



Books

- **“Teaching Oral Communication in Grades K-8,”** Chaney, Ann L. and Tamara L. Burk, Prentice Hall, 1997.
- **“Speaking Rules! Games and activities for creating effective speakers, presenters and storytellers,”** Miyata, Cathy, Pembroke Publishers, 2001.

Web sites

- The Bureau for At-risk Youth,
www.at-risk.com
- Scholastic, Inc.,
www.scholastic.com
- Free Spirit Publishing,
www.freespirit.com
- Kids Health,
www.kidshealth.org

Communication

Suggested CHEC-out activities

1 Communication role playing

Give students conflict scenarios and have them act out resolutions using what they learned in the *Communication* program. For example, students could use “I” statements to diffuse a situation.

2 I must not say “I”

Have each student find a partner and stand facing each other. Announce a topic like summer vacation plans or favorite animals. Have students begin discussing the topic. During the discussion, students cannot use the words: I, me, my or mine. If a student uses one of these words, he or she must sit down. Every 20 seconds have students find a new partner. Continue switching every 20 seconds until only one person is left standing. Discuss how easy it is to say something without thinking and how hard it is to watch what we say to others.

3 Refusal skills

Brainstorm with students situations where they might need to use refusal skills. Situations could include being pressured to use drugs, being pressured to cheat, etc. Come up with a thorough list of things students can do to get out of those situations and have them practice what they would do or say.

4 Charades

Create your own charades game. Students can suggest topics and you can write specific people, places or things related to that topic for the students to act out.