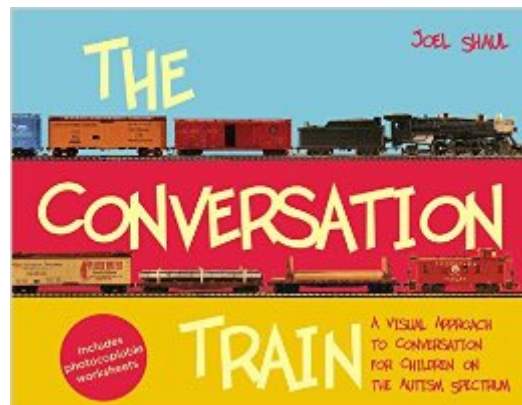


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# The Conversation Train: A Visual Approach To Conversation For Children On The Autism Spectrum



## Synopsis

This inventive colour picture book uses the metaphor of a train to teach basic conventions of conversation to children with autism spectrum disorders (ASDs). Engines are like greetings; they get the train going. Freight wagons are like different speakers' turns; it is good to have at least a few when you are in conversation. A set of points guiding a train from one track to another is like a tactful change in the topic of conversation. When a conversation veers off-topic it is like a derailed train. As well as attractive colour photographs of trains, the book contains engaging photocopiable worksheets and colouring pages to help promote skill generalisation. This highly visual approach to conversation is ideally suited to children with ASDs aged approximately 5-13.

## Book Information

Hardcover: 72 pages

Publisher: Jessica Kingsley Publishers; 2 edition (March 10, 2014)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1849059861

ISBN-13: 978-1849059862

Product Dimensions: 11.2 x 0.4 x 8.9 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.2 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (13 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #42,918 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #22 in [Books > Reference > Etiquette > Conversation](#) #69 in [Books > Parenting & Relationships > Special Needs > Disabilities](#) #76 in [Books > Medical Books > Medicine > Internal Medicine > Pediatrics](#)

Age Range: 6 - 9 years

Grade Level: 1 - 4

## Customer Reviews

My son is 5 years old with selective mutism and social anxiety among other things (Tourette's, OCD, SPD, etc). When he is around people he doesn't know very well he won't talk at all but in a comfortable situation (usually with neighbors, relatives, family friends), he won't stop talking. He interrupts, changes topics, and walks away in the middle of the conversation. These are probably all normal 5 year old traits but I know his anxiety feeds into it as well. It also is starting to affect him socially. Our block has a wide range of ages and the kids who are just slightly older than him get kind of annoyed sometimes. This book has been a huge help. It describes the parts of conversation as the parts of a train...perfect for my train lover...and gives us a way to talk about conversation.

We'd tried for a long time to explain about not answering what someone else says with an unrelated thought but now we just say, "Oops, you derailed the train," and he stops and responds to what the other person said. So grateful for books like this!

This book provides an amazingly helpful analogy between trains and the format of successful conversations for children on the higher-functioning end of Autism Spectrum Disorder. It's a brilliant example of incorporating children's interests into teaching. I've worked with children and adolescents on the spectrum for years and they really engage in activities involving Shaul's Conversation Train. I highly recommend this book to anyone wishing to help children develop good conversation practices. LOVE it!

This is a simple and handy method for talking about talking. It is very appropriate for my clients on the autism spectrum (or really, for anyone!). Shaul has provided excellent visuals and very useful pages to copy and use with those who are learning to converse without getting lost in preferred topics. Rebecca Klaw, Autism Consultant

Great book perfect for kids who are higher functioning on the spectrum. My son loves trains so he really liked the pictures and included work sheets are great. Really helped him relate to the idea of conversation and made it a more enjoyable process.

Gifted this to a speech therapist and she used it immediately and said it was a great success!

Very creative book. Teaches autistic children the phrases to start and end a conversation, the importance of staying on topic, and the give and take of conversation. I'd recommend it for PreK-5. Even the older elementary students would like the train metaphor--"going off track" is a phrase they will remember (going off topic). ALSO RECOMMENDED, COMPREHENSIVE BOOK ON BASIC CONVERSATION SKILLS: The Social Skills Picture Book for High School and Beyond (2001 edition), Jed Baker. I don't why the title refers to high school. It's great for kids in grades 3-12. The pictures are photographs.

just bought this and I love the clear visuals and straight forward language for teaching topic maintenance - just wish a digital copy was available so I could use it in whole class lessons!

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Puppy Training : How to Housebreak Your Puppy in Just 7 Days: (Puppy Training, Dog Training, How to Train A Puppy, How To Potty Train A Puppy, How To Train A Dog, Crate Training)  
Yoga for the Special Child: A Therapeutic Approach for Infants and Children with Down Syndrome, Cerebral Palsy, Autism Spectrum Disorders and Learning Disabilities  
Yoga for the Special Child: A Therapeutic Approach for Infants and Children with Down Syndrome, Cerebral Palsy, Autism Spectrum Disorders and Learning Disabilities by Sumar, Sonia (2007) Paperback  
Conversation: The Gentle Art Of Hearing & Being Heard - HowTo "Small Talk", How To Connect, How To Talk To Anyone (Conversation skills, Conversation starters, Small talk, Communication)  
Visual Supports for People with Autism: A Guide for Parents and Professionals (Topics in Autism)  
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