



Understanding Social Pragmatics: "Reading the Room" for Kids

WHAT IT MEANS

Social pragmatics is the art of matching words, tone, and timing to the situation — knowing when to talk, listen, joke, or stop. Some children need these unwritten rules made visible.

Teaching "reading the room"

- Use real examples. Whisper in the library vs. laugh at the park — same voice, different volume.
- Name emotions. "They look tired; maybe now isn't a good time to ask."
- Play "emotion detective" Guess how someone feels based on face or body posture.
- Show tone differences. Say "Fine" happily, sadly, angrily — let kids hear the change.
- Highlight perspective. "How would your friend feel if you took the toy without asking?"

Social awareness isn't instinct for everyone — but it can be taught, practiced, and celebrated.



First Rowe offers speech and feeding services in Brooklyn, NY and Fort Lee, NJ. If you're interested in learning more about our services, visit our website or reach out.

(646) 905-8100
email@firstrowetherapy.com

firstrowe
speech & feeding therapy center