



Choose a Routine or Motivating Activity

Start by choosing a routine or activity that your child enjoys participating in. Use something that they will want to talk about, and something that you can provide multiple models of language in. Start with things they enjoy and then move towards routines and activities that you would like them to communicate and participate in.

Choose a Communication Function to Target

It is easy to start with requesting things, activities, foods, etc., but we want to encourage our AAC learners to communicate for a variety of reasons. Choose a communication function to target during your routine or activity. Use the table on the Organizational Tool to assist with targeting various functions of communication.

Choose Core Words or Core Word Phrases to Target

Next you will want to choose the core words or core word phrases that you can target during the activity. Start with those and then add one more word to the message to expand their language when you are modeling. For instance, if you are targeting directing actions while playing with a toy, you may be modeling “put in”. You can start expanding this by adding “put it in” or “put ball in” You could also add who is going to do the action, “I put in” or “You put in.”

Write a Script for Aided Language Input

Plan out what you are going to say and what you will touch on the AAC system. Take your core words and core word phrases and think about how you might talk about the activity and include those phrases. For example, “The piggy is ready to go to the barn. I put it in. The piggy is in the barn” while touching “I + put + in” on the AAC system.

Try it Out

You are ready to try it out with your child! It’s Ok if it doesn’t feel natural or if you make a mistake. It takes time and repetition to become more fluent. In addition, you can show your child how to fix a mistake or talk through searching for words. The most important thing is to have fun!