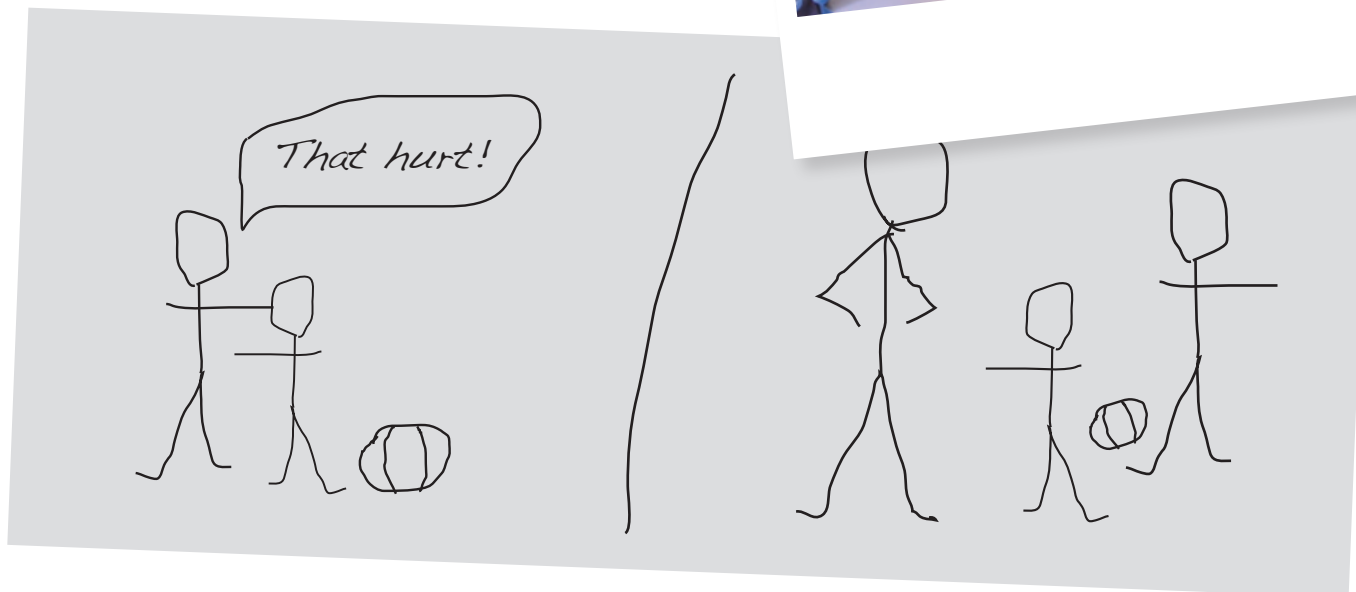


Comic Strip Conversations

In My Shoes
Tips for Teachers

Teenagers with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) have trouble interpreting social situations and understanding speech as quickly as most social interactions require. They can be taught social understanding by using comic strip conversations. Comic strip conversations are a method of visual communication developed by Carol Gray. A comic strip conversation is a conversation between two or more people using stick figure drawings in a comic strip format. They show teenagers how to behave in a socially acceptable manner.

They use stick figure drawings to represent the parts of a conversation. By seeing the different parts of a conversation visually presented, some of the abstract aspects of social communication (e.g. recognising the feelings and intentions of others) are made more concrete and are therefore easier to understand.



All you need is a drawing surface e.g. paper, whiteboard, notebook, and some writing implements. The teenager draws the event that caused the problem. They then add (with guidance) the thoughts and feelings of everyone involved. Finally a solution to the problem and ideas on how to avoid the problem in future are added.

- ✓ A specific structure is followed to organize a social exchange and build in predictability.
- ✓ They are not supposed to be used for every conversation, only when there is a problem.

More information can be found at:

www.thegraycenter.org

www.autismspectrum.ilstu.edu/resources/factsheets/comicstrip.shtml