

Staying On-Topic

The **Topic** is _____

Staying **On Topic**



Make a **Comment**:

I like _____

I also _____

I went _____

I am going _____



Ask a **Question**:

Who _____?

What _____?

Where _____?

When _____?

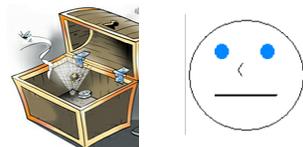
Why _____? *(not always the best question to ask)*

How _____?

What else _____?



Going **Off Topic**



Staying On-Topic

1. Introduce a topic of conversation by presenting a physical object of interest or even a picture of an event (i.e., a musical instrument, a picture of someone taking karate; show & tell).
 - a. Ask the child to either say something about the object or ask a question.
 - Prompt/model the following **comments**: *I like____, I also____, I went____, I am going____.*
 - Prompt/model the following **questions** to ask: *Who____? What____? Where____? When____? Why____? How____? What else____?*
 - Give verbal praise for correct or partially correct On-Topic utterances. Your praise can include stating, *Very good On-Topic comment / question.*
 - Correct off-topic comments/questions by saying, *That's off topic, we are talking about ____.* Prompt the child by asking, *What can you say or ask to stay on the topic of ____?* You can also model On-Topic comment / question and ask to repeat, then praise when correct.
2. Graduate by using more abstract topics, like a picture of a past event (i.e., birthday party, family outing). After a period of success, eventually graduate even further by fading out the picture and use words to describe a past or future event (i.e., topic might be, *What I did yesterday*).

Smaller Visual

On Topic



Off Topic



Based loosely on Baker, J.E. (2003). *Social Skills Training* publications

WHO...?

WHERE...?

WHEN...?

WHY...?

Not always the best question to ask.

Based loosely on Baker, J.E. (2003). Social Skills Training publications

WHAT...?

HOW...?

**WHAT ELSE
?**

Did...?

Based loosely on Baker, J.E. (2003). Social Skills Training publications

I LIKE

I ALSO

I WENT

I AM GOING

Based loosely on Baker, J.E. (2003). Social Skills Training publications

*Blank cards
for more
Questions
and
Comments*

WHO...?

2 Question Rule



↔

WHERE...?

2 Question Rule



↔

WHEN...?

2 Question Rule



↔

WHY...?

2 Question Rule

Not always the best question to ask.



↔

Based loosely on Baker, J.E. (2003). *Social Skills Training* publications

WHAT...?

2 Question Rule



HOW...?

2 Question Rule



WHAT ELSE ?

2 Question Rule



Did...?

2 Question Rule



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