

CONVERSATION SKILLS GROUP CURRICULUM
FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS ON THE AUTISM SPECTRUM
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Adapted from:
Navigating the Social World: A Curriculum for Individuals with Asperger's Syndrome, High Functioning Autism, and Related Disorders
 By: Jeanette McAfee

Purpose: By engaging in group and individual activities, students will be able to engage in appropriate conversations with other people.

GROUP	GOAL	ACTIVITY
1	SWBAT: appropriately answer and ask questions	Group check-in Conversation Guidelines 1 wrsht Question and Answer Board Game
2	SWBAT: appropriately ask questions, answer questions, and ask follow up questions	Group check-in Conversation Guidelines 2 wrsht Question and Answer Board Game 2
3	SWBAT: understand who is in each privacy circle	Group check-in Who Can You Share Info With wrsht Privacy Circles wrsht
4	SWBAT: understand what information they should share with each privacy circle	Group check-in Conversations in Privacy Circles wrsht
5	SWBAT: appropriately give and receive different types of compliments	Group check-in Compliments wrsht
6	SWBAT: practice appropriately giving and receiving compliments	Group check-in Review Compliments wrsht Compliments Board Game
7	SWBAT: provide feedback on group and close group	Group check-in Evaluation Termination Activity

Group 1

I. Opening Relaxation Activity

- Deep Breath

II. Check-In

- How are you doing today?

III. Activity

- Discuss guidelines to asking and answering questions
- Conversation Guidelines 1: Asking and Answering Questions worksheet
- Question and Answer Board Game
 - each color on the board game represents a different type of question

IV. Closing Relaxation Activity

Conversation Guidelines: Asking and Answering Questions

Asking Questions:

- Read the question out loud & make eye contact with the person you are asking the question to

Answering Questions:

- Answer the question in a complete sentence and make eye contact with the person who asked you the question

Examples:

Q: What is your favorite season?

A: My favorite food is summer.

Q: Have you ever been on a boat?

A: Yes, I have been on a boat once.

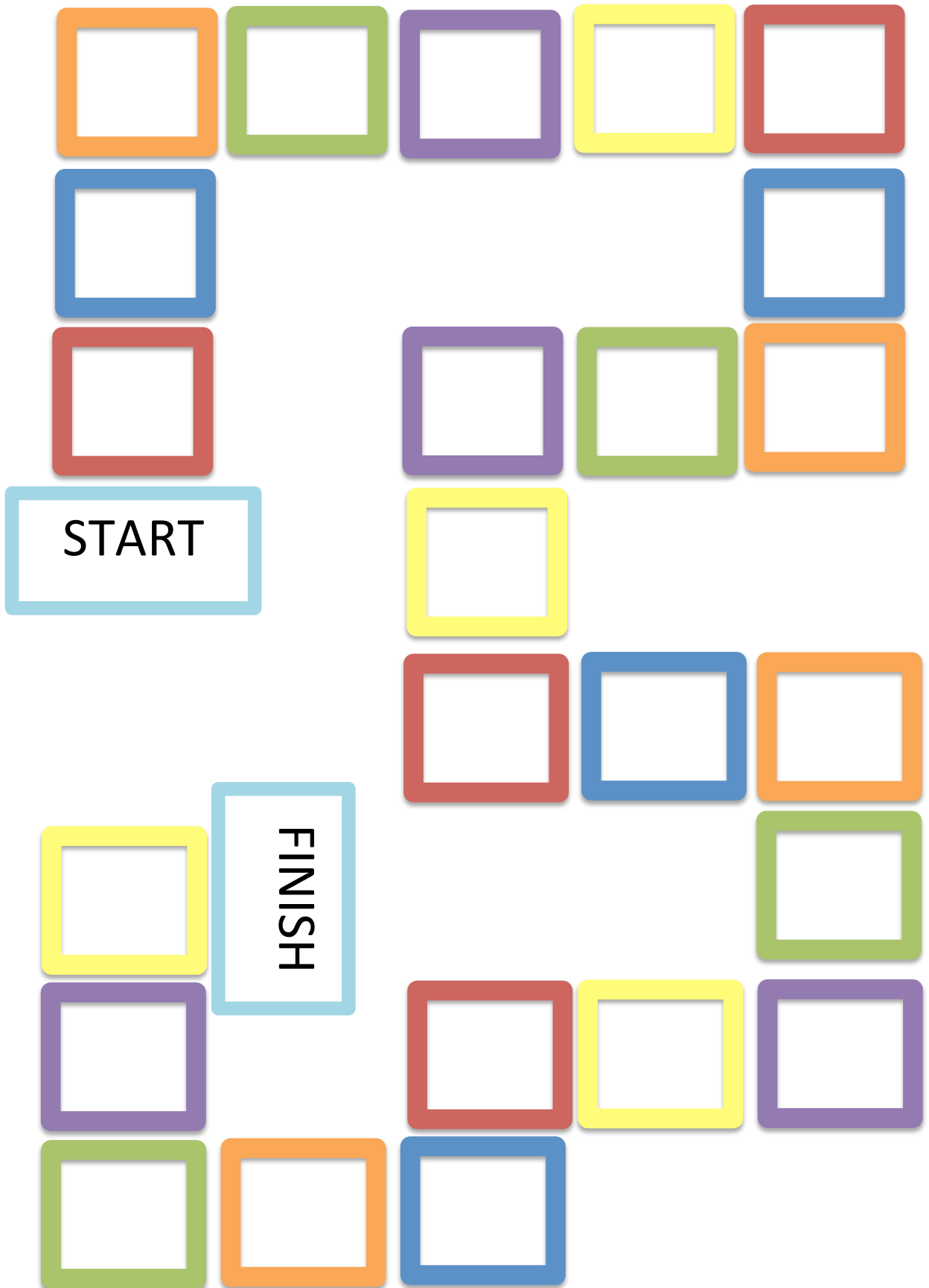
Q: What is favorite thing about school?

A:

Q: What is your favorite animal?

A:

Question and Answer Board Game



Group 2

V. Opening Relaxation Activity

- Deep Breath

VI. Check-In

- How are you doing today?

VII. Activity

- Recap guidelines to asking and answering questions
 - add that is appropriate to ask a question after you answer a question
- Conversation Guidelines 2: Asking and Answering Questions worksheet
- Question and Answer Board Game
 - each color on the board game represents a different type of question

VIII. Closing Relaxation Activity

Conversation Guidelines 2: Asking and Answering Questions

Asking Questions:

- Read the question out loud & make eye contact with the person you are asking the question to

Answering Questions:

- Answer the question in a complete sentence and make eye contact with the person who asked you the question
- Then ask the question back

Examples:

Q: What is your favorite food?

A: My favorite food is pizza. What is your favorite food?

Q: Have you ever had a pet?

A: Yes, I had a pet cat once. Have you ever had a pet?

Q: What is one thing you wish you knew how to do?

A:

Q: Have you ever lived in another country?

A:

Group 3

IX. Opening Relaxation Activity

- Deep Breath

X. Check-In

- How are you doing today?

XI. Activity

- Who Can You Share Information With
- Privacy Circles
 - Who is in each circle of privacy?
 - Color code

XII. Closing Relaxation Activity

Who Can You Share Information With

YOU are the center of your circle.

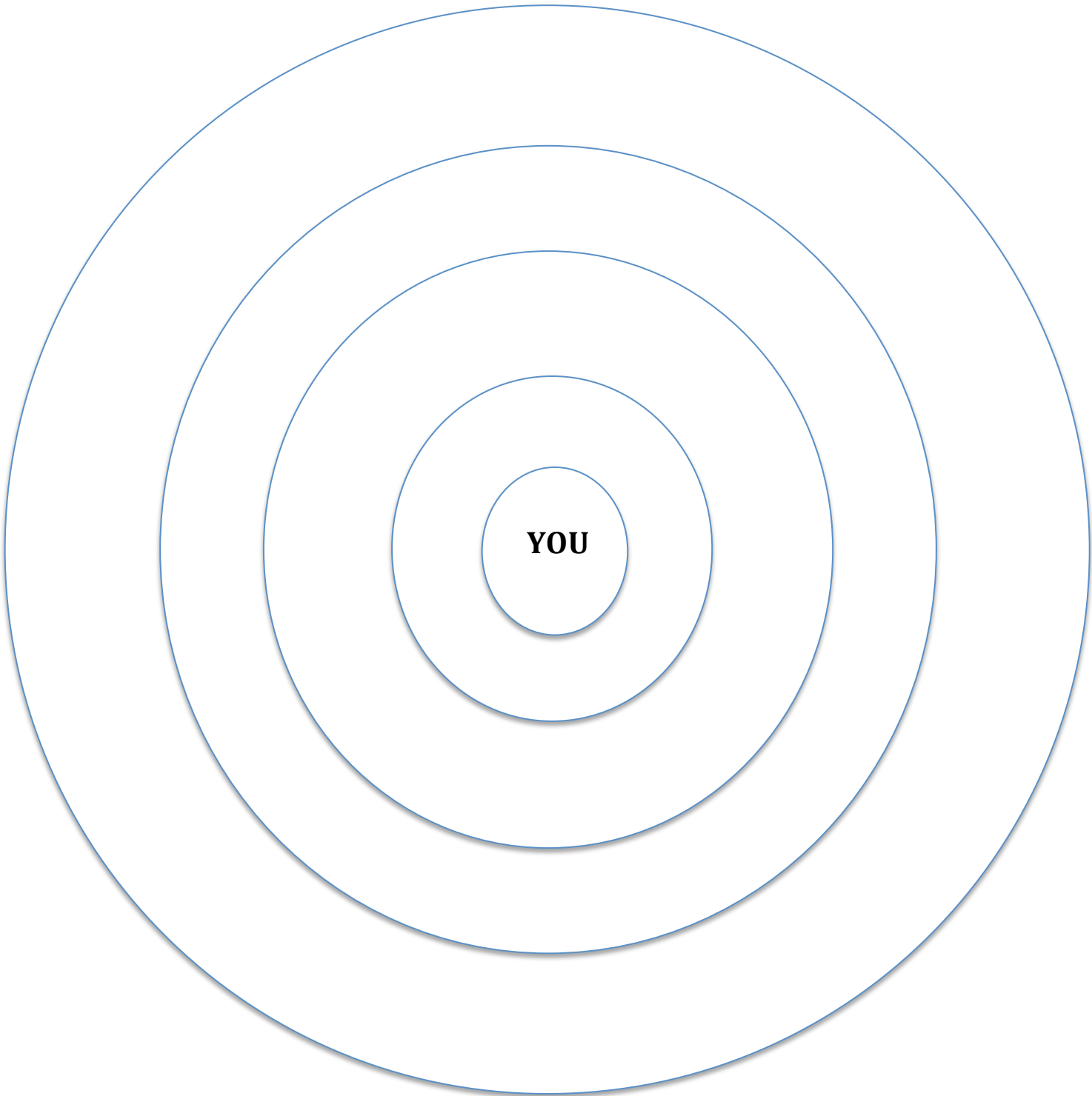
Who can you share **everything** with?

Who can you share **most things** with?

Who can you share **some things** with?

Who can you share **very little** with?

People Privacy Circles



Group 4

XIII. Opening Relaxation Activity

- Deep Breath

XIV. Check-In

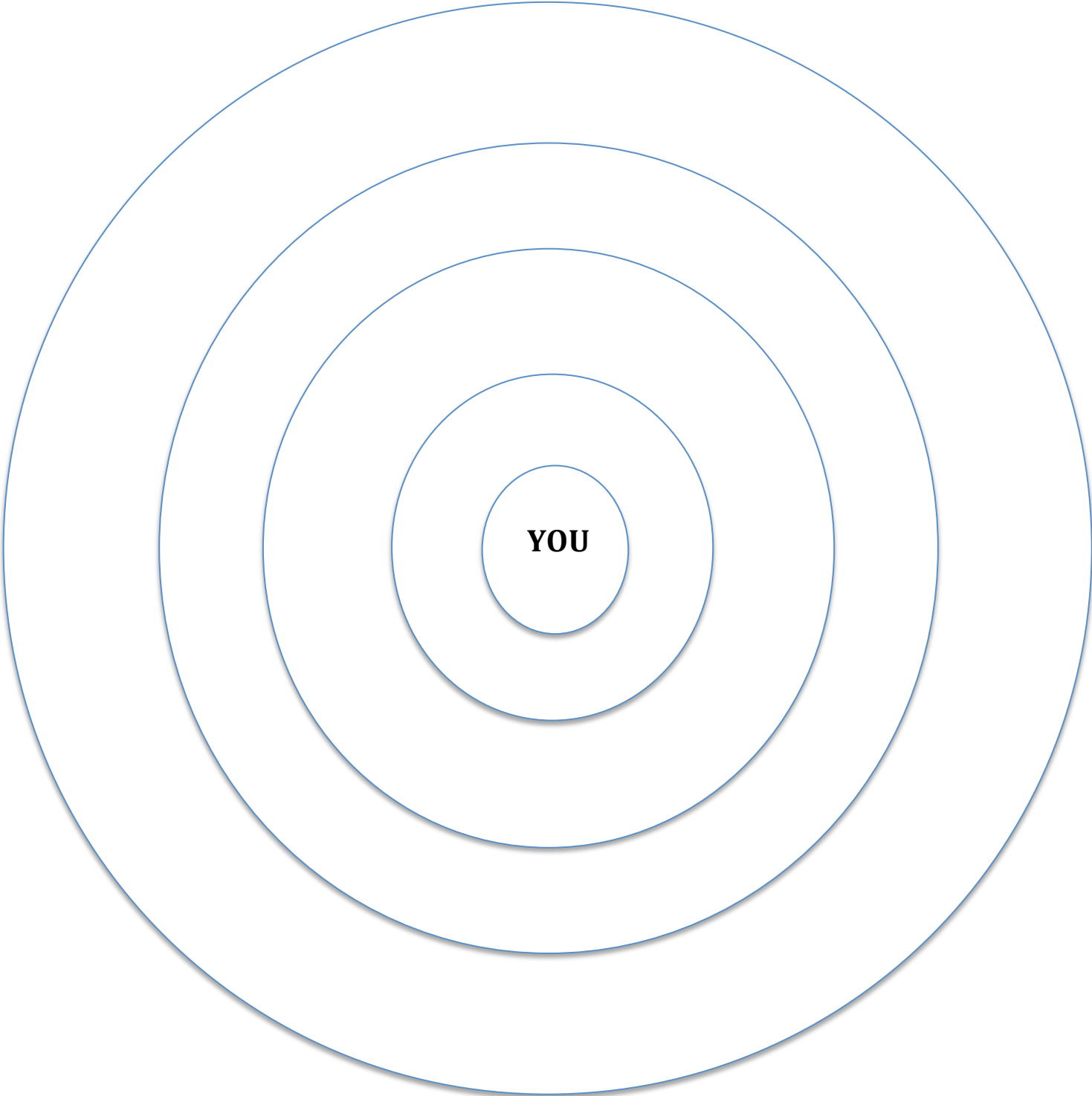
- How are you doing today?

XV. Activity

- Finish Privacy Circles
- What conversations are appropriate for each circle?

XVI. Closing Relaxation Activity

Appropriate Conversations in Privacy Circles



Group 5

XVII. Opening Relaxation Activity

- Deep Breath

XVIII. Check-In

- How are you doing today?

XIX. Activity

- Compliments worksheet

XX. Closing Relaxation Activity

4 TYPES OF COMPLIMENTS

I. *Appearance Compliments*

Appearance compliments are positive statements about the way someone looks, or about their clothes or accessories.

- Example: "Your new haircut looks good!"

Write 2 examples of Appearance Compliments:

1. _____

2. _____

II. *Skills, Traits, and Achievements Compliments*

This type of compliment is a positive statement about a person's skills, talents, achievements, or hard work.

- Example: "I saw you play soccer at the match. You are a great goalie!"

Write 2 examples of Skills, Traits, and Achievements Compliments:

1. _____

2. _____

4 TYPES OF COMPLIMENTS

III. *Personality or Character Compliments*

Personality compliments are positive statements about a person's general personality or character traits.

- Example: "You are such a helpful person!"

Write 2 examples of Personality or Character Compliments:

1. _____

2. _____

IV. *Secondary Compliments*

Secondary compliments make a positive statement about a person, place, or thing connected to the person being complimented.

- Example: "Your golden retriever is beautiful!"

Write 2 examples of Secondary Compliments:

1. _____

2. _____

Group 6

XXI. Opening Relaxation Activity

- Deep Breath

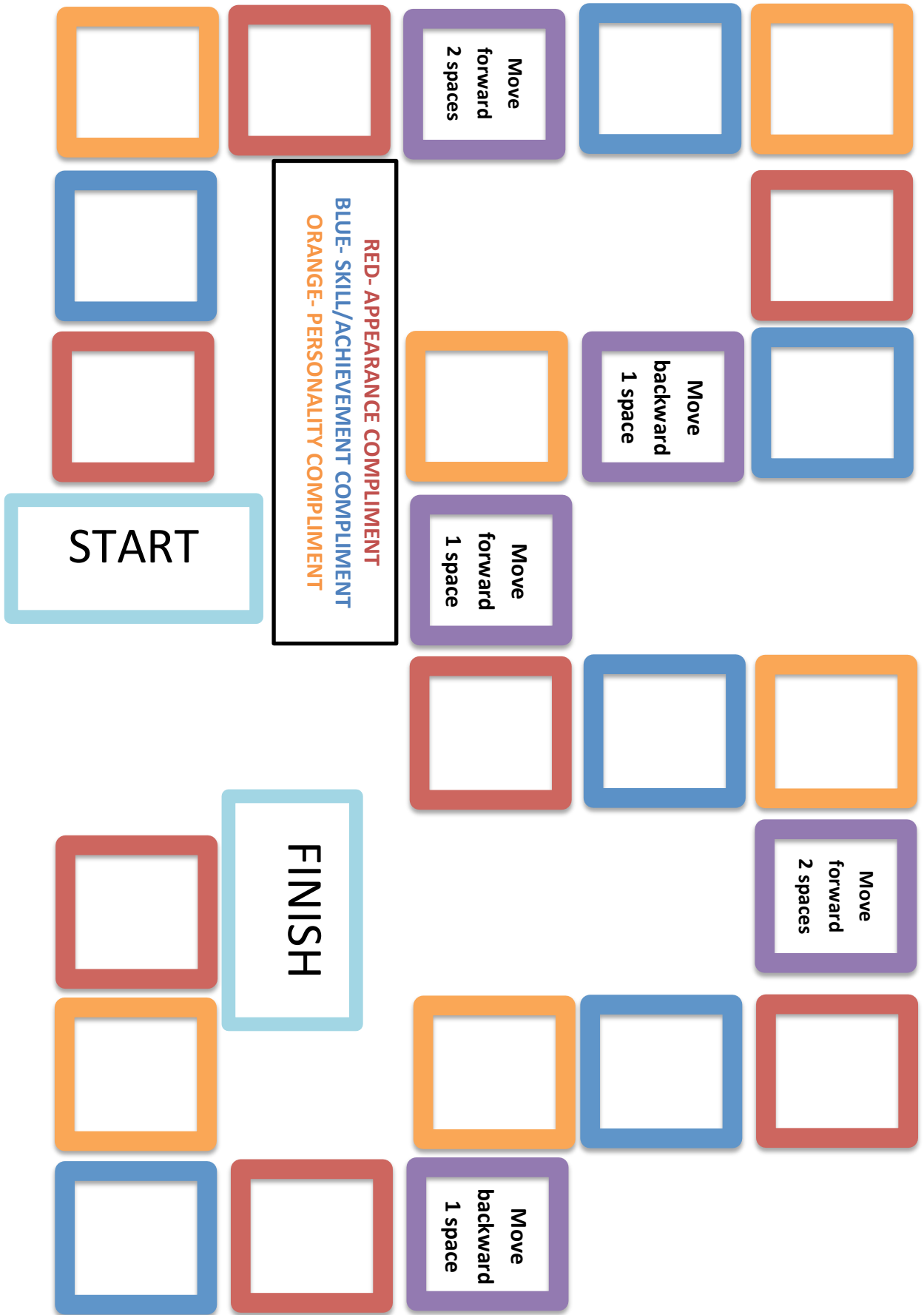
XXII. Check-In

- How are you doing today?

XXIII. Activity

- Compliments worksheet Review
- Compliments Board Game

XXIV. Closing Relaxation Activity



Group 7

XXV. Opening Relaxation Activity

- Deep Breath

XXVI. Check-In

- How are you doing today?

XXVII. Activity

- Evaluation
- Friendship Bracelets and Keychains

XXVIII. Closing Relaxation Activity