The Green Zone Conversation Book: Finding Common Ground In Conversation For Children On The Autism Spectrum
**Synopsis**

In conversation, children on the autism spectrum often struggle to select topics of interest to others. Many have strong, narrow interests and feel compelled to introduce these subjects when they talk. This book provides a simple visual model to help children experience more success in finding common ground in conversation. The "Green Zone" is a visual representation of finding common ground between one person (blue) and another person (yellow) to create a "green zone" that represents the pair's shared interests. The book, illustrated with hundreds of photographs representing the range of other people's interests, clearly explains what the "Green Zone" is and how to find it, and contains many photocopiable conversation practice activities and reinforcement worksheets based on this simple visual. Ideal for use in classroom settings or at home, this attractive, full colour book is suitable for children on the autism spectrum aged 7 and up.

**Book Information**

Hardcover: 96 pages  
Publisher: Jessica Kingsley Publishers (October 21, 2014)  
Language: English  
ISBN-10: 1849057591  
Product Dimensions: 0.8 x 11.2 x 8.8 inches  
Shipping Weight: 1.2 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)  
Average Customer Review: 4.9 out of 5 stars Â– See all reviews (14 customer reviews)  
Best Sellers Rank: #94,034 in Books (See Top 100 in Books)  
#33 in Etiquette > Conversation  
#104 in Health, Fitness & Dieting > Children's Health > Autism & Asperger's Syndrome  
#140 in Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > Special Needs  
Age Range: 8 - 12 years  
Grade Level: 3 - 7

**Customer Reviews**

This book was a hit with my 8-yr old nephew. It is very well organized, particularly the coordination between the recommended activities and worksheets as they relate to each chapter of the book. My nephew was really engaged in the activities as well as our reading of the book together, and the worksheets helped expand his perspective of conversation and finding mutual interests. This is an excellent book and it really gave my nephew many "ah ha!" moments.
great book with awesome visuals to explain how to find a common topic with a conversational partner. The book is very well done and has several parts to it - could be used over and over to teach students these conversational skills - I just wish it came with a digital version as well so I could display it on the computer projector.

Conversation can be difficult for a lot of people, but for those on the autism spectrum, it can be nearly impossible. As a teacher who works with autistic children and adults, I'm always looking for ways to make interaction less painful for this population. This book is full of appealing design and photography that makes the work of finding common ground easier. Some pages are even divided so that two people sitting face to face can point to pictures on the same page and have a starting place for conversation. The graphics are very clever, for example, Mr. Shaul represents people’s interests with photos contained in individual circles then shows these circles intersecting to represent common ground. I think this book will be very helpful to those on the autism spectrum and everyone working with these individuals.

"The Green Zone" offers a concrete, visual approach to helping students on the ASD spectrum learn to find ways to communicate effectively with others. As a teacher of middle school aged kids with autism, and as the mother of an elementary aged son with autism, I can see immediate uses for this fabulous book! The concepts are presented clearly, with terrific photographs of a wide variety of objects, to ensure that all students are able to understand and connect with the information presented. Mr. Shaul has done a fabulous job of breaking down a difficult skill into manageable components so that adults who care about kids with autism can help them learn these important parts of interacting with others!

Using a simple and memorable visual concept, Joel Shaul has create an entire curriculum that addresses a common problem for those on the autism spectrum. The book is easy to read and full of ideas to reinforce reciprocal conversation and the art of making friends. The book is beautifully designed, very appealing visually and full of captivating pictures. It is clear that the author understands children and teenagers on the autism spectrum and is successful in creating effective and visually salient strategies to remedy some of the hidden skill deficits. I can’t wait for his next book!
As a speech-language pathologist working with children with autism spectrum disorders, I'm always on the hunt for great social skills books. This is a fabulous book for teaching conversation skills and finding common ground between conversation partners. I've adapted the lessons to extend to play for younger children - helping them understand how to find activities both they and their friend will enjoy. I'm so happy to have discovered this book!

Another masterpiece by Shaul! This book beautifully puts into easily comprehensible words the fact with which many children diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder struggle: that not everyone has the same interests that they do. AND, it provides great tips to help children become better able to understand the interests of others. The beautiful colors and images make this book appealing to children and the message is wonderful. I have worked with children and adolescents on the spectrum for years and I highly recommend this book!

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