

Brinton & Fujiki
Brigham Young University
Social Communication Intervention Script for story book, *Llama Llama Gram and Grandpa*

***Llama Llama Gram and Grandpa* by Anna Dewdney, 2015, Viking Books for Young Readers, New York.**

Sharing a Story to Facilitate Social and Emotional Learning

Many children with disabilities such as developmental language disorders, language-learning disorders, social communication disorders, or autism spectrum disorders have difficulty with aspects of social and emotional learning. These children often need explicit, repeated instruction designed to facilitate emotion understanding, conversational ability, and language comprehension and production skill. The following informal script is designed to help interventionists (caregivers and professionals) focus on and emphasize important concepts.

The following storybook has been selected because it has a well-defined story structure, clear language, rich emotion content, and engaging illustrations. A script is provided to guide interventionists as they share this book. Initially, concepts are listed that this book is particularly well suited to teach. These include social and emotional knowledge, interactional skills, vocabulary, and language structure.

Following the list of concepts, a series of prompts is provided for each story page. These prompts include questions, comments, and brief activities (e.g., making a facial expression in a mirror) designed to teach specific concepts. The interventionist may read the story text for each page and then present any of the prompts they feel would be most appropriate. The script is designed to be flexible and adjusted to each child's needs.

At the conclusion of the story script, a series of questions is provided to probe how well children understand and identify emotions that story characters experience. If desired, these questions can be used to evaluate how well children grasp the emotion content of the story.

Following story sharing, the interventionist may guide children to enact the story using simple props. This activity facilitates story comprehension by assisting children to understand the internal states and motivations of characters. Older children may prefer a readers' theater format or choose to provide additional text or dialog to the storybook by using attachable note paper.

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Concepts to stress

- 1. Emotions experienced:** excited, happy, worried, frightened/scared, sad, lonely, upset/mad, bad surprise, comforted
- 2. Reflecting on how one feels in a new experience**
- 3. Mixed emotions—happy to be at Grandma’s/sad missing Mama and Fuzzy**
- 4. Feeling lonely**
- 5. Feeling worried/uncertain in a new context**
- 6. Ways to regulate emotion (trying new things)**
- 7. Adjusting to new surroundings even though they are different**
- 8. Prosocial behavior: thinking about how someone else feels, thinking about what someone else might want, comforting others**
- 9. Structural: complete simple sentence forms, complex sentences with causal connections (but, if, so, because)**

This is another story about Llama Llama. Llama Llama is going to do something new, something he has never done before. Llama Llama is going to sleep over! But there is going to be a problem. Let’s see how Llama Llama feels about that.

Page 1 (Title Page)

(Look at picture.)

I wonder what this book is about?

What do you think? (Let child look at picture.)

Now let’s look at it together.

Page 2-3

Read: "Llama Llama big big day..."

Little Llama is ready to go somewhere.

Where do you think he is going?

How does Llama Llama feel about that? (Prompt for complex linking of emotion with source, such as "Llama Llama is happy and excited because...")

Page 4-5

Read: "Who will take good care..."

What does Llama have in the car?

Why did Llama Llama take Fuzzy with him? ("Llama Llama took Fuzzy because...")

Look at Llama Llama here (p. 5). How does he feel?

Why? (Llama Llama feels a little bored because it is a long ride.)

Page 6

Read: "Hugs and kisses..."

How does Llama Llama feel? (Llama Llama feels happy to see his gram and grandpa.)

How do Gram and Grandpa feel? (They are excited and happy to see Llama Llama.)

Have you ever gone somewhere to stay overnight? How did you feel? (Give example if you can.)

Page 7

Read: "Mama loves you..."

How does Llama Llama feel here? (Happy to be with Gram and Grandpa.)

Wait, do you notice something?

Where is Llama Llama's bag? (Grandpa has it.)

Where is Fuzzy? (Fuzzy is still in the car.)

Does Llama Llama know where Fuzzy is? (Try to get child to understand and say that Llama Llama does not know that Fuzzy is not with him.)

When Llama Llama finds out that Fuzzy is still in the car, how will he feel?

How will Llama's face look when he finds out that he does not have Fuzzy? (Use mirror.)

What do you think he will do? (Try to get child to predict how Llama Llama will react given his past behavior. He may fuss and tantrum.)

Page 8-9

Read: "A glass of milk..."

What is Llama Llama doing here? (Having a snack.)

How does Llama Llama feel?

Llama Llama feels happy because Gram and Grandpa gave him a yummy snack.

What does Llama Llama see on the wall? (A picture of Mama Llama when she was younger.)

Have you ever seen a picture of your mom when she was little?

How did you feel about that?

Page 10

Read: "Take out socks..."

How does Llama Llama feel? (Talk about why Llama Llama feels that way.)

(Talk about mixed feelings. Llama is happy to be with Gram and Grandpa, but Llama Llama also misses his mama.)

Page 11

Read: "Oh no..."

Oh Oh! Look at Llama Llama's face! How does he feel? (Surprised, etc. Talk about the fact that it is a bad surprise or a shock.)

Can you make a face like Llama Llama's? (Use mirror.)

Why does he feel that way? (Llama Llama feels very upset because he knows Fuzzy is not there.)

Where did Llama Llama think Fuzzy was? (Try to help the child understand that Llama Llama probably thought Fuzzy was in the backpack. He forgot that he left Fuzzy in the car.)

He did not know that Fuzzy was not there. He forgot that he left Fuzzy in the car. It is a bad surprise when Llama finds out Fuzzy is gone.

What do you think Llama Llama will do? (Talk about past behavior from previous books.)

Page 12-13

Read: "Llama dear, are you okay..."

Look at Llama Llama. How does he feel? (He feels sad because Fuzzy is not there.)

Look at Gram. How does she feel? (Gram is worried because Llama Llama looks sad.)

Page 14-15

Read: "Grandma says, Let's go outside..."

What are Llama Llama and his grandparents doing? (Talk about each picture.)

Does that look like fun?

How about Llama Llama? (Talk about the fact that Llama Llama is having fun until he thinks about Fuzzy.)

Look at Llama Llama's face here. How does he feel? Why? (Llama Llama is happy until he thinks about Fuzzy. He feels sad and lonely when he thinks about Fuzzy.)

Why do you think that Gram wanted to take Llama Llama outside? (Talk about the fact that Gram wants to help Llama Llama feel better about Fuzzy. Doing fun things will help Llama Llama feel better.)

Page 16-17

Read: "Grandpa's workshop..."

How does Llama Llama feel? (Llama Llama is happy because he is making something with Grandpa.)

Why do you think that Grandpa is helping Llama Llama build something? (Talk about the fact that Grandpa wants to help Llama Llama feel better about Fuzzy. Making something will help Llama Llama feel better.)

How does Llama Llama feel when he is doing fun things?

Look at Llama here (p. 17, bottom picture). How does he feel when he thinks about Fuzzy?

If you were there, what would you say to Llama Llama?

Page 18-19

Read: "Time for dinner..."

Now how does Llama Llama help?

How does Llama Llama feel when he helps?" (Llama Llama feels happy when he helps.)

Look at Llama Llama's face here (p. 18, lower picture). How does he feel?

Why? (Llama Llama is worried/afraid that he will not like the food.)

Look at Llama Llama here (p. 19). How does he feel?

Why? (Llama Llama is happy because the food tastes good.)

Page 20-21

Read: "Dinner's over..."

What does Llama Llama want to do? (Stay up.)

Wow! Look at this (p.21). What are they doing?

Look, it's dark outside. Do you think that Llama Llama is scared?

(Maybe Grandpa is holding Llama llama's hand so Llama Llama will not feel scared.)

Gram and Grandpa have done lots of fun things with Llama Llama, haven't they?

How do you think Llama Llama feels about that?

Page 22

Read: "Take a bath..."

What are they doing? (Gram and Grandpa are helping Llama Llama get ready for bed.)

Page 23

Read: "Llama, dear..."

Oh, look at Llama Llama's face. How does he feel? (Sad, lonely, etc.)

Why do you think that Llama Llama feels sad? (He feels sad because he misses his Fuzzy Llama.)

What do you think will happen? (Llama Llama might get mad/tantrum because he wants his Fuzzy Llama.)

Page 24-25

Read: "Llama's lips begin to quiver..."

Oh wow! What is happening here?

How does Llama Llama feel? (Llama Llama feels mad/upset/sad because he does not have his Fuzzy Llama.)

Llama Llama is throwing a tantrum, isn't he? Can you remember when he threw a tantrum before? (Llama threw a tantrum when Mama did not come to his bedroom.)

How will Gram and Grandpa feel about this?

If you were there, what would you say to Llama Llama?

Page 26-27

Read: "Wait a minute..."

Look at Gram and Grandpa here (p. 26). How do they feel? (They look like they are thinking about how to solve the problem. They are thinking of how to help Llama Llama feel better.)

Has Llama Llama calmed down? How does he feel? (He might feel a little sad, but also a little guilty because he made a big fuss.)

Look here (p. 27). What did Grandpa do?

What do you think will happen?

Page 28-29

Read: "When Grandpa was..."

What did Grandpa do?

How does Llama Llama feel? (Llama Llama feels surprised and happy to see the special toy. This is a good surprise. Contrast this page with the bad surprise on p. 11.)

Why did Grandpa get this toy for Llama Llama? (Grandpa did not want Llama Llama to feel sad, so he found him a toy.)

Page 30-31

Read: "A Grandma kiss..."

How do you think that Llama Llama feels now?

Llama Llama feels happy because he has a special toy and Gram and Grandpa are so nice to him.

Page: 32

Read: "Away from home."

How does Llama Llama feel?

He feels happy and sleepy.

How do you think Llama will feel tomorrow when he wakes up? Do you think he will miss his mama? Do you think he will be happy and excited to be with Gram and Grandpa? (Talk about the fact that he may miss his mama but he will probably feel happy and excited to do fun things with Gram and Grandpa. He may feel two things at the same time.)

Summary:

(Use cloze procedures so child can help summarize.)

Llama Llama was excited to go sleep over at Gram and Grandpa's house. It was a long drive to get there. Llama Llama left his fuzzy llama in the car. When Llama Llama found out that he did not have his fuzzy llama, it was a bad surprise. Llama felt very upset and sad. Gram and Grandpa did lots of things to help Llama Llama feel better. Gram and Grandpa were very kind to Llama Llama. When Llama Llama got in bed, he felt very sad because he did not have his fuzzy llama. He cried and yelled and threw a tantrum. Gram and Grandpa wanted to help Llama Llama feel better. Grandpa found the special toy that he had when he was a little boy. Llama Llama felt happy when he had Grandpa's toy.

Follow-up probes

Probe #1, p. 6, Look at Llama Llama. How does he feel?

Why does he feel _____?

Ask both questions first, but if the emotion response is wrong, say:

OR, he might feel happy/excited. Llama is happy/excited to see his gram and grandpa.

Probe #2, p. 11, Look at Llama Llama. How does he feel?

Why does he feel_____?

Ask both questions first, but if the emotion response is wrong, say:

OR, he might feel surprised/shocked. Llama is surprised/shocked because Fuzzy is not in his bag.

Probe #3, p. 13, Look at Llama Llama. How does he feel?

Why does he feel_____?

Ask both questions first, but if the emotion response is wrong, say:

OR, he might feel sad. Llama is sad because he does not have his Fuzzy.

Probe # 4, p. 18, Look at Llama Llama. How does he feel?

Why does he feel_____?

Ask both questions, but if the emotion response is wrong, say:

OR, he might feel scared. Llama is scared that the food will not taste good.

Probe #5, p. 23, Look at Llama Llama. How does he feel?

Why does he feel_____?

Ask both questions first, but if the emotion response is wrong, say:

OR, he might feel sad. Llama feels sad because he does not have his Fuzzy Llama.

Probe #6 p. 29, Look at Llama Llama. How does he feel?

Why does he feel_____?

Ask both questions first, but if the emotion response is wrong, say:

OR, he might feel surprised. Llama is surprised because Grandpa brought him a toy.

Dialog/enactment activity:

Help the child enact the story using simple props. Or, guide the child in a modified “readers’ theater” where the child voices one or more characters. Adjust as needed for the individual child.