



Teachers and Parents “Descriptive Commenting” Checklist

Descriptive Commenting is a powerful way to strengthen a child’s language skills. The following provides some examples of actions, objects, prepositions or sounds you can comment upon when interacting with a child on the Autism Spectrum. Modulate the number of words and complexity of your language according to the “one up” rule. Combine physical gestures with animated language. Remember to keep your language simple, slow down, and build repetition. Write down the the verbal and nonverbal communication approaches you will use to achieve your goals.

Actions	Goals
<input type="checkbox"/> walk <input type="checkbox"/> wash hands <input type="checkbox"/> run <input type="checkbox"/> bye <input type="checkbox"/> finished <input type="checkbox"/> hi <input type="checkbox"/> sit <input type="checkbox"/> break <input type="checkbox"/> stop <input type="checkbox"/> quiet <input type="checkbox"/> stand <input type="checkbox"/> shoes off/on <input type="checkbox"/> wait <input type="checkbox"/> your turn	
Objects	
<input type="checkbox"/> books <input type="checkbox"/> clothing items <input type="checkbox"/> animals, puppets, or stuffed animals <input type="checkbox"/> transport toys (tricycle, truck, boat) <input type="checkbox"/> art supplies (crayons, play dough) <input type="checkbox"/> foods & drinks, food utensils <input type="checkbox"/> body parts (ear, nose, arm)	
Prepositions	
<input type="checkbox"/> up <input type="checkbox"/> behind <input type="checkbox"/> down <input type="checkbox"/> in front <input type="checkbox"/> inside <input type="checkbox"/> next to <input type="checkbox"/> on top <input type="checkbox"/> below	
Sounds	
<input type="checkbox"/> loud <input type="checkbox"/> crash <input type="checkbox"/> quiet <input type="checkbox"/> zip zip <input type="checkbox"/> funny <input type="checkbox"/> choo choo <input type="checkbox"/> whee <input type="checkbox"/> animal sounds <input type="checkbox"/> zoom <input type="checkbox"/> letters	