Leeds Community Healthcare NHS Trust

Comic Strip Conversations

What are Comic Strip Conversations?

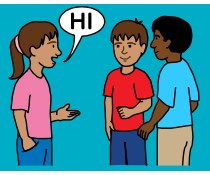
- Comic strip conversations were developed by Carol Gray (1994) (who also developed Social Stories).
- Comic strip conversations use simple drawings to visually illustrate conversations.
- They clearly and visually show different peoples' speech, thoughts and feelings.
- Comic strip conversations support children and young people who find it hard to interpret social interaction, conversations and how others may feel.

Why use Comic Strip Conversations?

- To visually work through social situations that the child may find hard to understand.
- To help diffuse and understand social conflict and confusion.
- To build the child's understanding of social conversation and of others' thoughts and feelings in different situations.

How to use Comic Strip Conversations

- Support the child/ young person to lead the conversation.
- Ask them what they find hard or discuss a situation that has already happened.
- Encourage the child to draw the situation out as they talk and go through the situation. The child/young person may want to take control of the drawing, while you facilitate, or they may prefer you to draw or write if they're not confident with that.
- Use symbols to write/draw what people said, what they felt and what they thought.
- If drawing a situation/conversation which has already happened and had a negative outcome, discuss what went wrong and what could be done differently to change the outcome. Then re-draw the scenario with these changes to show the positive outcome.

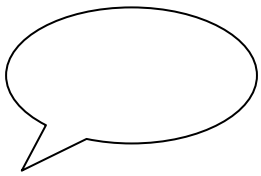


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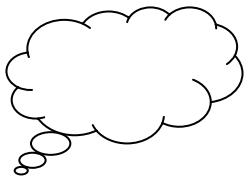
Key strategies

- Practice using these with small talk or easy conversations e.g. talking about the weather to get used to using the symbols and drawing conversations, then move on to difficult situations/conversations when they are ready.
- You can also practise with example scenarios that are relevant to the child (e.g. social situations that they've found difficult in the past, or that they're likely to come across in the future).
- Stick to the same symbols and be consistent (e.g. a speech bubble for speech, a cloud for thoughts, heart for emotions).
- Support the child/young person to add in the speech, thoughts and feelings as you go.
- Discuss what's happening as they/you draw e.g. how the people involved may react/feel in that situation and what they are saying.

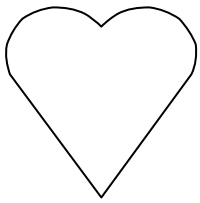
Below are some examples of how to draw the different situations:



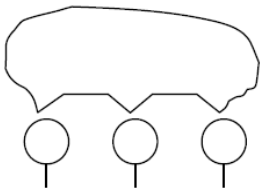
Talking i.e. the words people say



Thoughts



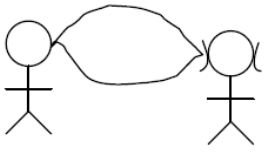
Feelings/emotions



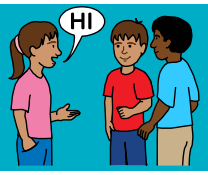
Everyone talking at once



Interrupting when someone is still talking

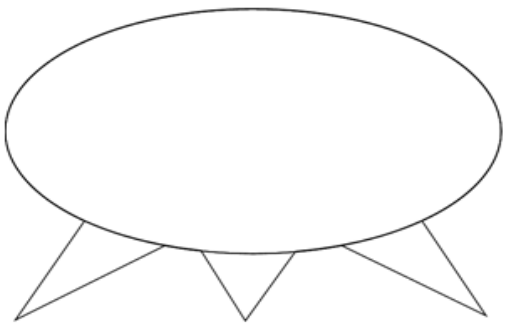


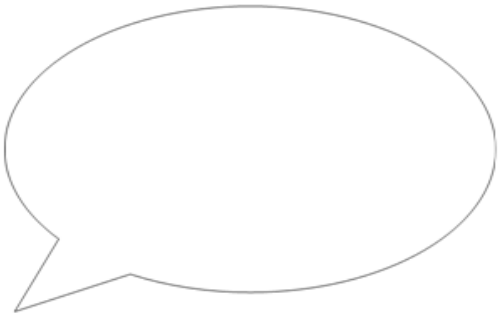
Listening

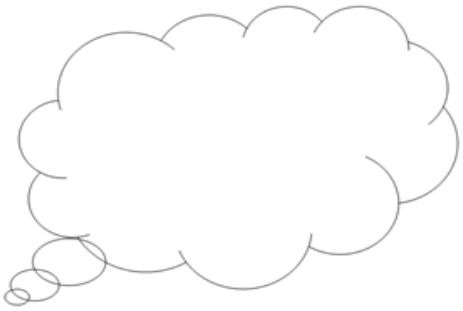


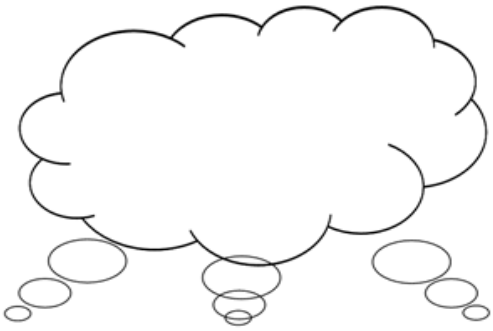
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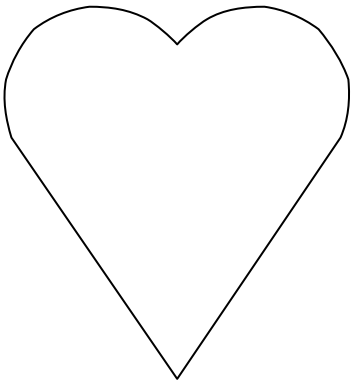
Here are some different shapes for you to cut out and use:



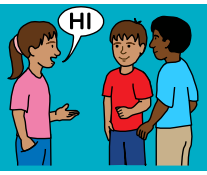








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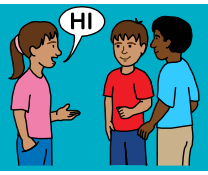


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Comic Strip Conversation Basic Template

1. What happened? Who was there? What were they saying/ thinking/ feeling?	2. What happened next?
3. Then what happened?	4. How did the situation end?

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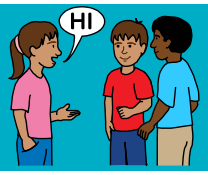


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Comic Strip Conversation Basic Template

1. What could you do next time?

2. How will that situation end? What's different this time?



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