

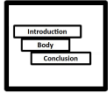







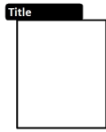
Ten Steps for Developing a Social Story

 Step One	<p>Meaningfully share social information: When you are making a Social Story for your child, be sure that the story you are developing will share meaningful, social information about an event, person, situation, or skill that your child can practice and hopefully, integrate into his or her routine.</p>
 Step Two	<p>Write from a first or third person perspective: Remember, individuals with an ASD often struggle with taking someone else's perspective. Be sure to write a Social Story from the view of your child and use first person language. Third person is also acceptable.</p>
 Step Three	<p>Have an introduction, a body, and a conclusion: Make sure there is a clear introduction, body, and conclusion that will allow the important concepts to be identified, described, and resolved.</p>
 Step Four	<p>Answer the "Wh" questions: Remember, the point of the story is to help your child better understand a situation or concept. For every sentence that provides an instruction or direction, be sure to include two sentences that describe why, what, who, when, and where. Although direction about how to respond is helpful, it is more important to describe the situational factors so that your child understands what is happening.</p>
 Step Five	<p>Use positive language: Instead of writing a Social Story about what your child should not do, focus on what he or she can, or should do.</p>
 Step Six	<p>Describe more than direct: It is absolutely necessary to reference a negative behavior, be sure to do so with caution and use language that associates the undesirable behavior with people, in general, and not specifically with your child.</p>
 Step Seven	<p>May contain six types of sentences: There are six types of sentences that generally appear in a Social Story.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Statements that are factual • Statements identifying someone's knowledge, feelings, beliefs, motivation, or health • Statements identifying what other people consistently do to help your child • Statements that are a specific response to a situation • Statements that stress an important point, rule, or law • Statements that ask the child to help you come up with strategies
 Step Eight	<p>Tailor your Social Story to the abilities and interests of the child: The length of the story needs to be consistent with your child's attention span. If your child can only sit still and attend for two minutes, keep your Social Story under one and a half minutes. Try to keep your social story engaging and interesting for your child. (repetitive, rhythm, rhyme)</p>



Step Nine

May include tailored illustrations: If possible, include illustrations, or even personal photographs that will hold additional meaning for your child.



Step Ten

Title meets all applicable criteria: When you create a title, remember that it should describe the important concept you are sharing with your child and may incorporate important “wh” questions. The title should be written in the first person, use positive language, be easily understood and interesting to the child, and may be used with an illustration to enhance the meaning.