

Sponge Balls

Have fun this summer with a good old-fashioned water balloon fight using these sponge balls. These are like reusable water balloons (link in the Tips section for directions on how to make them)! Just make sure you use a **low-tech communication board** when playing with water to protect your device! Free low-tech boards are available in the Chat Corner.

CORE WORDS

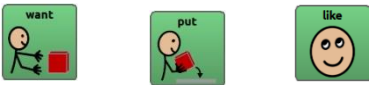
Can	Want
Do/did	I
Get/got	You
Give	More
Go	"Colors"
Help	Cool
Like	Fun
Need	Wet
Put	Dry

MATERIALS

Sponges (cut into strips)	Child
String	You
Water	AAC Device
Bucket	

Model It on the AAC Device

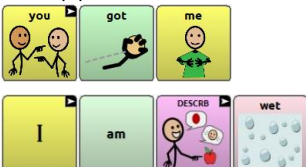
One Word:



Two Words:



Three(+) Words:



Active with AAC

Reasons to Communicate	One Word	Two Words	Three(+) Words
Getting Wants/Needs Met (requesting objects/activities/ permission/attention, etc., directing action/to stop, request help)	Want Help Need Go More Can Put Do	I want I need Help me You do Need more More go Need (+ color) Want more	I want (+color) Can you help me? I need more Let's play more Put all in There no more Can I do it? I need more
Exchange Information (share and show objects, confirm/deny, request information, etc.)	Look Like I You Help Do/did Need Want Give Get/got Here	I like You like? Like (+ color) Did it? You do I do Look it Put here You put Want (+color)? I put	You got me! You got me wet I am wet It is dry I like that I can do it Do you have more? Do you need help? I have it Put it here Put it in
Social Closeness/Etiquette (greet, take turns, comment, etc.)	I You Do Like Cool Fun More "Colors" Wet	I do You do Like it It pretty That fun Like (+color) It wet Stop it I got	You got me! You did it! I got you! It is wet! I am all wet! That was fun I want to do it I put it in

Tips to Engage, Expand, and Succeed:

- Follow the link for directions on how to make sponge balls.
 - https://www.pinterest.com/pin/AU8vkGDa1_fITlu4KidP9jJWhnfQjQzYAZ6FLxJpND6pDZLnuJOOcd8/
- While making the sponge balls, let your child/client pick which color sponges they want for each sponge ball. Core words to use could be: **want, like, red, green** (etc. – any color), **help, I, you**
- A great way to work on some different reasons to communicate is to sabotage the child/client while making the balloons. For example:
 - If the child asks for green, give them blue. Wait for them to say: **no, that's wrong**, etc.
 - If you are at the step of tying the sponges together, let the child try. If they have difficulty, show them how to ask for **help**. Do not anticipate their needs! Instead, wait for them to ask for **help**.
- Don't force communication when playing. The child/client does not have to say **go** every time a water balloon is thrown. Instead, talk about it after: **that was fun, you** threw them **all, you got me**, etc.