

How-To Templates

Playbooks and Playscripts

Many individuals on the autism spectrum have difficulty knowing how to play appropriately with toys. Playbooks and playscripts are tools that can help individuals increase their appropriate play skills. Playbooks and playscripts show simple sequences of steps in a play routine.

Play books and play scripts are very similar tools for teaching play. In both formats, each page of the book represents one step in a play sequence. In a play book, only pictures are used to illustrate the sequence (e.g., stacking legos, coloring a picture). In a play script, words and pictures are both used to illustrate the sequence (e.g., playing with a doll house, driving toy trains). Regardless of the format chosen, the process is very similar:

To Make:

1. Choose whether to make a play book or script
2. Choose an item
 - The individual should have some interest in the item.
 - The individual should have limited skills with the item.
 - The item should be fairly simple to manipulate (developmentally appropriate).
 - Play with the item should be something that can be represented with pictures (e.g., a pretend game in which two people have a conversation would be difficult to illustrate).
3. Develop some play ideas
 - It may help to play with the item a bit.
 - For a script: Choose characters/settings to be included and a theme/story line.
 - For a book: Choose how the final product should look.
4. Make a title page
5. Write down the steps
 - It will help to follow the steps as you write them to ensure that ALL steps are included and that they make sense.
 - Include only one step per page.
 - Limit the number of words on a page.
 - For scripts: alternate pages with characters saying something and characters moving or being in action.
 - Put one or two pictures on a page to highlight the main focus of the instruction.
6. Start with a short script or book. Some individuals may benefit from 2-4 pages initially whereas others can focus for longer periods of time as necessary for 8-12 pages.
7. If possible, attach the pages with a metal binder ring so pages can be added or replaced over time.
8. Make a "the end" page.
9. Re-read it to ensure it make sense.

Materials provided are samples only!
They may need to be individualized to meet the particular needs of a person with an ASD!

Pilgrim Father says, "I am hungry! My tummy is rumbling!"



Pilgrim Mother says, "I am very hungry too!"



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Also, check out...

How-To Video: Choice Board

How-To Template: Choice Board

How-To Template: Topic Boards

How-To Template: Social Narratives

Kid's Corner Series:

Life with ASD Series

Academia Series

Strategies in Practice Series

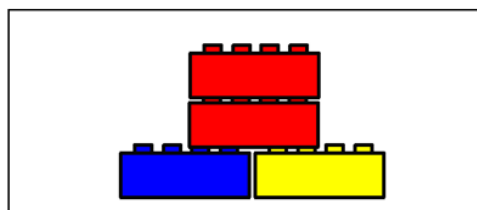
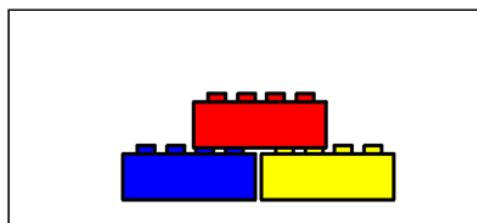
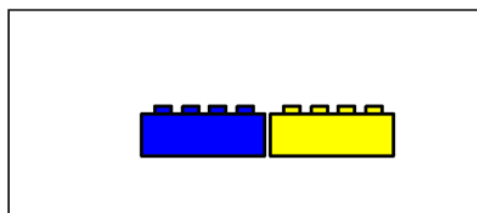
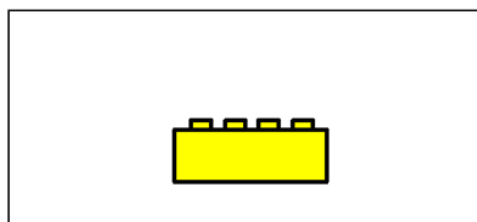
View/download these and other templates at www.HANDSinAutism.org/tools/HowToTemplates.html



To use a Playbook or Playscript:

1. Introduce the book or script to the individual by presenting it with the appropriate toys.
2. Consider modeling how to turn pages of the book and reenact the pictures with the materials. This can help the individual see that s/he is supposed to recreate what is pictured.
3. Encourage the individual to take a turn with the materials; prompt him/her to follow the pictures as needed with the prompt hierarchy.
4. When play is over, store the book or script with the materials, so it will be available for future play sessions.
5. Consider adding and/or replacing some pages once the individual has learned the story to help expand his/her play repertoire.

Sample Playbook Pages:



Sample Playscript Pages:

