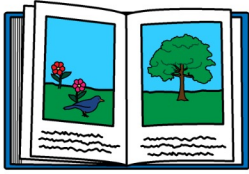


Social Stories Advice - Vaccinations



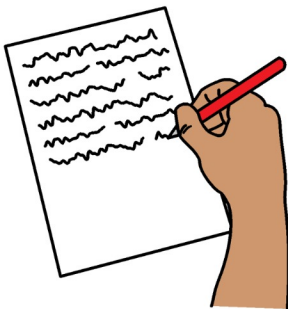
Social stories can be a great way to help support young people cope with the challenges and changes that happen in their life or anything they may feel anxious about.



Discuss if a social story will be useful or appropriate for young person with your young persons teacher or Speech and Language Therapist. It's useful to share ideas.



Social Stories explain social situations explicitly and clearly. They help an individual learn socially appropriate behaviour and helpful responses.



Social stories can be written about anything that a young person may be struggling with e.g. school being closed, making mistakes, it's ok to lose, how to brush your teeth, moving house, going to the doctors or dentist.



We try to keep social stories as short as possible. However, the content for the vaccination process is quite complex. Therefore, we suggest that you take it slow and break it down into chunks.

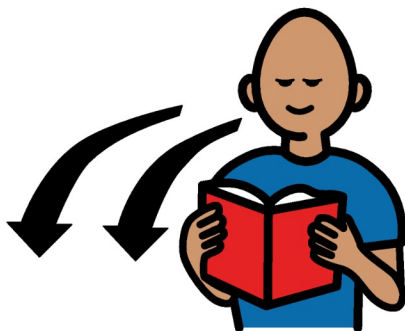
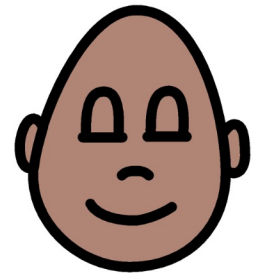


Plan how often, and where, the story will be reviewed with the person.



Present the social story to the person at a time when everyone is feeling calm and relaxed, using a straightforward approach, e.g. I have written this story for you. It is about having an injection. Let's read it together now.

Social Stories are written in a reassuring tone. Try to read the story in a calm and reassuring tone of voice. If you seem anxious (which is understandable) the young person may pick up on this.



Young people benefit from repetition and learning takes time. This means it's important the Social Story is read as many times as needed for the child to feel less anxious or understand a social situation.

Monitor how well the story is received and if it is working as intended so next time it or how it is delivered can be tweaked.

