

Teaching Social Competencies—More Than Social Skills



Concept #6: Expected & Unexpected Behavior

- Presented by: Michelle Garcia Winner, MA-CCC
- Moderated by: Heidi Winner

Enjoy our 10 Concepts webinar series:

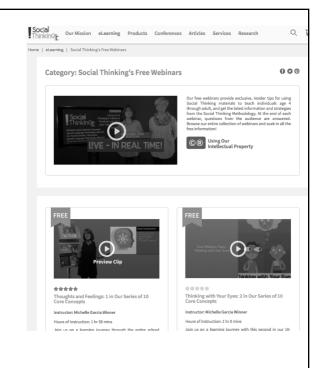
10 webinars

10 months

10 Social Thinking concepts

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Today's webinar topic:



The Social Thinking Methodology requires thinking about thoughts and feelings, making it a "meta-cognitive" approach.

Points to be covered today:

- 1. Simply teaching or reinforcing students to "do what's expected" will not result in students meeting your expectations.
- 2. Two aspects of teaching expected & unexpected behavior:
 - a.) observation
 - b.) self-regulation

- 3. Deciphering expected and unexpected behaviors involves determining social norms in context.
- 4. Use of previously reviewed Social Thinking Vocabulary to define *hidden rules*—social expectations.
- 5. Treatment frameworks are used to frame social learning in a social context:
 - a) Social-Emotional Chain Reaction
 - b) Four Steps of Communication

Theme 1:

Simply teaching or reinforcing students to "do what's expected" will not result in students meeting your expectations.

The terms *expected* and *unexpected* behavior were not developed to try to convince children to behave!

Why don't we just use the words "appropriate" and "inappropriate"?

Why make a big deal of "expected" and "unexpected" behavior?

The use of the term "inappropriate" to describe another's behavior implies not only that the behavior is inappropriate but that the person saying it has a negative emotional judgement about the person.

If this term was supposed to motivate a student to "behave," I found it was doing the opposite. It resulted in shame and refusal of students to further participate.

Why are we making such a big deal about this?

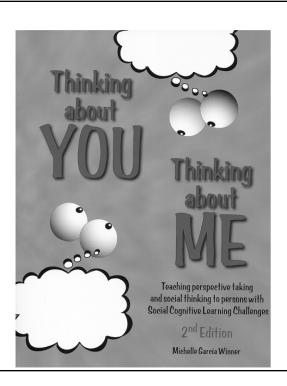
From our experience, the public often sets up behavior plans that focus on doing expected behaviors, without awareness of the importance of a student first learning basic understanding of thoughts and feelings of others, where his body is in the group, etc.

This is why scope and sequence of teaching is important.

How we treat individuals who struggle to make sense of the social world is a big deal!

Our insisting they "do the expected" and our inability to see their learning challenge is part of our own, neurotypical lack of perspective taking.

First introduced as Social Thinking's primary source of information on core teaching and assessment strategies across age groups



Free article on our website:

Why Do We Use the Expected-Unexpected Social Thinking Vocabulary?

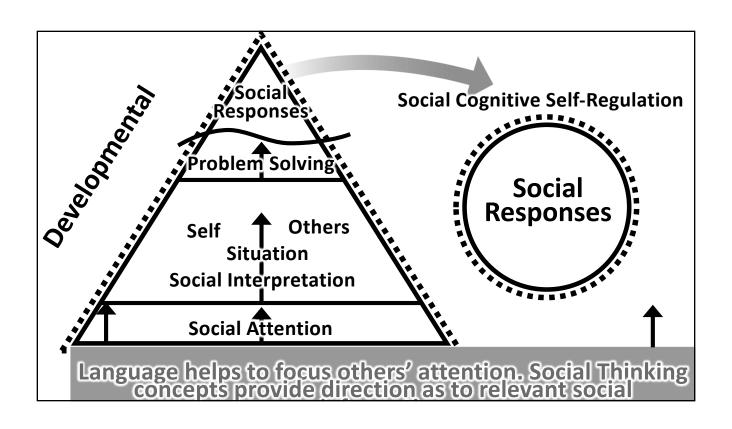
Theme 2:

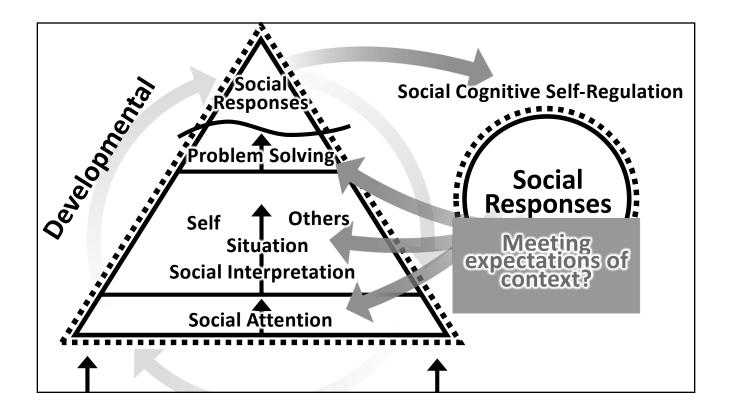
Two aspects of teaching *expected* and *unexpected* behavior, and in this order:

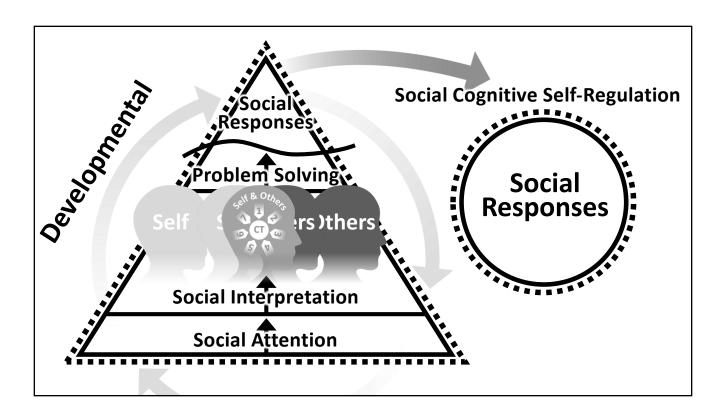
- a.) observation (attend-interpret)
- b.) self-regulation (problem solve-respond)

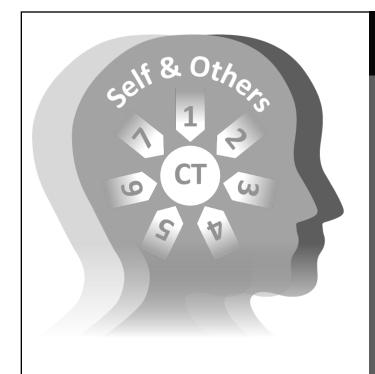
Social Thinking's Social Competency Model

- Teaching a 4 step progression with any of our concepts:
- 1. attend
- •2. interpret
- •3. problem solve to decide action
- 4. respond









Social Interpretation

- 1. What is the situation?
- 2. Who are the people?
- 3. World knowledge
- 4. Basic emotions
- 5. Self-conscious emotions
- 6. Basic theory of mind
- 7. Advanced, applied, spontaneous theory of mind

CT = Critical thinking

Another free article on our website:

Are You Teaching Expected and Unexpected the Wrong Way? (by a guest author)

Theme 3:

Decipher the *expected* and *unexpected* behavior by determining social norms in context.

The *context* must be defined in order to define our behavioral expectations!

What's the context?

- a. Situation
- b. What is known about the people in that situation

What is expected in one context is unexpected in another context! What could be unexpected about reading a book?





What are expected and unexpected behaviors?

Formal definition:

Expected behaviors:

An array of behaviors that permit oneself and others to attend and participate as intended in that context.

Unexpected behaviors:

An array of behaviors that prevent oneself and/or others from fully attending to and participating as intended in that context.

The concept *expected* versus *unexpected* behavior is unique to our Social Thinking Vocabulary.

This is an umbrella term as it represents an *array of behaviors*.

Children's brains attend to social expectations early in life!

Our brain processes many different social ideas at once.

Babies stare longer at social situations that are unexpected; babies prefer prosocial to anti-social others.

Hamlin JK, Wynn K, Bloom P Nature. 2007 Nov 22; 450(7169):557-9

Brief summary of research on babies, reviewed in book *Why We Cooperate* (edited by Dr. Tomasello, 2009)

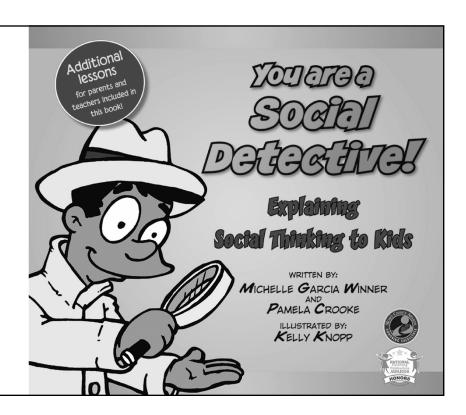
- Babies function in We Mode by 14-24 months
- Develop a sense of joint goal and joint purpose
- By 3 years old they monitor:
 - who is following the goal
 - each other's "attention loop"
 - the social norms in new situations and adapt their behavior
 - who is not following the expectations based on the social norms

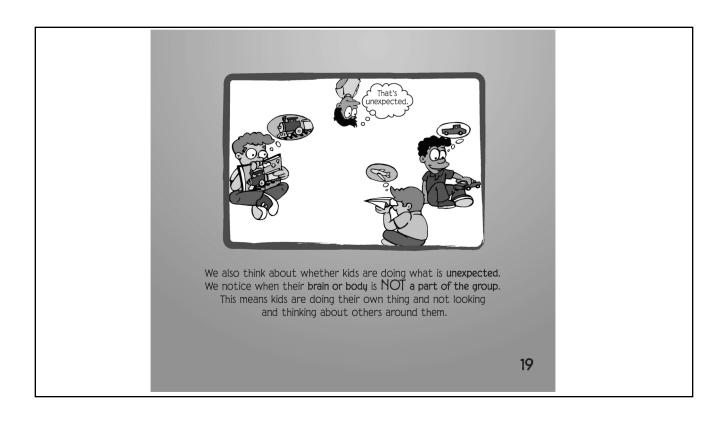


From my experience, students with social learning challenges who use language tend to more actively give attention to the unexpected behaviors. This exasperates parents and teachers!

How can we help them to actively attend to the expected behaviors?

Make social discovery active rather than passive. Guide children into the role of being a smart social detective!





Lesson 1: Expected and Unexpected Behavior in a Group

Adapted from the Think Social! Curriculum (Winner, 2005)

Critical Vocabularu

Doing what is expected in the group Doing what is unexpected in the group "You can change my feelings."

Tools & Materials

Poster of different emotions (optional) Carpet squares or chairs

What to Do

- Once kids are in a group (on the floor in a circle or at a table), the teacher will perform a series of socially bizarre or "unexpected" behaviors (e.g., lie down on the floor, have your body turned out of the group, stand in the corner while talking, etc.)
- ® Talk to the students about learning to be part of the group, but act as if you are just teaching them and nothing unexpected is happening.
- @ Observe their reactions, but just continue and ignore their uncomfortable looks.
- After a few minutes, ask the students if they think anything is wrong or odd about the way you are
 behaving. Allow them to tell you how they "feel" about you doing these unexpected behaviors.
- On the whiteboard, draw 2 columns and label the one on the left "Expected" Behaviors for the Group (draw a happy face) and the one on the right "Unexpected" Behaviors for the Group (draw a sad face). This usually generates a really interesting discussion.
- Ø Using the students' feedback, write the behaviors on the chart that are unexpected in a classroom, such as lying on the floor, etc.

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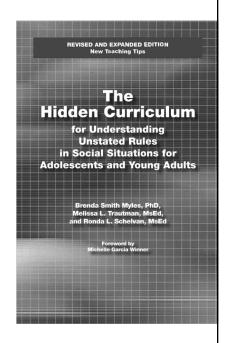
Later,
I'll talk about
the kids who say
"I don't care!"

Theme 4:

Use of other Social Thinking Vocabulary terms to define social norms, also referred to as the *hidden rules* for social expectations.

Brenda Smith Myles and team introduced the term *hidden* curriculum in their book by the same title.

I wrote the forward to this book. I found the concept important but adapted the name of the concept to "hidden rules" or "hidden expectations" since most children don't use the term "curriculum" in their daily vocabulary.



When figuring out the *hidden rules*, we begin by realizing that every environment (place) has an array of situations...

Within a classroom, there are countless situations, for example:

- 1. Get ready for class to begin
- 2. Teacher talk time
- 3. Classroom discussion time
- 4. Individual work time
- 5. Group work time
- 6. Get ready for lunch time
- 7. Recess, etc.

Consider all the situations for the following places (environments):

- Playground during recess
- Multi-purpose room
- Family den or dining room
- Bedroom
- School library

In summary, the context determines that there are *hidden rules or expectations* that lead us to figure out the related *expected* and *unexpected* behavior.

To foster students' attending to expected behavior requires awareness of at least the first five Social Thinking Vocabulary terms we reviewed earlier in this webinar series!







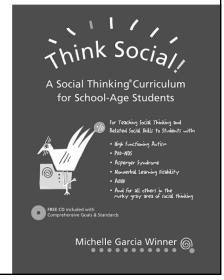


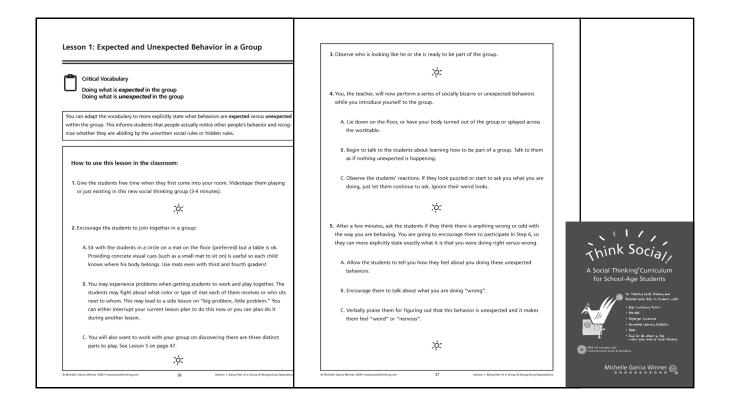


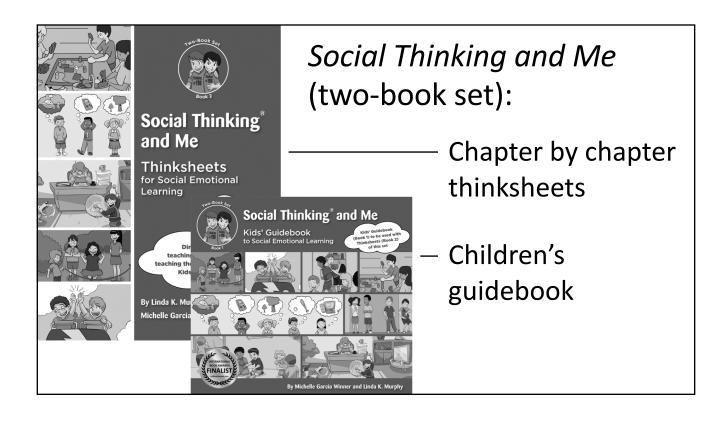
Plus many more concepts not reviewed in this webinar series, such as concepts to teach social language....

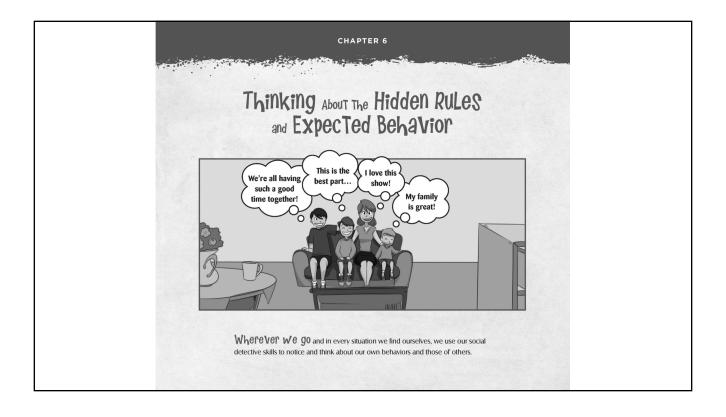
- ✓ Add a Thought
- ✓ Ask a Question

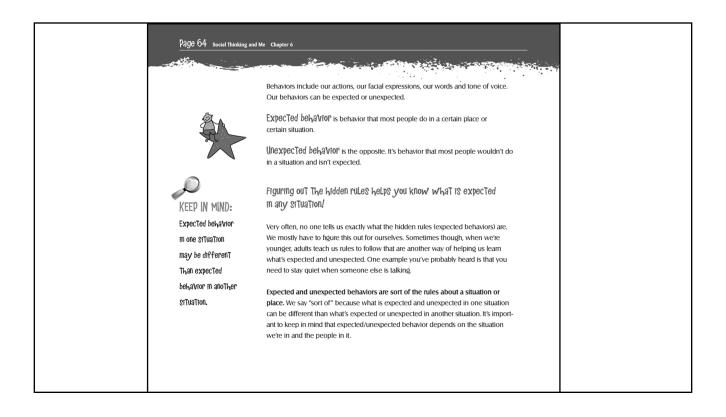
All of these Social Thinking Vocabulary terms and many more are taught through the core book *Think Social!*



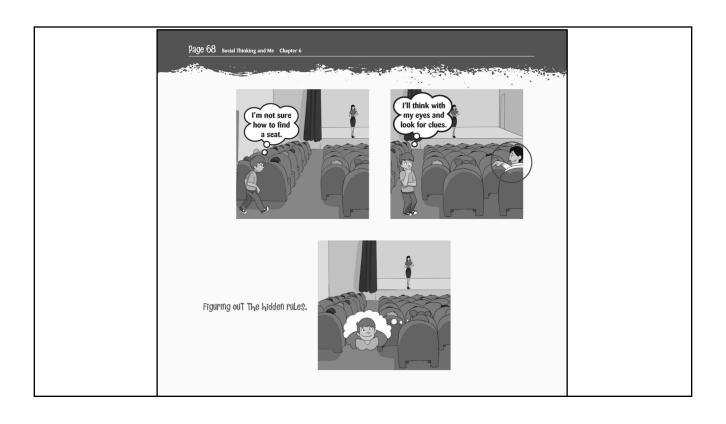


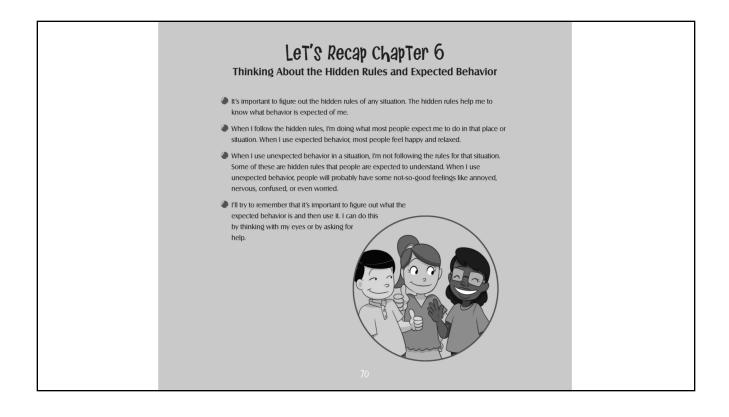


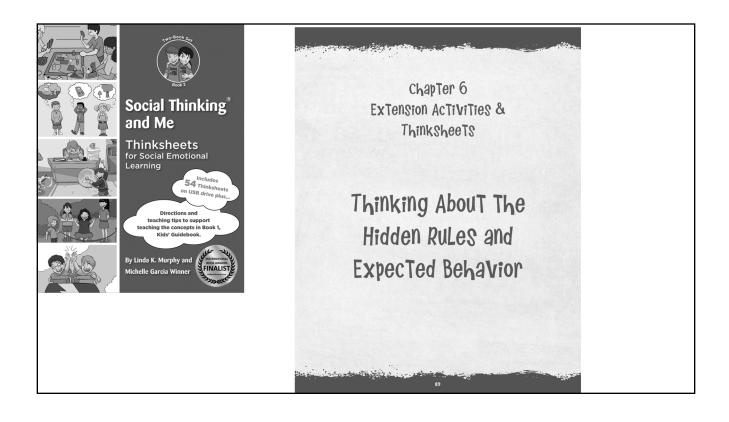


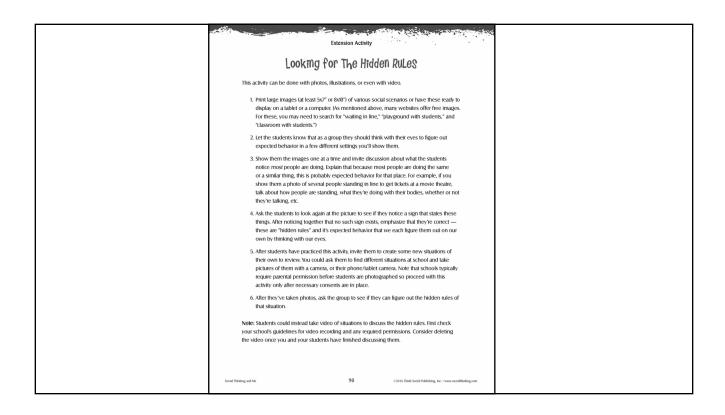


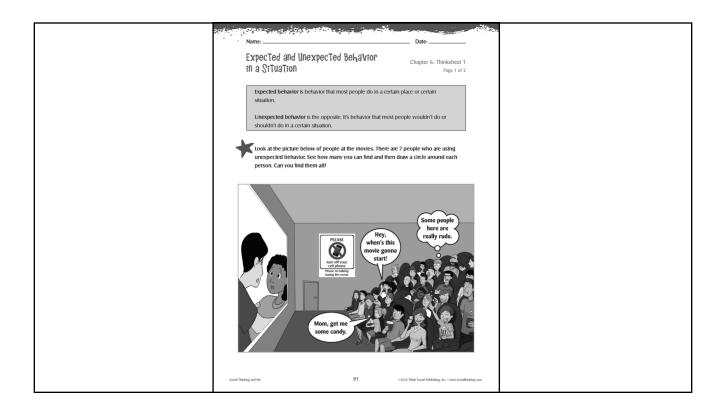










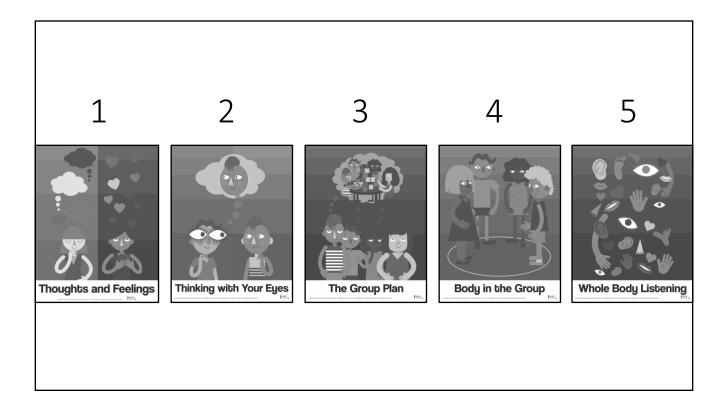


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E	xpecTed and UnexpecTed Behavior Chapter 6: Thinksheet 1
	n a Struation Page 2 of 2
*	Now, let's talk more about this situation and expected/unexpected behaviors.
	List 3 expected/okay behaviors when at the movies:
	1
	2
	3.
	List 3 unexpected/not okay behaviors when at the movies:
	1
	2
	3
	List 3 (or more) feelings you or others might have when people at the movies show
	expected behavior:
	1
	2
	3
	List 3 (or more) feelings you or others might have when people at the movies show unexpected behavior:
	<u> </u>
	2.
	3
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There are two distinct types of Social Thinking Vocabulary:

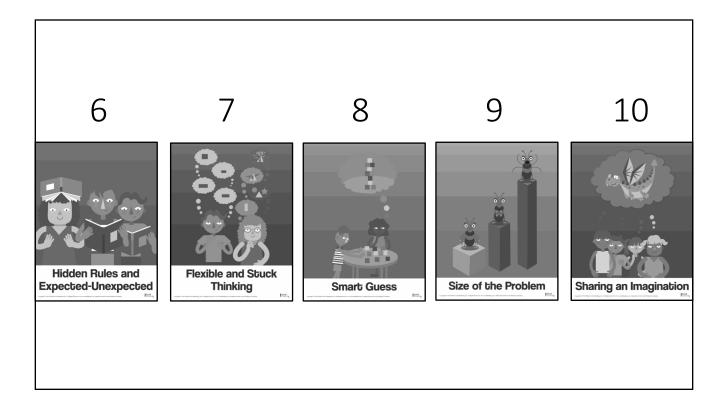
- 1. Vocabulary to encourage learning concepts and behavioral expectations for self and others within all types of social relationships.
- 2. Vocabulary to encourage understanding of how one's brain makes sense of self and others and how to problem solve co-existing or actively relating.

The first five concepts in this webinar series help individuals understand the basics of what goes on in each of our minds and what things we are expected to do when around others, even when we are just sharing space.



The second five concepts take it to the next level. They require individuals to take what they have learned and more actively interpret and problem solve in their brains.

These five concepts involve more active executive functioning.



Analogy: from a social learning perspective:

- •The first five concepts reviewed = Basic math
- The second five to be reviewed = Trigonometry
- Meaning, it is important to teach the first five concepts before the second five! Spend ample time teaching and using each concept in real time situations before introducing the next concept.

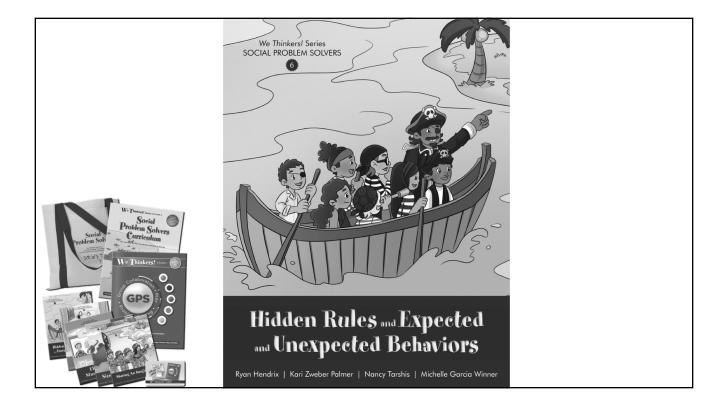
This is why our early learning curriculum is published in two distinct volumes:

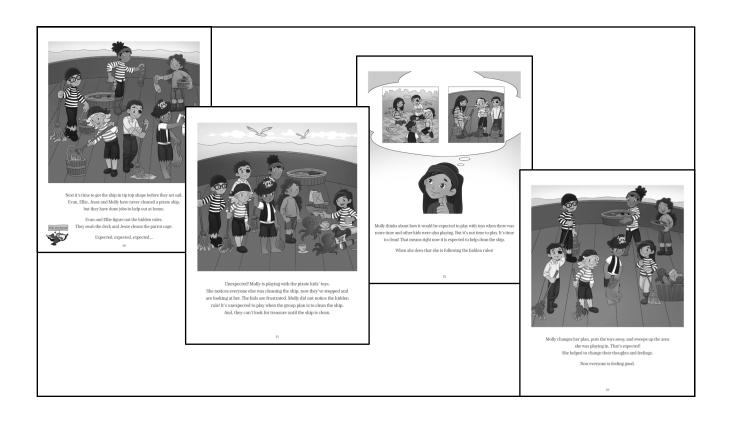
Volume 1

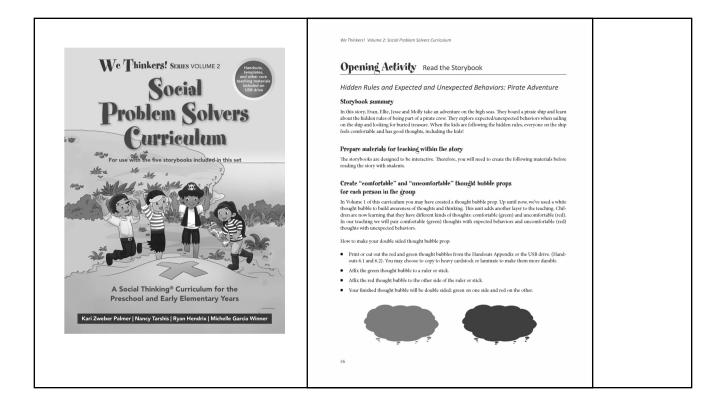


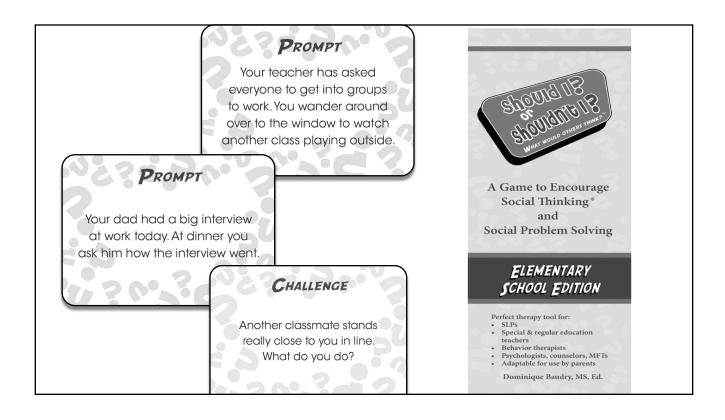
Volume 2

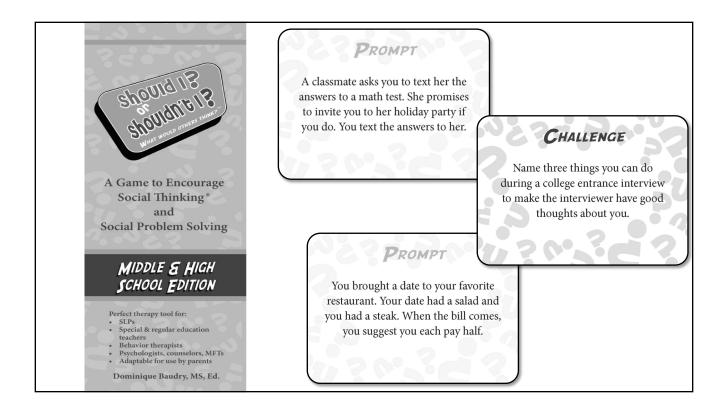












Theme 5:

Treatment frameworks provide an overview of the many moving parts involved in the basics of social participation.

For example: The Social-Emotional Chain Reaction

Social-Emotional Chain Reaction

Situation and people_____

Expected behaviors

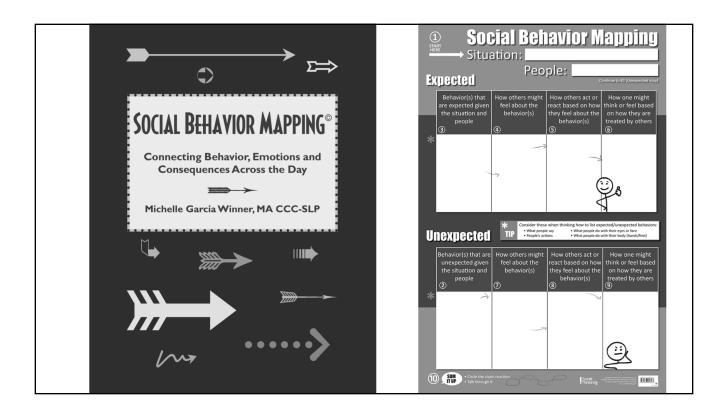


Unexpected behaviors

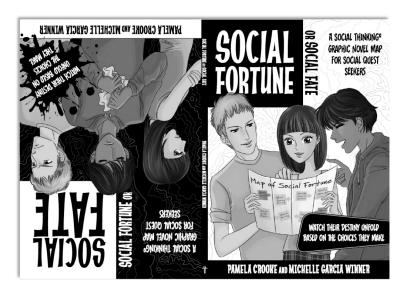


- How the doer behaves affects how people feel and think
- Which affects how they react and respond to the doer
- > Which affects how the doer feels, thinks, and responds

The treatment tool that actively teaches the Social-Emotional Chain Reaction is Social Behavior Mapping.



Social Fortune or Social Fate



Social Fortune:

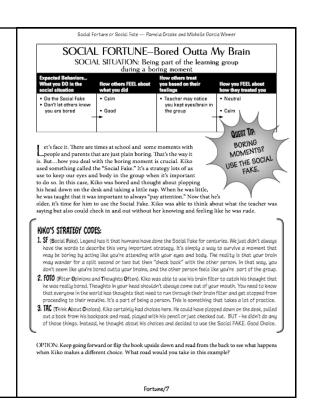
(expected behavior)

Bored Outta My Brain!



Social Fortune: Bored Outta My Brain!

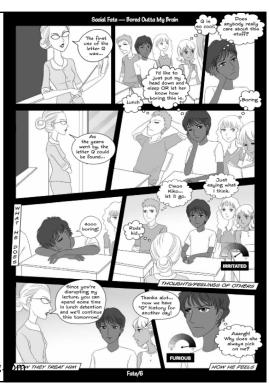
Teaching text



Social Fate: (unexpected behavior)

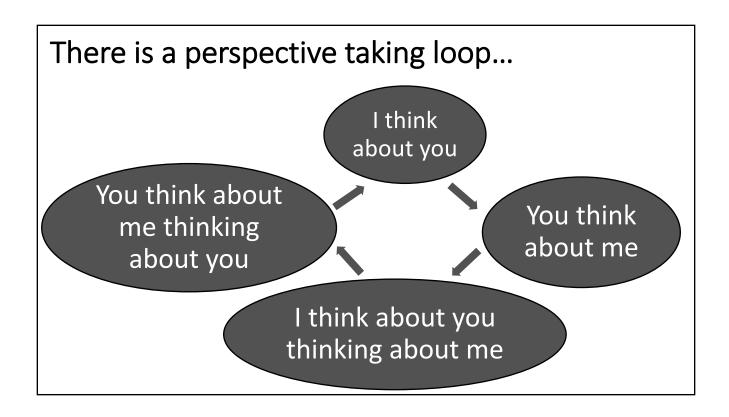
Bored Outta My Brain!

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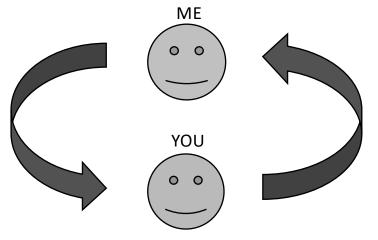
What about kids who say

I don't care! (about what's expected)



Neurotypical students

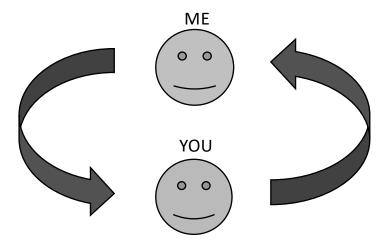
My expectations for you are clear and strong



Your expectations for me are pretty clear; I try to figure them out!

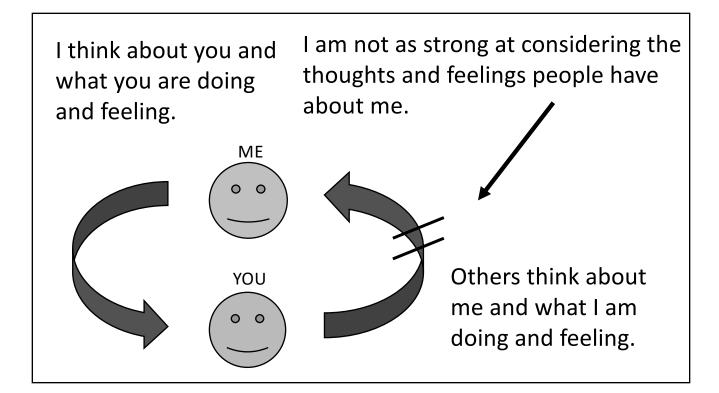
Students with social learning challenges

My expectations for you are clear and strong

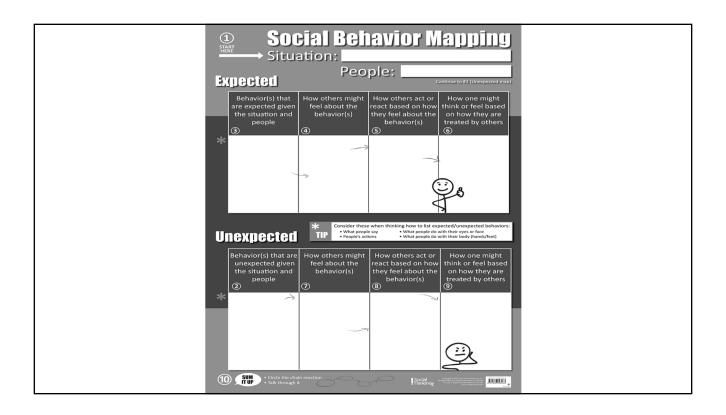


Your expectations for me are not clear or possibly not considered.

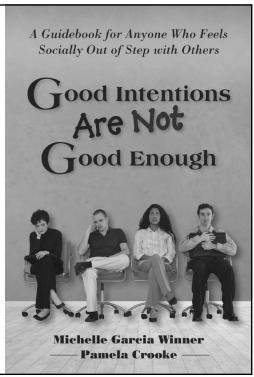
Add the perspective taking loop



Use of Social Behavior Maps to discover teens' hidden rules for wearing ear buds.

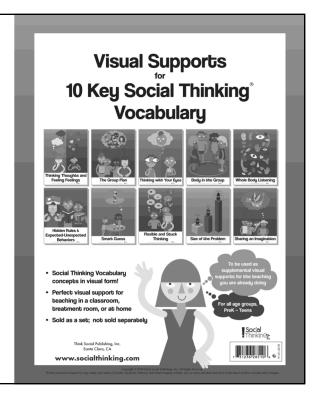


For adults we also discuss the Social-Emotional Chain Reaction, expected/unexpected behavior, and intention-driven Social Behavior Maps.



New! Visual Supports for 10 Key Social Thinking Vocabulary (for all ages)

Includes an 11x14" visual support for each of the 10 concepts in this webinar series.







2nd webinar topic



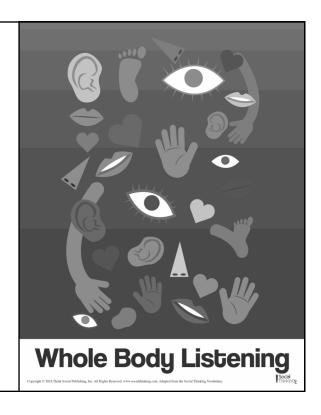




4th webinar topic



5th webinar topic

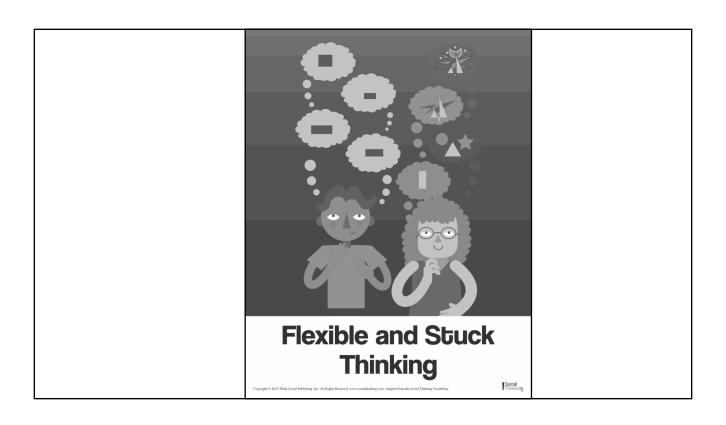


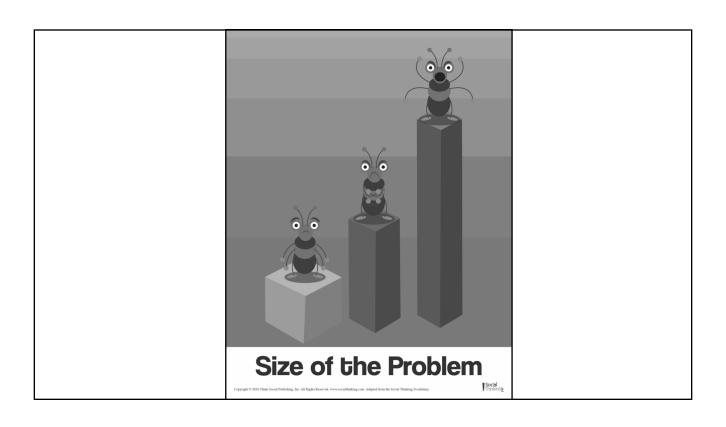
Today's topic

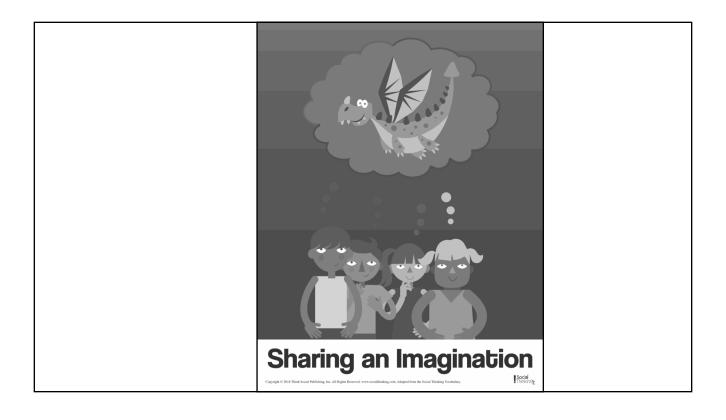


Next topic: Smart guess vs wacky guess









Learn more with eLearning



There are a few eLearning modules that explore teaching the concept expected and unexpected further...

<u>Series: Superflex & Social Detective – A Might Duo!</u> <u>Best Teaching Practices</u>

•

Exploring Treatment for Social Anxiety

Register for the series' next webinar

Register now for the seventh webinar in the series and get strategies to help kids make *smart guesses* while problem solving.

www.socialthinking.com/smart-guess



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