

Brinton & Fujiki
Brigham Young University
Social Communication Intervention Script for story book, *Llama Llama Red Pajama*

***Llama Llama Red Pajama* by Anna Dewdney, 2013, Viking Children's Books, 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:** happy, sad, lonely, afraid/scared/worried, mad/angry, guilty, etc.
- 2. Anticipating an event and the emotions it elicits**
- 3. Fear—anticipated but perhaps not justified (Llama and the mama)**
- 4. Introduce the notion of guilt**
- 5. Tantrum or acting out behavior**
- 6. Mixed emotions—mad, sad, scared**
- 7. Surprise—bad surprise vs good surprise**
- 8. Prosocial behavior: trusting someone—thinking about what someone else is doing or needs to do—regulating one’s emotions—cooperating**
- 9. Structural: complete simple sentence forms, complex sentences with causal connections (but, if-then, so, because)**

Intro: Cover and Title Page— We are going to read a story about Llama Llama and his mama. It is about Llama Llama’s bedtime. Let’s think about how Llama Llama and his mama feel in this story.

Page 1 (Title Page)

(Look at the 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 4-5

Read: “Llama llama red pajama reads...”

Here is a little llama and his Mama Llama.

Do you know what a llama is? (Explain.)

They are reading a book before bed.

Do you ever do this with your mom or dad?

How do Llama Llama and Mama Llama feel?

They are happy because they like reading together. Let's say that together, "They are happy because they are reading together."

Page 6-7

Read: "Mama kisses..."

What is Mama Llama going to do?

How does Llama Llama feel about that?

Page 8-9

Read: "Llama Llama red pajama feeds alone..."

How does Llama Llama feel?

Look at his face. How does he feel? (He feels lonely. He looks a little worried.)

Llama Llama feels a little worried or scared because Mama Llama has gone downstairs. Why is Llama Llama worried? (He is worried because Mama has gone downstairs.)

Can you make a worried face? Show me. (Use mirror.)

What is Mama doing? She is busy, isn't she?

Page 10-11

Read: "Llama llama red pajama calls..."

What Llama Llama doing? What does he want?

Do you think he needs a drink? Maybe. Do you think he might want something else? (He feels lonely, so he might want his mama.) Let's say that together, "Llama Llama feels lonely so he wants his mama."

Mama says she'll come soon.

Llama Llama is waiting.

Page 12-13

Read: "Llama Llama red pajama waiting..."

Llama Llama is waiting.

Llama Llama starts to fuss a little.

Llama Llama starts to fret. Do you know what fret means? (Explain.)

Llama is sad because Mama did not come to his room right away.

Why is Llama Llama sad? (He is sad because Mama did not come to his room.)

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

But Mama is busy downstairs, isn't she?

What do you think Little Llama will do next?

Page 14-15

Read: "Llama Llama red pajama whimpers..."

What does "whimper" mean? (It means to cry a little [demonstrate.]])

Mama needs to answer the phone.

Then Llama Llama starts to moan and whine.

Llama Llama is whining because he wants his mama.

Have you (or your sibling, etc.) ever done this? Tell me about it.

Page 16-17

Read: "Llama Llama red pajama listens..."

Llama Llama is waiting for Mama.

How does Llama Llama feel?

Llama Llama looks a little worried or scared because Mama has not come.

But what is Mama doing? (She is talking on the phone and washing dishes.)

Little Llama starts to cry because Mama has not come.

Does Llama Llama know what Mama is doing? (Try to introduce the notion of Llama Llama's not thinking that Mama might be busy.)

I think that Llama Llama really wants his own way here.

Page 19-20

Read: "Llama Llama red pajama hollers..."

Whoa! Look. What Llama Llama is doing now?

Llama is yelling for Mama. Llama Llama is very mad because Mama has not come.

Let's say that together, "Llama Llama is mad because Mama has not come."

Llama Llama is mad because he did not get his own way. He is mad because he did not get what he wanted.

Llama Llama is crying and stomping and fussing because he is so mad.

Do you know what a tantrum is? (Explain.) Llama Llama is having a tantrum.

How do you think Mama Llama will feel about that?

What would you say to Llama Llama?

Page 21-22

Read: "Llama Llama red pajama in the dark..."

Now how does Llama Llama feel?

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

Why does Llama Llama feel scared?

What does Llama Llama think Mama is doing?

If Llama thinks Mama is gone, then Llama would feel scared.

Do you think Mama is gone? What do you think she is doing?

Page 22-23

Read: "Llama Llama red pajama weeping..."

What is Llama Llama doing here? (Screaming, yelling, stomping, etc.)

How does Llama Llama feel?

Why is Llama Llama making such a big fuss?

I think Llama is having a tantrum because his mama has not come.

Llama feels mad and sad and scared all at the same time!

Have you ever felt like this? (Give a personal example.)

If you were there, what would you say to Llama Llama? (Prompt to help child produce complex form, e.g., "You can relax Llama Llama because Mama will come soon." Or, "Settle, down, Llama Llama. When Mama comes, you will feel better.")

Page 24-25

Look at Mama.

What does she think?

Mama is surprised. It is not a good surprise—it is a shock!

Mama Llama feels scared and worried.

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

What does she think might have happened? (Mama Llama thinks Llama Llama is hurt.)

Mama is scared and worried because she thinks Little Llama is hurt. Is Llama really hurt?

If you were there, what would you say to Mama Llama? (Try to elicit a something like, "Llama Llama is not hurt, so don't be scared.")

What does she do? (Drops the phone, runs upstairs.)

Page 26-27

Read: "Baby Llama, what a tizzy..."

What does Mama find when she gets upstairs? (Llama Llama is fine but he made a huge fuss.)

Oh, look at Mama's face. How does she feel? Can you make a face like Mama's? (Use mirror.)

Mama is mad because Llama Llama made a big fuss (tantrum) when he was not hurt at all.

Mama wanted Llama Llama to be more patient. (Define patient.)

How does Llama Llama feel?

Llama Llama feels guilty because he knows he made a huge fuss for nothing.

(Define guilt—when you know you have done something that is not good and you feel bad about it.)

Llama Llama feels sorry because he screamed and had a tantrum.

Pretend you are Llama Llama. What would you say to Mama? (Try to elicit something like, "I am sorry that I made a big fuss.")

Page 28-9

Read: "Llama Llama, don't you know..."

Mama tells Llama Llama that she loves him.

Mama tells Llama Llama that she is close by, even if she is not in his room.

How does Llama Llama feel?

Llama Llama feels happy because_____

Mama loves him and is close by.

Page

Read: "Llama Llama red pajama gets two...."

When Mama kisses Llama Llama, he feels calm and happy.

Page 32

Read: "Baby llama goes to sleep."

How do you think that Llama Llama feels now?

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

Summary:

(Use cloze procedures so child can help summarize.)

Llama felt a lot of different things. First, he was happy because he was reading with Mama. Then he was lonely when she left. Then he was scared and mad at the same time! He made a big fuss because Mama did not come back right away. Mama Llama was afraid that Llama Llama was hurt, but Llama Llama was just fine. Llama Llama was sorry he fussed. When Mama came back, Llama was happy again.

Has something like this ever happened to you?

Follow-up probes

Probe #1, p. 5, 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. Llama is happy because he his reading with his mama.

Probe #2, p. 16, 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 scared. Llama is scared because his mama is downstairs.

Probe #3, p. 18-19, 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 mad. Llama is mad because his mama did not come right upstairs.

Probe #4, p. 24, Look at Mama Llama. How does she feel?

Why does she feel_____?

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

OR, she might feel scared. Mama Llama is scared because she thinks Little Llama is hurt.

Probe #5, p. 27, 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 guilty. Llama feels guilty because he made a big fuss over nothing.

Probe #6, p. 28, 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. Llama is happy because his mama is there.

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.