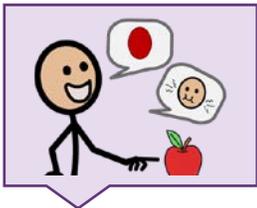## Let's teach **first**

What comes **FIRST**?

The word **FIRST** indicates an order of something, specifically the beginning. Children start using the word **FIRST** by 5-6 years of age. You can start teaching the word **FIRST** by talking about the steps involved in everyday things, like making dinner or fixing an item. "**FIRST**, we need to…"
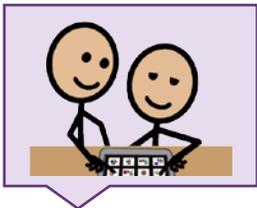
FIND

Find the word in the vocabulary. **FIRST** is an adjective, so it will typically be a pink word. It is often located on the DESCRIBE page of many vocabularies. If you can't find **FIRST**, use the Word Finder feature to learn where it is. If it is not in the vocabulary, you may want to add it.
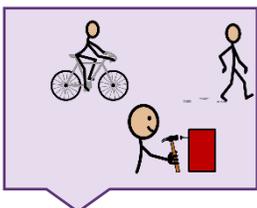
INTRODUCE

Use **FIRST** in context and try to explain it at the learner's level. Modeling, touching the word in the vocabulary as you say it, may help. Here's an example: "**FIRST** is the beginning of something. When you are **FIRST** in line, you are at the front."

MODEL

Model the word throughout the day, touching **FIRST** in the vocabulary anytime you say it.
"He is **FIRST** in line." "Who should go **FIRST**?" "That's the **FIRST** one." "You go **FIRST**." "**FIRST**, we need to put our shoes on."
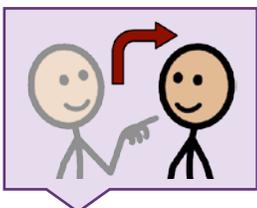
ENCOURAGE

Create activities to provide lots of models and practice with **FIRST**.
Book: *Me FIRST* by Helen Lester
Game: Pick a new person to go **FIRST** each time.
Activity: Have a race. Who was **FIRST**?

EXPECT

Create opportunities for the learner to say the word. Make sure to wait, and look so they know it is expected.
When playing a game, encourage your child to say if they want to "go **FIRST**."
Tell a story in order, start with the word **FIRST**. "**FIRST**, we went to the zoo."

Saltillo