

Social Skills Group

for Children with Autism Spectrum
Disorder or Other Social Challenges



Children's Friendship Training®

We invite you to participate in a research study:

Children's Friendship Training is a 16-week evidence-based parent-assisted social skills intervention to teach children, between the ages of 6-12 years, how to make and keep friends. After intake surveys and interviews are conducted (75-90 minutes) and eligibility is determined, social skills groups and parent/social coaching groups will take place once per week for a total of 90 minutes at the University of Maine, Orono. Participants and their parent/social coach will meet in two, separate but concurrently timed groups. Virtual videos recorded will be of the participant and their social skills group role-play partner (another participant) using a 360 camera (e.g.: Samsung Gear 3601) with 4K resolution to fully immerse both participants in the virtual experience. Only participants who have given consent to be in the study will be video-recorded. In addition, a four-question survey will be completed by both parents/ social coaches and participants at the end of the study. There are 16 weekly sessions.

Your Child Will Learn How To:

- Find times & places to make friends
- Engage in two-way conversations
- Greet friends
- Slip into conversations
- Ask friends to get together
- Join ongoing games
- Keep cool during play
- Be a good sport
- Transition to new play activities
- Ask and give help
- Use good volume control
- Maintain good body boundaries

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