Identity Development Journey

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Child receives puppet at age 6 ── Beginning of identity journey

Child designs puppet
to look/feel like them

- Puppet becomes "them"
- Safe space for expression ── **Identity Anchoring Phase**
- No forcing or rushing

Child engages with puppet?
yes

Express feelings through puppet

Puppet interactions recorded

Patterns begin to emerge

Ready for next step?
yes

Bridge Construction Phase

Puppet meets other puppets

Communication attempts increase

May begin verbal attempts

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Validation Phase

Track progress

Measure both internal feelings
and external behaviors

yes Verbal communication emerges? no

Success! But not required   Alternative communication
fully validated

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