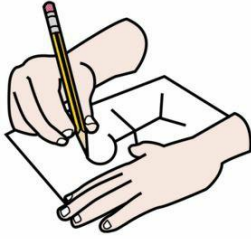


Talking in pictures, comic strip conversations, social stories & contingency maps

Summary (pages 1/2)



Talking in pictures is a comprehensive term for drawing & talking simultaneously.

Comic strip conversations & *social stories* are two ways of talking in pictures.

Comic strip conversations & *social stories* focus on clarifying social situations & how other people think & feel. *Social stories* have a certain structure that is always followed.



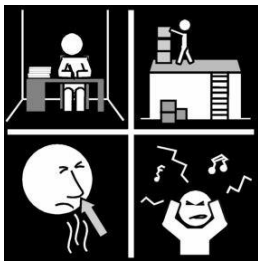
Purpose

- *Talking in pictures*: clarifies the conversation

- *Comic strip conversations*: clarify the conversation with a focus on social situations

- *Social stories*: change a behaviour through an understanding of why & understanding others' perspectives & gaining an alternative strategy

- *Contingency maps*: change behaviour, provide an alternative strategy



Examples of situations

- prepare for what will happen

- explain changes & unforeseen events

- understand how a person feels or thinks about something

- figure out something that happened (usually *talking in pictures* or *comic strip conversations*)

- "just talking" (usually *talking in pictures* or *comic strip conversations*)



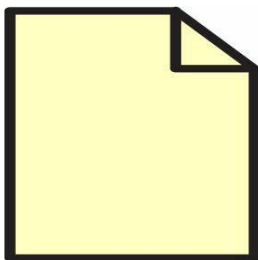
Preparation for the conversation partner or done in the moment

- *Talking in pictures*: usually in the moment

- *Comic strip conversations*: usually in the moment

- *Social stories*: prepare a complete story that is shown & read with the person (talking in pictures or comic strip conversations can be used as a basis)

- *Contingency maps*: either made in the moment or prepared



What do we write/draw on?

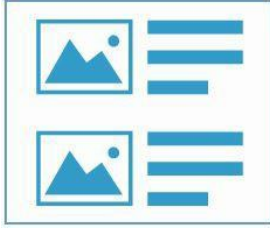
- paper & pen

- app, such as Ritprata 2

- program, such as bildstod.se (the template "Bild och text" ("picture and text") is good for *social stories*)

Talking in pictures, comic strip conversations, social stories & contingency maps

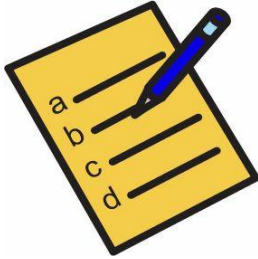
Summary (pages 2/2)



Text and/or pictures

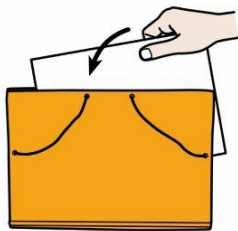
- just pictures
- pictures & text
- just text

In *comic strip conversations* you draw & write inside squares & use stick figures & simple symbols.



Structure: social story

1. Heading establishes focus on how the person can put the story to use
2. Describes the situation – descriptive part
3. Explains feelings & reactions of the person & others – perspective part
4. Desirable behaviour, what the person can do – directive part
5. Clues for the person to remember or keep in mind



Save or throw away?

- *Social stories & contingency maps* are always saved. Collect them in a book/binder that the person can look at/read regularly while working on the problem. Even when the problem is no longer an issue, they should be saved in case it comes up again.

- *Comic strip conversations & talking in pictures* do not need to be saved because they are a support tool for the conversation here & now, but they can be saved as needed.



Advantages

- Modified tempo – we speak slower while drawing
- More channels – both seeing the drawing & hearing spoken words
- Clarity – the same words are used every time regardless of who is with the person
- Neutrality – not didactic, offers guidance rather than “shoulds”



Advantages

- Persistent – text/pictures last; speech disappears
- Greater self-insight – the person sees what they can do & understands why & can make an active choice
- Independence – with understanding & clues, the person can do more on their own. When the person knows & can handle more, it leads to an upward spiral.