

# Planes, Trains, and Automobiles

## **Group Activity: Social Emotional — Using Waiting Strategies**

## **Activity Goal:**

Students identify and practice appropriate waiting strategies when given scenarios.

#### **Materials:**

- Sequence strip or sequence panels (provided)
- Scenario cards (provided)
- Waiting strategy cards (provided)
- Bag or basket

- Scissors
- Timer
- Books, crayons/markers, coloring pages, playing cards, small toys (optional)

## **Preparation:**

- I. Print, laminate, and cut out:
  - a. Sequence strip or sequence panels
  - b. Scenario cards
  - c. Waiting strategy cards
- 2. Choose to prepare the traditional-sized sequence strip, or use the large sequence panels to create a larger sequence strip by arranging the images in order, taping them together, and laminating.
- 3. Place the scenario cards in a bag or basket.
- 4. Gather books, crayons/markers, coloring pages, playing cards, and small toys for students to use while practicing waiting. Place these materials with the timer and other prepared materials for the activity.
- 5. Have the sequence strip or sequence panels on hand, and refer to them throughout the activity to guide students.

#### Instructions:

- I. Lead a discussion about times when the students might need to wait. Then review different waiting strategies, holding up each waiting strategy card as you explain the strategy. If you have not yet read the Learning to Wait discussion story, read it to students prior to performing this activity.
- 2. Note before you start that there are eight waiting strategy cards. After a student selects a scenario card from the bag during the game, you will be choosing four waiting strategy cards to place on the table in front of the student.
  - Try to have at least one card in the mix that is not an appropriate strategy for that scenario.
  - b. After each player chooses the correct waiting strategy for their scenario card, have a timer ready for the class to practice that strategy. Set the timer for anywhere between 30 seconds and 2 minutes.
- 3. Model the steps of the activity for students, pointing to each step on the sequence strip as you do so.
  - a. Pull a scenario card out of the bag.
  - b. Read the scenario card.
  - c. Find a waiting strategy card that fits the scenario.
  - d. Practice that waiting strategy with the whole class until the teacher's timer sounds.
- 4. Have students take turns following the sequence in Step 3 until all scenario cards have been drawn.

## **Suggestions for Differentiation:**

#### Level I

- Provide the cue "do this," and model the action.
- If needed, model requesting help, and encourage the student to imitate using their mode of communication.
- To help the student identify the waiting strategy, print an extra set of waiting strategy cards. Place the correct
  waiting strategy card on the table in front of the student. Place the matching strategy card above the other card
  and say, "Match X [waiting strategy card]."

#### Level 2

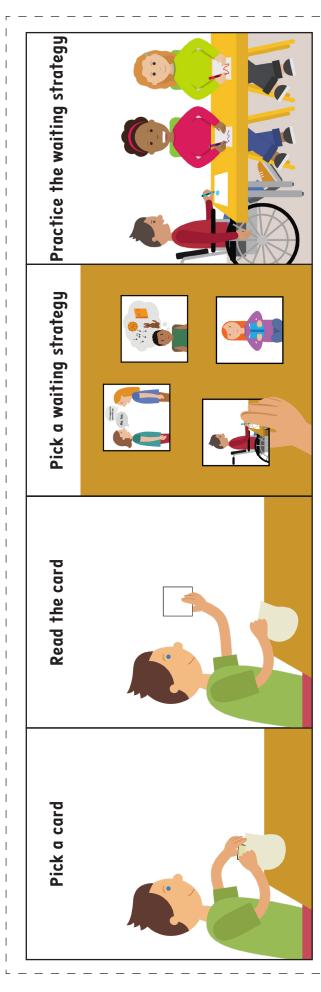
- Explain the activity using one-step directions, and teach the student to reference the sequence strip when needed.
- To help the student identify the waiting strategy, place two waiting strategy cards in front of the student and say, "Give me X [waiting strategy card]."

#### Level 3

- Explain the activity using multi-step directions.
- Challenge the student to come up with other appropriate waiting strategies that fit the scenario, other than those represented on the cards.

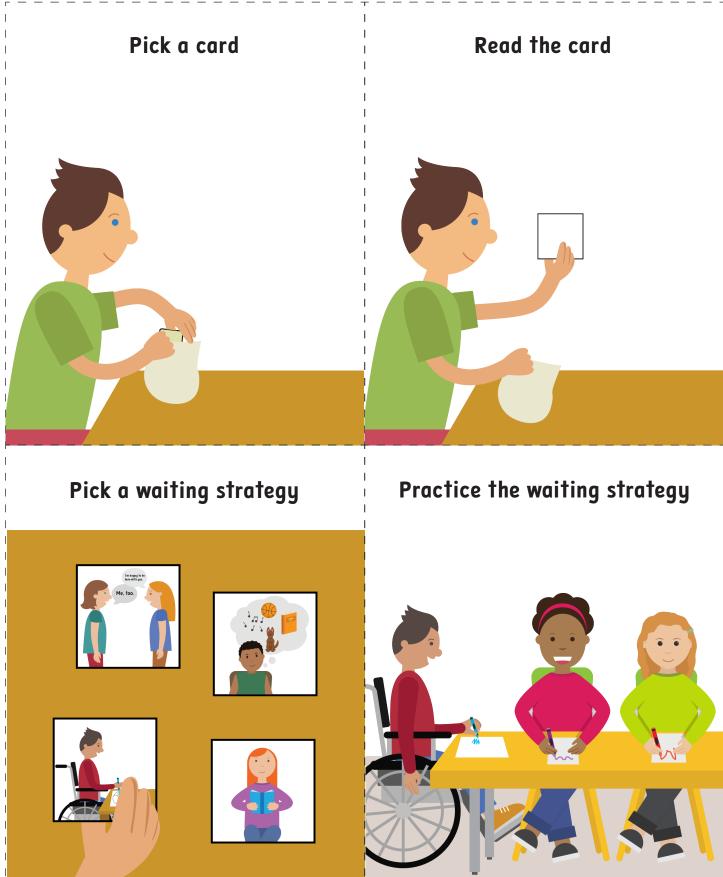
# **Applied Learning:**

After doing this activity, consider keeping the waiting strategy cards together, and fill a bag with crayons, coloring
pages, books, small toys, playing cards, etc. When students have opportunities to wait throughout the school day,
provide two waiting strategy card options that are appropriate for the scenario and allow students to select a
waiting strategy from them. If materials are needed for the student to practice that waiting strategy, allow them
to choose from the items available in the bag to act out the strategy.



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Larissa is out to dinner with her family. They just ordered their food. What can Larissa do while she waits for her food?



Jerome is seeing his cousin in a play. His family got there early, and they need to wait for the play to start. What can Jerome do while he waits?



Asher is at the grocery store with his grandpa. They got all the items on their list and are ready to checkout. There's a long line! What can Asher do while he waits?



Sam wants to read a book with their mom, but their mom is busy. What can Sam do while they wait?





for his turn?

Bilal is playing a game with a friend. It's his ! It's time to go to music class. Maeve gets in friend's turn. What can Bilal do while he waits line. She has to wait for the rest of her class to line up. What can Maeve do while she waits?



Tiana and Hugo are at the movies. The movie doesn't start for ten more minutes. What can they do while they wait?

Angel walks to the cafeteria for lunch. There's a line to type in his lunch number. What can he do while he waits?

