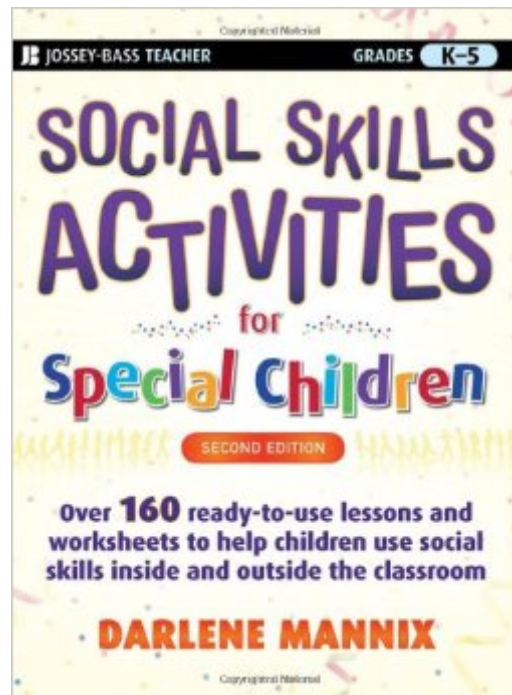


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# Social Skills Activities For Special Children



## Synopsis

A flexible, ready-to-use program to help special students in grades K-5 learn appropriate ways to behave among others. The revised and updated second edition of this bestselling resource book provides ready-to-use lessons--complete with reproducible worksheets--to help children become aware of acceptable social behavior and develop proficiency in acquiring basic social skills. The book is organized around three core areas crucial to social development in the primary grades: Accepting Rules and Authority at School, Relating to Peers, and Developing Positive Social Skills. Each lesson places a specific skill within the context of real-life situations, giving teachers a means to guide students to think about why the social skill is important. The hands-on activity that accompanies each lesson helps students to work through, think about, discuss, and practice the skill in or outside of the classroom.

## Book Information

Paperback: 464 pages

Publisher: Jossey-Bass; 2 edition (December 15, 2008)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0470259353

ISBN-13: 978-0470259351

Product Dimensions: 8.5 x 1 x 11 inches

Shipping Weight: 2.2 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (45 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #35,423 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #12 in [Books > Textbooks > Education > Educational Philosophy](#) #43 in [Books > Textbooks > Education > Special Education](#) #55 in [Books > Education & Teaching > Schools & Teaching > Education Theory > Philosophy & Social Aspects](#)

## Customer Reviews

Does your child come home from grade school complaining about other children? Is he or she having a tough time at recess? Do you get notes home from the teacher saying your child is daydreaming during instructions, or not behaving appropriately in the cafeteria-- even though your child has no special behavioral or cognitive problems? This might be the book for you. This book is useful for almost any elementary aged child, and especially for the many that need to heighten their social skills. Depending on the child, some lessons will be more beneficial than others. For example, both my children enjoyed the unit on relating to peers. All kids grapple with "sharing friends", being a

fair friend, listening to others, etc. Other units deal with respect for authority, procrastination, listening to instructions, etc. The subjects of this book are not commonly "taught" at school, and are also often overlooked at home, because everyone is so busy trying to play soccer and the violin and chess and do homework and gymnastics. Yet mastering the skills taught in this book will determine much of the success your child experiences throughout school, and probably life. Although we like to think our kids will learn the lessons in this book by following our good examples, or perhaps just by osmosis, fact is, most 2nd-4th graders could use a little review on the niceties of human interaction. The book is really a workbook with instructions for the teacher, followed by a workpage for the child. I presume it was designed for school social workers to use with kids of various abilities. My children, who seem perfectly normal, like doing the worksheets, and especially enjoy the funny illustrations of children exhibiting inappropriate behavior. A little humor never hurt when delivering a message to an eight year old, eh?

I found this book to be extremely helpful for my highly-functioning autistic child. It covers a vast range of situations and involves the student in thinking about solutions and coming up with their own answers. I like it so much that I'm buying one for one of his teachers as well. It is geared to higher functioning students -- others could use this as a framework and simplify things a bit, or try Carol Gray's book "The New Social Story Book" which is written much more simply and directly. It's also an excellent book, but was too simple for my needs.

Although there were a couple of two star reviews, there were more strongly positive reviews so I thought to try this with my 4-6 grade students in special education. First, I have to address the drawings in this book. While I understand that the drawings were simple for the probable saving of time, they were completely racially stereotypical and inaccurate, and I took offense to that, especially knowing that many of my students would take note of that (ex. Asians with slanted lines for eyes and names such as Ping, and African American students with big lips and noses). Plus the activities were just too simple, with little room for discussion and growth. While the book is for "special children", they can still have good discussions and come up with own scenarios and do not need answers so clearly obvious. There are just too many items to tackle in this book and nothing is gone into with any depth. I just could not see myself using anything in this, so in fact sent it back. I am glad for the many who were able to make this work for them so easily. I am just not one of them.

This book is tailored for older children and even then it's not well written for them. The written details

are too numerous to keep the young child's attention. There are not enough picture illustrations and the situations described herein are not general enough to fit society as a whole. There is too much of a focus on the "wrong" things to do in school verses the right things. Many of the suggestions and story's of how children did things the wrong way can backfire on parents and actually give children ideas of the wrong things to try. Much of the book could not be used for our home and school life situations. Few children will stay captivated by this book. My eldest child who is gifted thought it was boring and many of the issues she couldn't even relate to. My youngest was in over his head and I had to skip reading the long drawn out situations and paraphrase things to keep his attention.

This book is helpful for the social skills group that I run, however the book has worksheets, not activities to do with the kids. It is mostly focused on behavior in school. It is a good supplemental tool for me.

I found this book to be very helpful in working with students both individually and in groups. I used the activities for students ages K-5. Everyone enjoyed the activities, and the structure of the lessons helped me to guide discussions and have questions prepared to ask even on the busiest of days!

I was given the luck of getting to teach a behavior class to some of my Special Ed students. There was a general idea of what I need to teach, but no curriculum or resources whatsoever. This book has been a lifesaving Godsend. The lessons are organized in a logical order and deal with issues that are completely relevant to my elementary aged students with issues learning proper school behavior. I would like it if the lessons were a little more involved and longer lasting; but these lessons are a great starting point and help me organize how I will teach my class. I just find other lessons online to supplement the lessons in the book...or come up with my own ideas! I'm so happy I found this book!

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