Make a Social Skills Superhero Comic Book

Target age group: Second grade through fifth grade, special education classroom or small group of children with autism

Objective: To establish social skill scripts related to peer interactions.

Materials needed:

- Three blank sheets of paper for each child
- Art supplies, including markers, pens, crayons, and paint

Instructional strategy:

1. Begin by reading this story to a small group of children: "You are standing with Sarah waiting for the school bus. Sarah is jumping rope, and she falls down. She starts crying. There is no one else with you. What do you do?"

2. Discuss how Sarah may be feeling in this situation.

3. Help children brainstorm ideas for what they can say or do to help. Write down the ideas, and then discuss the merits of each one.

4. Instruct children to make a comic strip about this interaction, showing Sarah and themselves. Help them come up with appropriate social language for the situation and write this language in talking bubbles on their comics.

Accommodations for nonverbal children: Help these children communicate their concern using pictures and gestures.