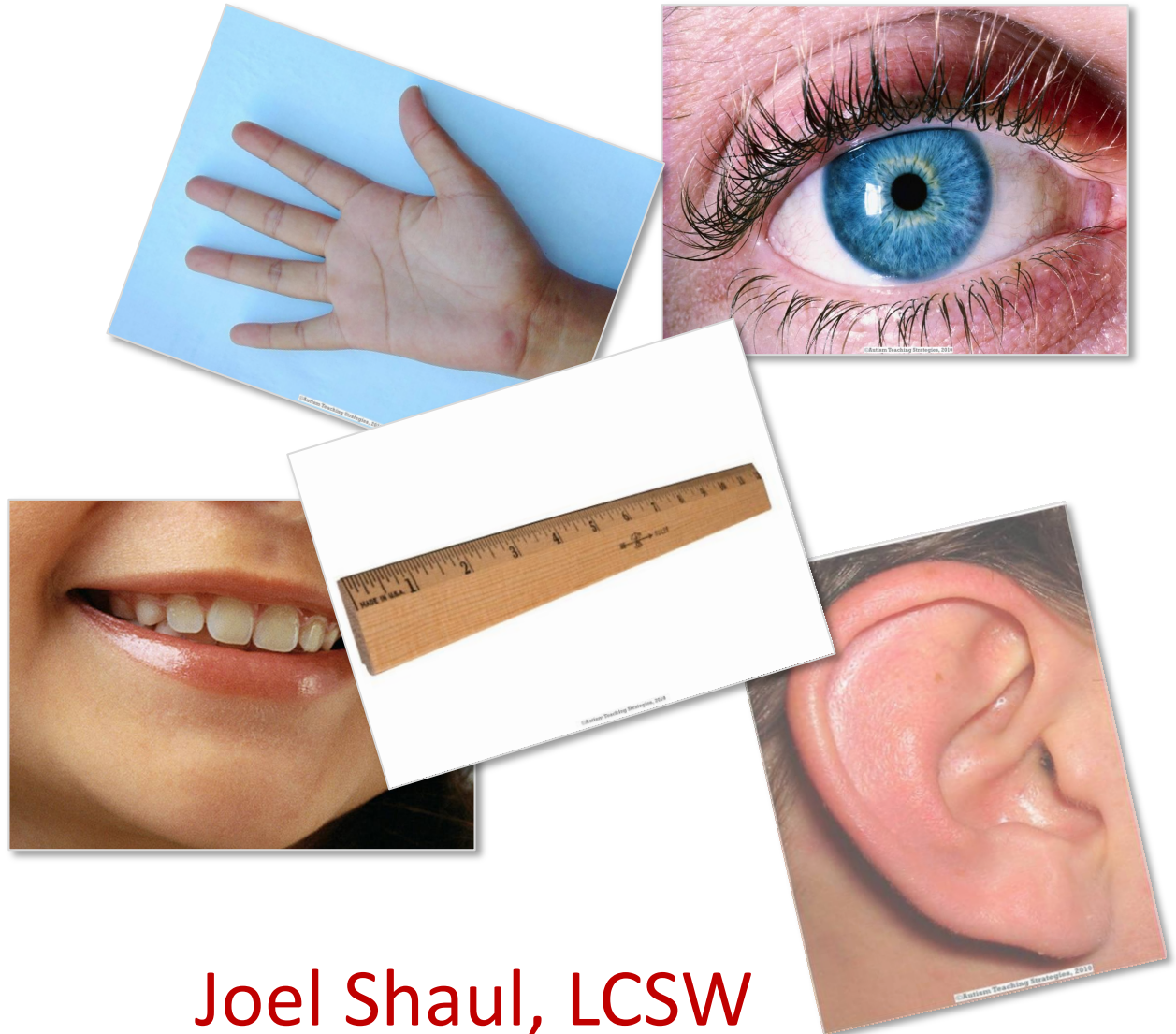


Nonverbal picture prompts

Using simple
pictures to
promote
awareness of
elements of
nonverbal
communication



Joel Shaul, LCSW

How to make them:

Print them out on cardstock or on paper that you laminate.


Ways to use them:

These are very useful to set up various kinds of role play practice.

1. The “Flawed Adult” role play. Hand out the nonverbal picture prompts to children you are working with. Tell the children, “I am going to talk to this person here [another adult or else a child]. While I am talking I might *make a mistake!* For example, I might make a mistake *with my eyes* – I might look all around, instead of towards the person I am talking to. Or I might make a mistake *with my face* – I might not have the right expression on my face that is appropriate for what I am talking about. Or I might make a mistake *with my hands* – I might move my hands in a way that annoys or distracts the other person. Or I might make a mistake *with my personal space* – I might get too close to the other person or else too far away. Or I might make a mistake *with my ears* – I might not be listening at all well to the other person. While I am talking, watch very carefully! If you see me making a mistake with my eyes, or my face, or my hands, or my distance, or my ears, hold up that picture!”
2. Role plays with children. This is like the activity in 1., except children take turns while the other children use the picture prompts and hold them up when they catch a lapse.
3. Hold them up during lessons or counseling sessions. At times, it can be useful to keep these prompts handy and then hold them up when you want to promote certain desired nonverbal and listening behaviors.


Other nonverbal communication teaching resources on the website:

To listen well,



hear all the words.

To listen well,



ask and find out more.

To listen well,



turn off other thoughts.

To listen well,



look towards the person.

Are You Listening Sheets









