Behavior</th>
<th>Number of Instances</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3 Step Fix It</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2 3 4 5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cheering</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2 3 4 5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coaching</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2 3 4 5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Handling Loss</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2 3 4 5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coping Strateg.</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2 3 4 5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ID need for Neg.</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2 3 4 5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Negotiate</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2 3 4 5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Offer Assistance</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2 3 4 5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stay w/ 1st part.</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2 3 4 5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

General Comments:

Therapist Signature: ____________________________
Session Format Shorties

- Review Rules/Intro/Social Skills Review
- Races
- Pairing/Manding from Peers
- Warm Up/Yoga
- Powerpoint with tacting of games/facts
- Game
- Social Skill Behavioral Skills Training Model
- Meet in the Middle
- Closing
Session Format Advanced

- Review Rules/Vote/Intro/Social Skills Partner
- Circuit 1
- Rating/Personal Best Awards
- Powerpoint Tacting Games/Rules/Social Skill
- Game with Group goal
- Social Skill with Behavioral Skills Training
- Game with Group goal/Cooperative Race/Obstacle Course
- Closing
Offering Help
Offering Help
1. Decide if Someone needs help
2. Ask “Do you need Help?”

Do you need help?
3. Do it!

If they say Yes, Do it!
Selection of Exercises

Shorties

- ABLLS–R motor skills assessment
- Ongoing informal assessment of skills
- Basic Yoga Poses
- Basic Cardio and Functional Strength Training
Selection of Exercises

Circuit 1 Advanced
- ABLLS–R motor skills assessment
- Ongoing assessment of athletic skills
- Incorporated simple and complex skills
- Establish basic exercises which they might encounter in multiple venues
- Specific skills/moves associated with target sport/activity
Combination of Games
Games that involve finding a partner, deciding on roles, negotiating
Cooperative games that involve peer interaction
Cooperative Obstacle Courses
Games and Sports that would be encountered in the community
Game Selection

- Combination of Games
- Cooperative games that involve peer interaction
- Amped up by Eric
- Actual Games
- Successful activities from YMCA
- Activities that could be applied immediately
Love it-Hate it

5 Love it
4 Like it
3 Don’t care
2 Don’t like it
1 Hate it
Tired

5: Exhausted-Nap
4: Very Tired
3: A Little Tired
2: Breathing Hard
1: Energetic-Ready
Speed

5 - Very Fast
4 - Fast
3 - Medium Speed
2 - Slow
1 - Very Slow
asking others about their experiences
understanding the likes/dislikes of others
offering assistance
early negotiation/problem solving, and understanding colloquial language and figures of speech associated with sports
All the skills of being a good sport.
Figures of speech

- Give me some love
- Bring it in
- Push it back
- Sista
- Bro
- Shades
- Lid
- Eyes on Me
- Jumping the gun
- Shifting it into high gear
- Running out gas
- Breaking the record
- Killed it
- Nailed it
- You’re killing me
GRs

CHECK IN

5
ANGRY
HITTING/TRYING TO HIT
AGGRESSION

STRATEGY
STW SAFETY STRATEGIES

4
LOSING CONTROL
LOUD YELLING
THROWING ITEMS
CLEARING PROPERTY
FLEEING

STW CALM DOWN COUNT
Back to task if demand

3
Frustrated
PROTESTING
REFUSING TO CHOOSE
NOT FOLLOWING INSTRUCTIONS
TOLERATING
NOISE/CART/CHANGE

NONVERBAL CHOICES OR INSTRUCTION
STW BREAK CALMING STRATEGIES
TOKEN AT 2

2
CAUTIOUS
QUIET
WATCHING
RESPONDING SLOWLY

SIMPLIFY TASKS
CAN EARN TOKENS

1
CALM
SITTING STILL OR MOVING
BUT WATCHING
FOLLOWING DIRECTIONS
RIGHT AWAY

EARNING TOKENS AND PRAISE
Three step fix it

Three-step fix it yourself strategy:
1. Ask once nicely
2. Ask once strongly
3. Get an adult for help
Benefits of the Group Contingency

- Encourage each other
- Coach each other
- Learn to influence each other
- Generate new games
- Generate cohesive rules to games
- Work it out
- Problem Solve
Dodge ball breakdown

- Getting off the line and getting a ball.
- Throwing a ball at a moving target
- Pinnies to help identify team members
- Blocking with your ball
- Avoiding being hit by a ball
- Teaming up to get Jordan or Tammi out
Independent Social Interactions Per Opportunity

- Initiate physical interaction with a peer
- Responds to peer mands and approaches peers
- Mands to peers to participate in game
- Independent greetings and farewells
- Rec Inst with Discrim
RESEARCH and RESULTS

Go to 234
Camp

- Eric’s interest in a Speed and Agility camp
- The Center had been conducting Friendship Camp (Social Skills) for several years
- The Recess Dilemma
- Why not combine forces?
Camp

- Theme: Social Detective/Sport Detective/Food Detective
- Week 1: Friendship Camp: Sports Edition
  - Fundamental skills that were teachable and could translate easily to basic sports
  - Soccer, Track and Field, Kickball
- Week 2: Friendship Camp: Recess Edition
  - Recess Activities: Four Square, Tag, Freeze Tag, Monkey in the Middle, Red Light/Green Light
- Simple Negotiation
Deficits in social communication/social skills and motor skills in children with autism spectrum disorder restrict access to the social and health benefits of group exercise provided by participation in recess, gym class, community sponsored sports offerings and games played at family gatherings.
Several studies have effectively addressed socially valid behaviors, focusing on peer groups, promoting entrapment (Magg 2006) and multiple exemplar training across teachers, stimuli, and environments (Stokes & Baer, 1977) to enhance generalization.
The purpose of this study was to examine the effects of a behaviorally-based treatment package to improve social skills, inferencing, and motor skills for children with autism spectrum disorder age 6-11 within the context of a fitness based social communication group.
Specific skills in three domains: social communication/social skills, logical inferencing, and motor skills were selected for treatment.

Maintenance of effects at a three months follow up was probed.
Method

Participants

- Seven children with a diagnosis of autism spectrum disorder ages six to eleven with Intermediate or Advanced learner profiles according the Assessment of Basic Language and Learning Skills-Revised (Partington, 2006), or the Verbal Behavior Milestones Assessment and Placement Program (Sundberg, 2008)
Typically developing peers who received four hours of training in interacting and promoting social and motor skills in children with autism spectrum disorder, entrapment and self-reinforcement via a token system.
Peer Training

Peers taught strategies
- Gaining attention
- Prompting requests
- Gaining attention and persisting until a child responds to a question or direction
- Reinforcing social attempts
- The primary intervention targets involved pairing with reinforcement, manding and initiating and maintaining interactions with the peer.
- Reinforcement System
Setting

- Local community center comprised of indoor meeting room with PowerPoint capabilities, kitchen area, and outdoor playing field
Procedures

- Each participant with autism spectrum disorder received treatment in a group format for 3 hours, 5 days per week for two weeks.
Behavioral Skills Training including a brief explanation of the target skill with choral responding, modeling, guided practice, and feedback during application exercises was conducted.
Video models were included for social skills and inferencing.
Role play was included for social skills only.
Each child with autism spectrum disorder was provided with a shadow who was an employee of The Center and received 4 hours of training on facilitation of the goals of the study as well as probe procedures and scoring criteria. Staff engaged in role play until proficiency was demonstrated and until a score of 80% or higher was achieved on a quiz containing the training content.
Corrective feedback was provided to staff if needed by the lead instructor during training and throughout the study.
Measurement

- Baseline: Baseline cold probe data were collected for each skill for each participant during the initial session
Measurement

For social skills, the lead instructor would alert staff and peer models that a probe was about to be conducted. An instruction would be provided to the group and no prompting occurred. Shadows scored participant responses as Y or N for correct and incorrect/no response respectively. Some social skills contained several components (e.g. Finding a partner: get close, eye contact, mand) and each component was scored individually.
Baseline for motor skills consisted of the personal trainer modeling each skill individually for each participant who was then asked to perform the skill. Personal trainer and lead instructor and/or shadow scored the response according to criteria as detailed above.
Baseline for Inferencing consisted of viewing a 1-2 minute video of children engaging in a recess game and each participant was asked to tact the game. Probe data was collected as detailed above.
<table>
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<td>N</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Tap shoulder</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Say name</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Offer assistance</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Notice need</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Ask in a nice way</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Cheer</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Getting in line</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Smoothie</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Post Treatment data at the end of the second week and follow up data three months after the treatment ended were collected in a manner identical to the initial probe. One subject was not available for follow up probe.
Sport  Detective/Smart Guesses

- Video models
- Teaching Rules
- Play with Prompting
- Planned opportunities to guess the game
Food Detective/Smart Guesses

- Detective Exploration
- Expanding Expressions
- Making a Smart Guess About the contents of the Smoothie
Task: Notes for report/oral presentation

Name: ____________________________
Date: ____________________________

Putting it all together

Group  Do  Made of  Parts  Where

Directions: Take notes in the sections below and use this chart to help you organize your written report or oral presentation. (Collect additional information by using resources.)

Group

Do

Made of

Parts

Where

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group</th>
<th>Do</th>
<th>Made of</th>
<th>Parts</th>
<th>Where</th>
<th>?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Coconut</th>
<th>Banana</th>
<th>Strawberry</th>
<th>Spinach</th>
<th>Pineapple</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>________ is a kind of _____________.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>It is also a kind of _____________.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>You can ____________ it and</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>____________ it and ____________ it.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>It looks _______________ and</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>_______________ and _______________.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>It grows from or on a</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>_______________.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Its parts are _______________ and</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>_______________ and _______________.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>You can find it at a _______________ or a _______________.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I _______________ it. It is</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Experimental Design

- AB design with maintenance probe across subjects
- IOA calculated using: Agreements/(Agreements + Disagreements) and was greater than 80%.
Results

- Analysis of results reveal that all but one participant (who achieved a perfect score on social skills in baseline) demonstrated improvement in social skills and inferencing at the end of treatment and maintained higher levels of accuracy over baseline at the three month follow up.
Results of motor skills probe were less consistent with 4/7 participants demonstrating improvement at the study’s end and maintained at follow up; one subject achieving a perfect score on probe and maintaining, and two subjects exhibiting lower accuracy at study completion, but improvement at the three month follow up probe.
• Parent report indicated generalization of skills to other environments.
• Three participants are currently participating in community offered athletic activities.
Results suggest that this treatment package may be effective in improving social skills, inferencing, and fitness, and may promote greater community integration in athletically-oriented social activities. A major limitation is the complex treatment package which prohibits identification of critical independent variables.
Figure 1. Percentage of social skills executed correctly by participants in baseline, post-treatment, and at three month follow-up.
Figure 2. Percentage of inferencing questions answered logically by participants in baseline, post-treatment and at three month follow up.
Figure 3. Percentage of motor skills executed correctly by participants in baseline, post-treatment, and at three month follow up.
Benefits of Physical Fitness

- Increase in physical fitness/athletic abilities
  - leads to confidence
  - Increased willingness to attempt new activities
  - Increase in interest and performance of outdoor activities
  - Increased ability to participate in community sponsored athletic opportunities
  - Opportunity to be a leader
  - Increased motivations for competition, desire to improve skills
  - Increase in energy
  - Improvement in general mood, focus, academic achievement
Life Long Skills

- In facilitated peer interaction, children are provided with guided practice in social skills, such as how to communicate, cooperate, and solve problems. They practice controlling their emotions and responding to the emotions of others. They develop the ability to negotiate.
- These are life long skills that will impact their quality of life.
“Social Interaction skills are critical to successful social, emotional, and cognitive development. Effective social skills allow us to elicit positive reactions and evaluations from peers as we perform socially approved behaviors” (Ladd & Mize, 1983)


References


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