

The Conversation Box

This activity is to help young people with ASD to select valid and reciprocal forms of conversation instead of monologues and lectures.

1. Print and cut out the eight cards. I suggest you print out three sets so it creates a decent sized deck.

You can put them in a box like this one:



2. Print out the illustrated panels as teaching aids and as references when you are doing the activity.

Here is a link to a longer explanation, as well as all of the downloads:

<http://autismteachingstrategies.com/autism-strategies/the-conversation-box-conversation-training-tool-for-children-with-high-functioning-autism-and-aspergers/>

Joel Shaul, LCSW

Derived from a method described in: Relationship Development Intervention with Children, Adolescents and Adults, Steven Gutstein and Rachelle Sheely, 2006, Atheneum Press.

Joel Shaul provides trainings nationwide on the topics of social skills training for children on the autism spectrum. To learn more, copy and follow this link: <http://bit.ly/zGDQCi>

Making plans
together



Sharing feelings
together



Comparing
interests



Remembering
things together



Comparing what
you think



Figuring
something
out together



Creating
fantasies
together



Making
something
funny together



Making plans together



"How about if we..."

"Do you think we could..."

"Hey, let's..."

"Do you want to..."

"What are you doing later?"

Sharing feelings together



"That makes me feel _____. How does that make YOU feel?"

"I'm worried. What about you?"

"I will be so happy when _____. How about you?"

"Are you feeling _____? Me too."

Comparing interests



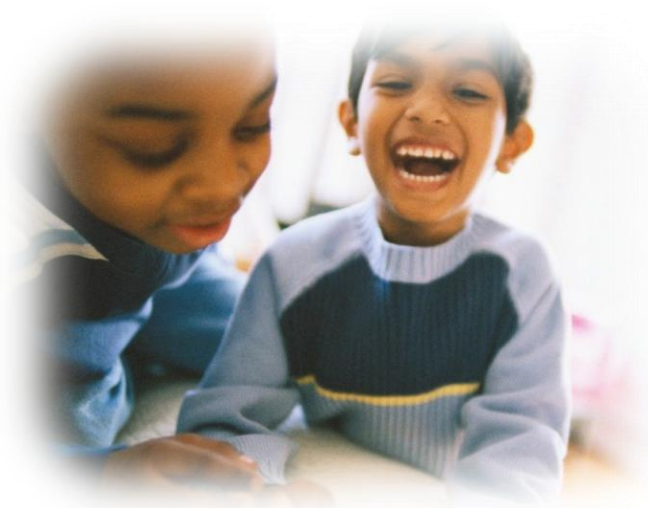
"I'm interested in _____. Are you?"

"I like _____. How about you?"

"I can't stand _____. What about you?"

"_____ is bad. What do you think?"

Remembering things together



"Do you remember that time when...?"

"Remember when you and I...?"

"I was thinking about back when our whole class..."

"I can remember when we _____.
Do you?"

Comparing what you think



"I think that _____. What do you think?"

"My family believes _____. How about yours?"

" I see your point."

"I agree."

"I disagree."

Figuring something out together



"How should we..."

"Can I help you to..."

"Can you help me to..."

"Let's try together to..."

"What should I do?"

Creating fantasies together



[Example: "What would you think if soda came out of the drinking fountain?"]

"Wouldn't it be great if..."

"Wouldn't it be crazy if..."

Making something funny together



"Do you want to hear something funny?"

"What you just said cracked me up!"

"Did you hear the joke about..."

"I saw something funny. Do you want to
see it?"