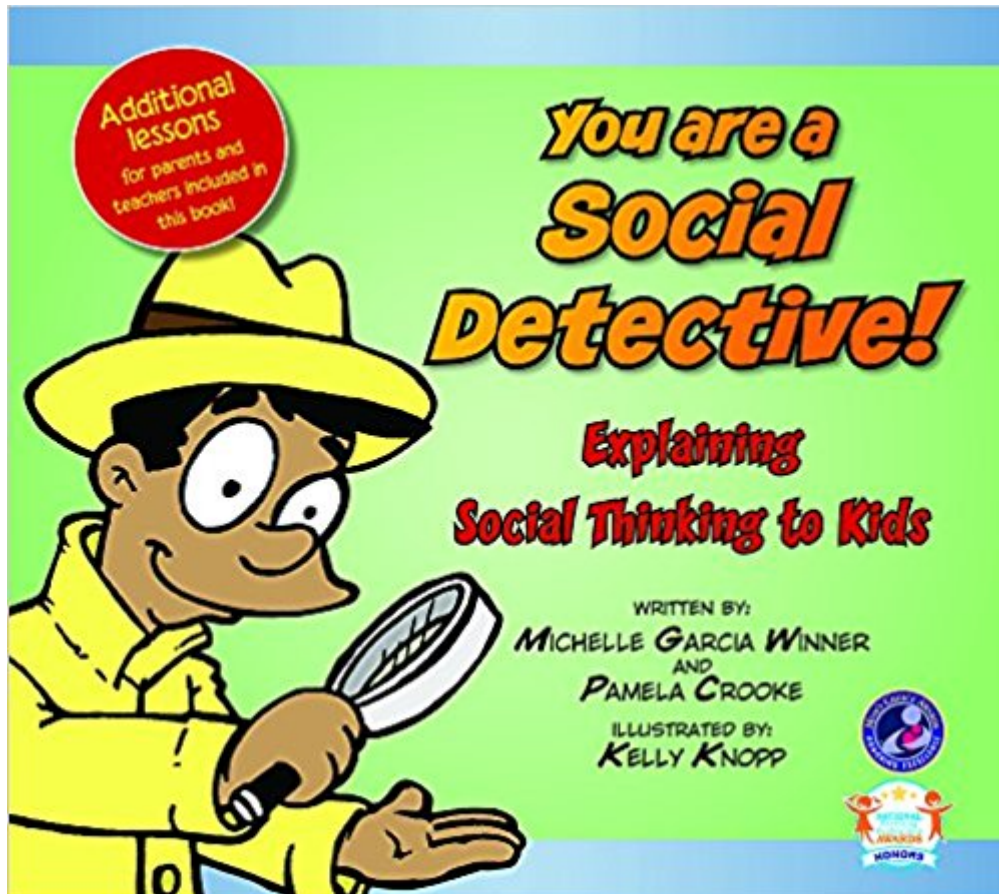




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# You Are A Social Detective



## Synopsis

Every one of us is a Social Detective. We are good Social Detectives when we use our eyes, ears, and brains to figure out what others are planning to do next or are presently doing and what they mean by their words and deeds. This entertaining comic book offers different ways that can be reviewed repeatedly with students to teach them how to develop their own social detective skills. Enjoy watching your students and kids blossom day-by-day into successful Social Detectives!

Elementary school-aged (K-5) students, and immature older middle and high school students who enjoy visual books, may benefit from this book. But this isn't just a book for students who have challenges relating to autism spectrum disorders, Asperger's, ADHD and like challenges. The lessons also offer a variety of engaging ways to introduce the concepts of social thinking to general education teachers, paraprofessionals, parents, caregivers, special educators, grandparents, siblings, daycare workers, scout leaders, etc. So, don't think you have to be a kid to enjoy learning about social thinking! Throughout the book, keywords are highlighted in bold. These keywords represent the Social Thinking vocabulary, concepts that can be used in just about every environment, by everyone in the process of discovering social thinking. The words are also fully defined for easy reference in the back of the book. Kids can read this themselves but it is best when adults read it with them, so that adults learn the social thinking vocabulary with the kids and then work to help the kids explore these concepts in their daily lives when the book is closed. This book is also the first book to read with students prior to introducing the Superflex lessons, as it teaches the core Social Thinking Vocabulary. The sections of the book include:

1. School Smarts/Social Smarts & Expected Behavior
2. Unexpected Behavior
3. Being a Social Detective

Social thinking vocabulary keywords highlighted throughout the book and defined in the back of the book include:

**Social Smarts:** The type of "smarts" in our brains that we use whenever we are around other people. Social smarts help our brains to know that others are having thoughts about us and we are having thoughts about them. We use social smarts in school, at home, and EVERYWHERE!

**School Smarts:** Different types of "smarts" in our brains that we use for school learning. Things like math smarts, computer smarts, music smarts, science smarts, and many more.

**Body in the group:** Your body is in the group if others feel you are part of the group. For example when you are standing, this means keeping your body about one arm's length away from others. The front of your body will be turned towards others in the group.

**Brain in the group:** Your brain is in the group when others feel that you are paying attention to what is happening in the group; for example, when you are thinking about others with your eyes and listening to what they are talking about.

**Thinking with your eyes:** This means that you are using your eyes to look at a person and it makes them feel that you are

thinking about what they are saying or doing. --This text refers to an alternate Paperback edition.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This new comic book, *You Are a Social Detective: Explaining Social Thinking to Kids*, is a perfect introduction to the social thinking curriculum Think Social'. The combination of engaging illustrations and clear concepts set the stage for in depth work on the 'expected' and the 'unexpected' behavior and other social concepts that are so challenging for our young clients. I especially appreciated the humorous approach to 'School Smarts' and 'Social Smarts', which are so confusing yet real to our kids. As a psychologist, I have a new tool to introduce those vulnerable social challenges with young and inexperienced social perspective takers and their parents. The entertainment value increases the chance for viable follow-up at home. This is also a good prerequisite to the 'Superflex' curriculum. Because this is a long book and the text sets the stage for discussion, therapists will likely need more than one session to cover the entire book. --Kacey Chandler, Ph.D., autism specialist and school psychologist, Tucson, Arizona

Finally, a book that appeals to kids with ASD by using cartoons to convey the subtleties of 'expected' and 'unexpected' social behaviors. Even better is that there are enough examples to allow kids to grasp the core concepts of Social Thinking. As my teenage son Adam explains it, The best part about this book is finding out how to make other people happy." --Deborah Pugh, parent and Director Research & Training, ACT - Autism Community Training, Vancouver, Canada

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happy." --Deborah Pugh, parent and Director Research & Training, ACT - Autism Community Training, Vancouver, Canada --This text refers to an alternate Paperback edition.

I work with children and love this book! I think that it presents concepts behind social skills in non-judgmental, understandable language that kids remember and can relate to. I use it with kids with a wide variety of challenges, not exclusively autism spectrum. I do not find that children complain about this book nearly as much as others I've tried and often even LIKE this book! That said, I do break it into chunks rather than try to read through the whole book in one sitting. When we go to read our next chunk, I go from the beginning and paraphrase the parts we read before, encouraging the child to "fill in the blanks" for the parts they learned last time to reinforce the learning. It is repetitive, as some have said, but I believe that is intentional in order to help the concepts stick and I've never found this book to be overly repetitive to the point that it's grating. Honestly, I was surprised to see so many mixed reviews since I love this book and I know for a fact that several of my co-workers routinely borrow it as well! I definitely recommend it for children who are struggling with social and/or behavioral challenges, especially higher functioning autism spectrum and ADHD diagnoses.

Excellent book. Well structured with lesson plans in the back. Pictures and activities are engaging. Vocabulary is easy to discuss and use during everyday social situations if children are familiar with the book. I often use the pictures in the book as visual reminders to use specific social skills.

This is a good book for kids who have some issues about understanding social cues, although virtually every child could benefit from reading this.

This book introduced a lot of core concepts needed to use the Superflex curriculum that Michelle Garcia Winner also developed. I am using a modified version of this curriculum to teach a social skills group with children with autism and Asperger's. This book was a bit wordy and complicated for my clients at times; however, the core concepts in the book are very good. Like I said, I modified the curriculum to suit my clients' needs. This book might be good for the educator to learn about the concepts so they can teach it more proficiently.

My 7 year old son was captivated when he first saw the cover! He insisted that I read it right away. Now He is hooked! He keeps picking it up to read on his own. My son is very rule oriented and this

book is written in such a way that he totally gets what it's teaching! Now in conversation he talks about the rules of social behavior using the lingo from the book and even run over and get the book to reference what his point is. This is a must read!

Fun book for kids to introduce the world of Social Thinking and the Unthinkables.

Best thing about this book: It gives you a couple of code words to communicate with your kids without being too obvious, like "unexpected" or "uncomfortable". One thing I wish about this book: More of it. Most of the situations in the book show school or bedtime scenarios. I know teachers and parents are frustrated, I get that. But it would be more helpful FOR THE KIDS if the book were to show behavior at the basketball court or the lunchroom or the bike ride. The places where kids meet their friends WITHOUT much adult supervision and guidance. We also like "Speak Up and Get Along!: Learn the Mighty Might, Thought Chop, and More Tools to Make Friends, Stop Teasing, and Feel Good About Yourself" -- a book with lots of practice scenarios.

great book for social skills lessons! Kids loved being a detective.

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