

Office of Developmental Disabilities Services

**Children's Extraordinary Needs Program
Social Story Instructions and Template for
Case Management Entities**



Instructions for Social Story

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- **Personalization for the Child:**

- Start by replacing bracketed words like "(insert child's name)" with the child's actual name. This makes the story more relevant and engaging for them.
- Delete the bracketed words and replace them with specific information or instructions tailored to the child's needs and understanding level.

- **Adding Personalized Photos:**

- In sections where there's space for photos, such as larger areas designated for visual aids, you can insert pictures that directly relate to the content of the social story.
- These photos should assist the child in comprehending the message of the story more effectively. For instance, if the story is about going to school, you might include photos of their school, classroom, teacher, and peers.

Instructions cont.

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- **Customizing the Story:**
 - Modify the wording and details throughout the story to match the child's unique experiences and challenges. This could involve adjusting the narrative to reflect their specific routines, preferences, or difficulties they may encounter.
- **Using the Social Story:**
 - Social stories can be used in conjunction with other tools, like self-advocacy videos, or independently depending on the child's needs.
 - Read the social story with the child regularly to reinforce learning and understanding of social situations.
 - Encourage interaction and discussion about the story to gauge comprehension and address any questions or concerns the child may have.

By following these steps, you can create a personalized and effective social story that supports the child's learning and social development. The combination of personalized text and visual aids ensures that the story is both relevant and accessible, enhancing its impact on the child's comprehension and application of social skills.

ODDS Children's Extraordinary Needs (CEN) Module

You are a Self-Advocate

This is (insert Child's name).

Insert photo of Child
here

(Insert Child's Name) communicates using

Eyes



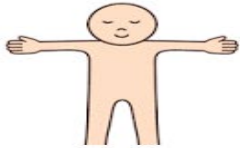
Mouth



Hands



Body



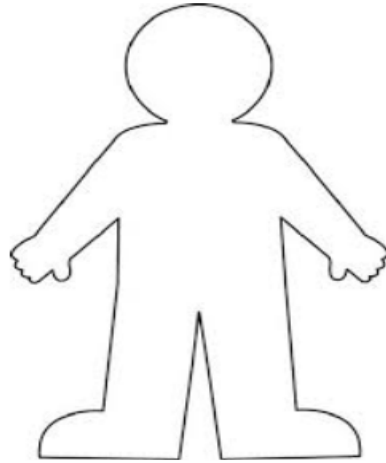
AAC Devices



Eye Gaze



(Insert child's name) has choices about their body



(Insert Child's name) can use communication to let people know who they want to help them and how they want to be cared for.

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