

# Let's Get This Started!

## Augmentative and Alternative Communication Assessment

Presented by: Heather Miller Schwarz, M.S., CCC-SLP, UCP Seguin- Infinitec

1

# Disclosures

Financial Disclosures: YES

Non- Financial Disclosures: YES

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Sometimes you learn what is "right" by being "wrong".

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# Goals for this Training

- Participants will compare and contrast models of AAC assessment and strategy implementation.
- Participants will identify potential AAC users using the participation model as a guide.
- Participants will list the components of the feature match assessment to support communication.

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6

## AAC Assessment

- The goals of AAC intervention and assessment
  - Enable individuals to efficiently and effectively engage in communication and participate in activities of their choice.
  - Assist individuals to meet their current and future communication needs.



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7

## AAC Assessment

- Which communication methods should be maintained or developed?
- Which communication tools and methods will be added to the student's repertoire?
- What strategies will the communication partners use with this individual to increase communicative competence?

<http://aac.unl.edu/yaack/co.html>

8

## AAC Assessment



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9

## Assessment Models

- Expert Model
  - Formal referral system
  - Formal assessment
  - Decision made with the help of an 'expert'
  - Formal report
  - Then, implementation shifts to team working with this individual
  - This team is responsible for implementation and determining success of a system

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10

## Assessment Models



- Problems with the Expert Model
  - TIME!
  - Responds to a referral once the team has recognized that the individual has failed in some area.
  - It's often reactive instead of proactive.

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Bowser and Decoste, 2016

11

## Assessment Models

- Capacity Building Model
  - Looks at the patterns of referrals
  - Identifies topics for training so that all staff member begin to implement AAC strategies in their classroom, agency, hospital, etc.
  - Make supports available.
  - Builds agency/district wide capacity.
  - Continued use of strategies to build skills.

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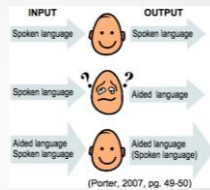
Bowser and Decoste, 2016

12

## Capacity Building

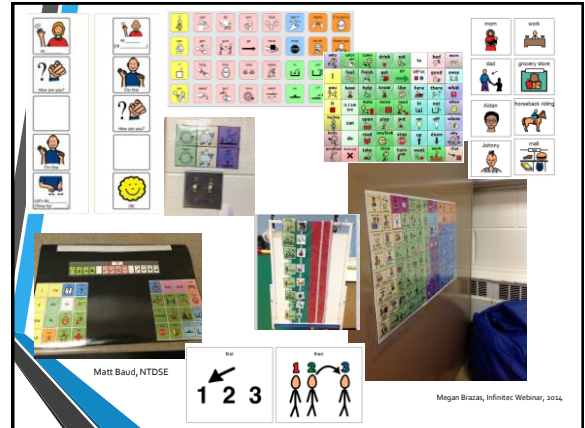
### Each partner should know:

- Partner augmented input
- AAC prompting hierarchy
- Choice-making strategies
- How to navigate a communication system
- How to be a good communication partner



Grether & Sickman, 2008

13



14

## Feature Match Assessment



15

## Current AT/AAC Assessment Models

- SETT process- Joy Zabala, [www.joyzabala.com](http://www.joyzabala.com)
  - Also expanded upon at WATI's site- [www.wati.org](http://www.wati.org)
- Participation model-
  - Beukelman, D. R. & Mirenda, P. (2013). *Augmentative and alternative communication: Supporting children and adults with complex communication needs*. 4<sup>th</sup> ed. Baltimore, MD: Brookes Publishing.
- Feature Matching

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16

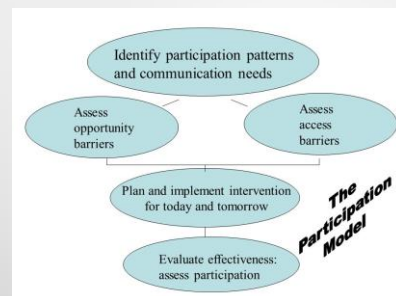
## SETT

- **STUDENT:** Consider individual strengths and challenges
- **ENVIRONMENT:** Document the environments the individual participates in daily
- **TASKS:** Comprehensive list of tasks/goals for student
- **TOOLS:** What tools will help accomplish the tasks/goals

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[www.JoyZabala.com](http://www.JoyZabala.com)

17

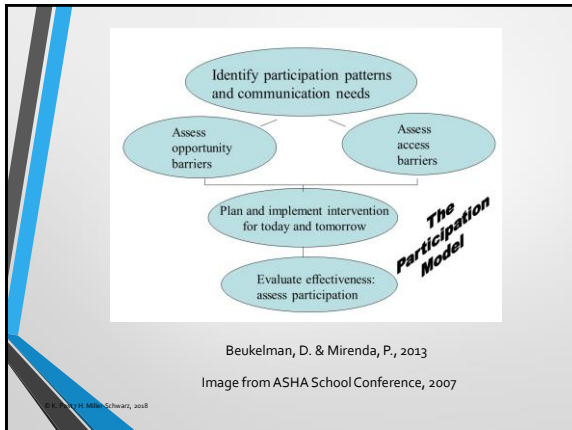


Beukelman, D. & Mirenda, P., 2013

Image from ASHA School Conference, 2007

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18



19

## Feature Match Assessment

"The systematic process by which a person's strengths, abilities and needs are matched to available tools and strategies."

Shane and Costello, 1994

20

## AAC Assessment

- The process that we will discuss today is a combination of the Participation model and Feature Matching process

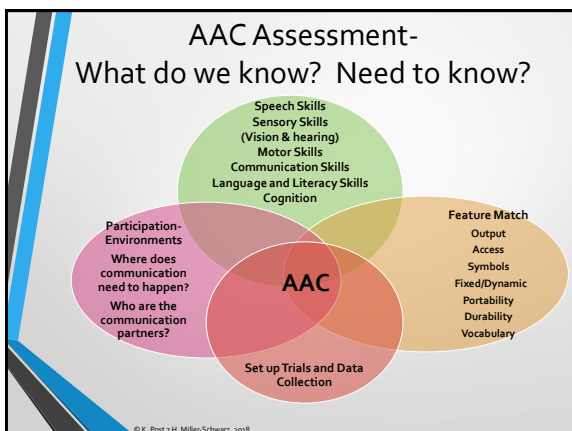
21

## Feature Match AAC Assessment

- Gather information about strengths and needs as they relate to device features.
- Compare participation patterns and identify barriers.
- Integrate the person's strengths, abilities and needs and match them to a list of features.
- Identify goals and conduct trials.
- Determine tool(s) based on data collected.
- Summarize/Report data to procure a system.
- Reassess the appropriateness of your AAC system(s) over time.

Modification of the DATE Assessment, Texas AT Network

22



23

## AAC Evaluation Data Gathering Worksheet (Kathleen Post )

AAC Evaluation Data Gathering Worksheet	Know	Need to know	Assessment Plan
<b>Personal Information</b>			
Name:			
Diagnosis:			
Age:			
Supports in Home/Community (list people):			
Interests and/or occupations:			
Current Communication Methods:			
Current Communication Functions expressed:			
<b>Environmental Barriers and Supports</b>			
Barriers:			
Communication Opportunities:			
Communication Partner Needs:			
<b>Abilities Profile</b>			
<b>Sensory/Perceptual Information/Issues</b>			
Functional vision skills or any challenges:			
touch, feel, discrimination functioning:			
light/color sensitivity, stability, functional vision competence:			
Functional hearing skills or any challenges:			
Motor Areas/Skills/Issues:			

(Kathleen Post, Midwestern University, 2018)

24

## AAC Assessment Gail Van Tatenhove

Gail M. Van Tatenhove, PA  
Augmentative & Alternative Communication Specialist  
Speech-Language Clinician, MS, CCC SLP

**SPEECH-LANGUAGE & AAC ASSESSMENT PROTOCOL**

Personal Information		
Name of Person	Date of Birth	Sex
Place of Residence	Primary Medical Diagnosis	
Address	Secondary Medical Diagnosis	
	Home Telephone	
	Work Telephone	
	Cell Phone	
Email		
Social Security #	Fax	
Insurance Carrier	Modem #	
Insurance ID #	Modem #	
Insurance Service	Insurance Phone #	
Advocate/Guardian	Telephone	
Address	Cell Phone	
	Fax	
	Email	

Assessment Information	
Date(s) of Evaluation Session	
Evaluation Site(s)	
Evaluation Team Members and Roles	

Vantatenhove.com

25

## AAC Evaluation Protocol (GPAT)

Georgia Project for Assistive Technology  
Division for Special Education Services and Supports  
100 Two University  
Atlanta, GA 30303  
Phone 404-651-0338 FAX 404-651-8457  
Website: www.gpat.org

**GPAT**

**Augmentative Communication Evaluation Summary**

Student: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_  
Context of Evaluation: \_\_\_\_\_ System: \_\_\_\_\_

Access Evaluation  
Additional measures were utilized to evaluate the student's access skills. The following is a summary of teacher performance:

Speed Selection:  
☐ Student could utilize direct selection to access targets (i.e., keys, familiar objects, manipulatives, etc.) placed within easy reach using:  
☐ Hand ☐ Finger ☐ Mouth ☐ Head ☐ Feet ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ Eye gaze response ☐ Description: \_\_\_\_\_

When using direct selection, the student:  
☐ Completely accessed targets ☐ Yes ☐ No  
☐ Consistently accessed targets ☐ Yes ☐ No  
☐ Required significant response time ☐ Yes ☐ No  
☐ Required a large target area ☐ Yes ☐ No  
☐ Accessed symbols in all locations ☐ Yes ☐ No  
☐ Accessed symbols in all locations ☐ Yes ☐ No  
☐ Accessed symbols in all locations ☐ Yes ☐ No

(If student is able to utilize direct selection, skip remainder of access section and move to Symbol Evaluation)

Adapted Direct Selection:  
☐ Student could utilize adapted equipment to access targets using:  
☐ Head ☐ Hand ☐ Mouth ☐ Feet ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ Head ☐ Hand ☐ Mouth ☐ Feet ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

26

## AAC Assessment Checklist (Vanderbilt University)

**AAC:  
ASSESSMENT CHECKLIST**

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
School: \_\_\_\_\_ Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_  
Location: \_\_\_\_\_ Observer: \_\_\_\_\_  
Time: \_\_\_\_\_

1. Who understands the student's communication attempts (check best descriptor)

	Most of the time	Part of the time	Seldom	N/A
Parents/Guardians	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Teachers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Peers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Therapists	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Trainers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Strangers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

2. Present means of communication (check all that are used, and the ones that are primary means of communication - used at least 50% of the time)

Verbal

Primary: ☐ Yes ☐ No

Nonverbal

Primary: ☐ Yes ☐ No

Other: ☐ Yes ☐ No

27

## Feature Match AAC Assessment

1. Gather information about strengths and needs as they relate to device features.
2. Compare participation patterns and identify barriers.
3. Integrate the person's strengths, abilities and needs and match them to a list of features.
4. Identify goals and conduct trials.
5. Determine tool(s) based on data collected.
6. Summarize/Report data to procure a system.
7. Reassess the appropriateness of your AAC system(s) over time.

Adapted from: 2008

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28

## Gather Information-Speech and Intelligibility

- **Feature Match** Goal is to determine size and type of system, symbolic representation, vocabulary & output options.
  - Intelligibility is how well the individual is able to make himself understood?
  - These measurements are often given as ratings by familiar vs. unfamiliar listeners.
  - This information is often used to determine "eligibility" or to provide "proof of need" for funding agencies.

file:///C:/Users/heath/Downloads/23230-Flipsen-Peter-2.pdf

29

## Speech Intelligibility As it relates to an AAC system (Feature Match):

- Consider the needs and goal for your student.
- If the system will only be used to clarify a communication breakdown, then the features will often differ from a individual who is using it for all expressive output.
  - Vocabulary
  - Output
  - Symbols
  - Fixed vs. Dynamic



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Speech Intelligibility  
As it relates to an AAC system  
(Feature Match):

- Vocabulary features
  - Vocabulary may be different for a supplemental/augmentative users vs. a user that needs a system as an alternative method of communication.
  - E.g., topic setting, photo access, calendars, letter displays, news, scripts

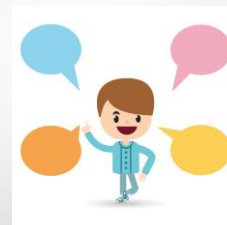
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Kidsability.ca

31

Speech Intelligibility  
As it relates to an AAC system  
(Feature Match):

- Output features
  - Voice/no voice
  - Message window/no message window?



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Speech Intelligibility  
As it relates to an AAC system  
(Feature Match):

- Symbolic representation
  - Use of symbols for every word or one symbol for a phrase?
  - Use of a keyboard alone.

1	A	B	C	D	YES	NO
2	E	F	G	H	?	😊
3	I	J	K	L	M	N
4	O	P	Q	R	S	T
5	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
6	7	8	9	0	ⓧ	SPACE

Nordness, Beukelman & Ullman (2010), Hustad & Garcia (2005).  
<https://tactustherapy.com/aac-slurred-speed-t-dysarthria/>

33

Speech Intelligibility  
As it relates to an AAC system  
(Feature Match): SIZE



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34

## Gather Information-Sensory Skills

**Vision Feature Match** Goal is to determine size, type, placement of symbols & identify language input & output options.

- Visual Acuity
- Visual Field
- Oculomotor Functioning
- Cortical visual impairment
- Light Sensitivity
- Color Perception

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35

Sensory/Perceptual-vision  
As it relates to an AAC system  
(Feature Match):

- Symbols: Size, number, type, complexity, enhancements
  - Symbol Fields and arrangements  
(will discuss the symbols more in depth again later)
- Output features  
Access features


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Sensory/Perceptual- vision

### As it relates to an AAC system (Feature Match):

- Symbols: Size and number of symbols, space between symbols.




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Sensory/Perceptual- vision

### As it relates to an AAC system (Feature Match):

- Type of symbols (e.g., object, tactile, line drawing, etc.)



Tactile connections, APH

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Sensory/Perceptual- vision

### Tactile Symbols

If vision is compromised, but motor skills are not, consider tactile symbols.

<http://www.tsbvi.edu/tactile-symbols>

or True Object Based Icons (TOBIs)




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Sensory/Perceptual- vision

### Symbol Enhancements

Example- PCST<sup>SM</sup> High Contrast

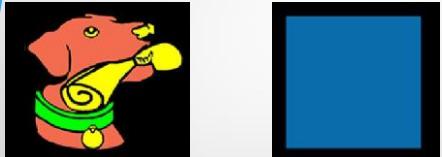


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Project core board  
<https://communicationmatrix.org/Community/Posts/Content/15820>

40

### Complexity of Symbols



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Sensory/Perceptual- vision

### As it relates to an AAC system (Feature Match):

- Symbol Fields and arrangements
  - Grid style
  - Word webs-aacorn
  - Visual scene display

(will discuss the symbols more in depth again later)


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42



Sensory/Perceptual- vision  
As it relates to an AAC system  
(Feature Match):

- Output features: backlit screen

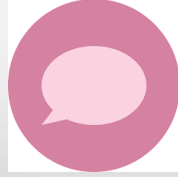


© K. Post & H. Miller-Schwartz, 2018

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Sensory/Perceptual- vision  
As it relates to an AAC system  
(Feature Match):

- Access features: auditory preview through fishing or scanning



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Sensory/Perceptual- vision  
As it relates to an AAC system  
(Feature Match):

- Fixed vs. Dynamic: Will the individual be using motor planning or pragmatic branching approaches?

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Sensory/Perceptual- hearing  
As it relates to an AAC system  
(Feature Match):

- **Hearing Feature Match**  
Goal is to determine sound tolerance, voice output type and volume needs, simultaneous 'activation' signaling.




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Sensory/Perceptual- hearing  
As it relates to an AAC system  
(Feature Match):

- Output features:
  - Voice output
  - Type of voice output
  - Volume options
  - Simultaneous 'activation' signals



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47

Gather Information-Motor Skills

Motor Feature Match Goal is to identify optimal seating, positioning, and motor technique for using AAC system.

Work with other members of the interdisciplinary team as necessary.

- Identify appropriate positioning (seating, walking, etc.)
- Identify selection method and technique (direct, scanning, encoding)
  - What part of the body will be active (hands, head/voice, feet, arms/elbow, legs/knees, eye gaze)?

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48



## Motor skills- fine motor abilities As it relates to an AAC system (Feature Match):

### Seating and positioning

- is critical for use of assistive technology (AT) and participation in a variety of environments. (AAC-RERC)
- effects access, fatigue, comfort, alertness, motivation and so much more.
- Impacts how a person will access their AAC system when walking vs. in adaptive equipment such as wheelchair, stander, or while resting out of equipment.

49

## Motor skills- Overall positioning As it relates to an AAC system (Feature Match):

- Ambulation
- Wheelchairs
- Standers
- Other positioning devices- issues



50

## Motor skills- fine motor abilities As it relates to an AAC system (Feature Match):

### Access Options:

- Direct Selection-
  - Directly touching the item or target desired
- Scanning-
  - Moving a highlight to a specific target
    - Linear, circular, row column, column row, group row column, etc.
    - Single switch automatic scanning, two switch step scanning, inverse scanning, etc.

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51

## Scanning

- **Scanning-** A method of accessing in which a highlighted area moves repeatedly from one character (or group of characters) to the next. The individual activates a switch to make a selection.
- **Partner Assisted Scanning- (PAS)** or Partner Assisted Auditory Scanning (PAAS) as a training option or low tech system to support other communication system use.



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52

## Motor skills- fine motor abilities As it relates to an AAC system:

### Selection Methods cont'd

#### Considerations

- Type, range, accuracy, consistency, strength, speed, etc.
- Activation site: the minimum size of the targets, possible number of targets, spacing of targets, etc., will be determined by accuracy
- Sensitivity: the amount of pressure or force needed to activate the target.
- Motor planning system vs. navigation

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53

## Direct Selection

- Size of Targets
- Method of Direct Selection



54

## Gather Information-Motor Skills

### • Direct Selection

- Handheld pointers
- Head pointers
- Mouth sticks
- Light pointers/Laser pointers

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Image from AbleNet Inc



© K. Post & H. Miller-Schwartz, 2018

Image from Maltron

56

## Gather Information-Motor Skills

### • Conductive Pointers for iDevices

- Required to access capacitive screen technology- regular 'pointers' won't work!
- Have to complete a 'circuit'
- May need to adapt pointers!



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## Gather Information-Motor Skills

### • Direct Selection

- Mouse, trackball, joystick
- Head Mouse options
- Eye Gaze Technology

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## Fine motor skills- access options Direct Selection options

- Device Access Settings
  - Hold/release times
  - Touch enter/touch exit
  - Activation pressure
  - Ignore repeated selections
- Cut out Gloves
- Keyguards or Touch Guides



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59

## Fine motor skills- access options Additional Considerations

- Questions to ask yourselves:
  - Can the method of access be used repeatedly without undue fatigue, discomfort or embarrassment?
  - What does the individual like/tolerate?
  - Can this method be used across all environments or will there need to be other options for other situations/positions?

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60

## Gather Information-Communication Skills

- **Feature Match Goal is to identify communication skills used to interact and engage with others.**
- When assessing current communication skills, make sure that you document the following in activities or environments that you believe would benefit from augmentative and alternative communication supports:
  - Baselines in
    - Communicative intent
    - Functions expressed
    - Frequency within a timeframe
    - Complexity of messages
- Why? So that trials later on can provide you with information on whether communication increased or not!

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61

Communication Skills  
As it relates to an AAC  
system:

# Vocabulary

- What should you supplement?
- What should you add?
- What should you replace?

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Communication Skills  
As it relates to an AAC  
system:

- Ease of retrieval of messages
- Prediction/no prediction
- Navigation to get to important vocabulary

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63

## Gather Information- Language and Literacy Skills

## Language skills

*Feature Match Goal is to identify language skills for communication and comprehension. Influences symbol selection.*

- Vocabulary
- Grammar
- Discourse/Pragmatics
- Literacy



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64

Language  
As it relates to an AAC system (Feature Match):

- Size of vocabulary set needed
- Types of vocabulary
  - Core language, whole messages, clarification strategies
- Symbol type and use (single, stringing, sequenced)

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Language  
As it relates to an AAC system (Feature Match):

- Message storage: levels vs. message encoding
- Encoding:
  - **Numeric codes:** 1: hi, 2: my name is Joe, 3: bye
  - **Letter codes:** (e.g., abbreviation expansion/instant messages).
    - hhy: hello how are you?/cz: because
  - **Semantic encoding** (e.g., Unity)
- Use of morphological markers (past tense, plurals, etc.)

<http://www.aucorinc.com/whatsnew/ncsc.html>

66

## Gather Information- Language Skills

### Symbol Selection

- Determine how an individual can communicate with symbols & possible symbol types
  - Objects, Texture cues or symbols, True Object Based Icons (TOBI), Cut Out Photographs, Pictures, and Symbols, Photographs, Line Drawings (Color), Line Drawings (Black & White), Realistic (Color), Realistic (Black & White), Visual Scenes, Alphabet/Spelling

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67

## Symbol Sets

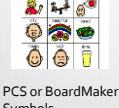
- Photos
- Drawings
- Symbol Sets



Pixton Symbols



SymbolStix



PCS or BoardMaker Symbols



Unity Symbols



Widgets

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68

## Language- symbol selection As it relates to an AAC system (Feature Match): Considerations when choosing symbols:

- Vision
- Situation
- Individual or family preference
- Age appropriateness
- Cultural or ethnic influences
- Motor abilities
- Skill levels- literacy, processing, cognition
- Exposure

McClure & Rush, 2007

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69

## Gather Information-Literacy

- When assessing literacy skills, note ability to use spontaneous spelling, first letter of word recognition, word recognition (sight word and word prediction/completion).
- Why? These skills can assist in language retrieval in AAC systems.



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70

## Language- symbol selection As it relates to an AAC System (Feature Match)

- Site words representation vs symbols
- Initial letter retrieval to symbols
- Alphabetical ordered vocabulary
- Keyboard on main page vs navigate to keyboard



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71

## Gather Information- Cognitive Skills

- Awareness
- Communicative intent
- World knowledge
- Memory
- Symbolic representation
- Metacognition

Rowland and Schweigert, 2003

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72

## Cognition As it relates to an AAC system (Feature Match):

### Skills to assess:

- Ability to categorize
- Ability to use semantic associations for recall of language (e.g., Unity)
- Ability to use memory to recall words/motor patterns

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73

## Gather Information - Vocabulary Features

- These strengths or needs can impact which vocabulary system an individual might use.
- Various commercially produced vocabulary sets are available for different systems.
- Using the information you have collected and analyzed in the Feature Match process, would a vocabulary set be an option to explore in a trial?

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74

## Gather Information - Vocabulary Features

- Core Vocabulary
- Activity Specific Vocabulary
- Word-based vs. Phrase-based vs. Carrier phrases
- Sentence-based vocabulary
- Visual Scene display
- Scrolling lists

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75

## Additional Device Features to Consider

- Output (voice output vs. paper-based)
- Access (direct access vs. smart partner)
- Fixed/Dynamic
- Portability and durability
- Closed vs open system (able to get out of vocabulary to use computer or iOS features)
- Funding options
- Product support & warranty

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76

## Feature Match AAC Assessment

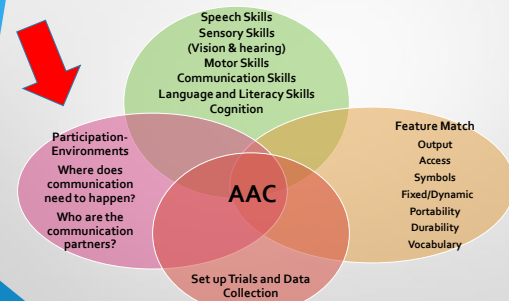
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6. Summarize/Report data to procure a system.
7. Reassess the appropriateness of your AAC system(s) over time.

Miller-Schwartz, 2012

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77

## AAC Assessment- What do we know? Need to know?



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78

## What do we know, need to know?

### Participation/Environment/Partners

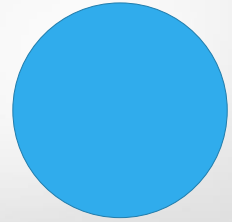
- The customary environments in which the person is (or can be) expected to live, learn and grow. (Joy Zabala)
- Frequently occurring activities
- Communication partners

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## Gather information: Participation

- Look at the circles of communication and determine which methods work with which partner.
- Identify communication supports for different circles.



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80

## Communication Barriers

- Partner Characteristics
- Vocabulary issues
- Device issues

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81

## Gather Information About Barriers

- Partner habits and beliefs:
  - Systems not available
  - Lack of training
  - 'Don't need it' attitude
  - Won't use their own voice if they have other supports



Post, 2009

82

## Partner's Interaction Style

- Adults often dominate interactions
- Don't give students time to formulate messages
- Fail to respond to a student's initiation
- Anticipate student's needs, making communication unnecessary



83

## Partner's Instructional Style

- Use rhetorical speech
- Use fills or tags which obscure messages: "We need to get something, right?"
- Sometimes we state a message over and over again "what do you need? Tell me what you need?"

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84

## Gather Information about Barriers

- Barriers with system
  - Limitations of vocabulary
  - Access
  - Fear of systems
  - Dependency



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85

## Barriers: Message Issues

- We do not have the vocabulary available to participate in discussion
- Vocabulary available is not appropriate to the task (e.g., topic specific boards)

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86

## Barriers

- Identify and discuss with your team.



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87

HOW CAN I LEARN TO TALK ON MY  
DEVICE

IF YOU DON'T MODEL  
MODEL?!

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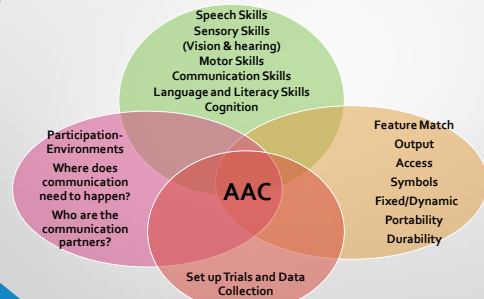
88

# Teach Don't Test

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89

## AAC Assessment- What do we know? Need to know?



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90



## Feature Match AAC Assessment

1. Gather information about strengths and needs as they relate to device features.
2. Compare participation patterns and identify barriers.
3. **Integrate the person's strengths, abilities and needs and match them to a list of features.**
4. Identify goals and conduct trials.
5. Determine tool(s) based on data collected.
6. Summarize/Report data to procure a system.
7. Reassess the appropriateness of your AAC system(s) over time.

Modification of the DATE Assessment, Texas AT Network

91

## Generate a Feature List

- Next Step: Transfer what you know into a Feature Match Worksheet and begin to investigate systems to obtain for trials.



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## TALC Feature Matching Checklist

<http://www.talcac.com/SGD%20Features%20Checklist.pdf>

93

## Oklahoma AT Center

<https://bit.ly/2HHcPz>

94

## Feature Match Worksheet

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95

## Prioritize Systems for Trial

- AAC App Comparisons Tools
  - Infnitec Coalition App Search [www.myinfnitec.org](http://www.myinfnitec.org)
  - iPhone/iPad Apps for AAC by Jane Farrell <http://www.janefarrell.com/aac-apps-lists/>
  - Sorting Through Apps [https://qiat.org/docs/resourcebank/Sorting\\_AA\\_C\\_aaps\\_OCT302011.pdf](https://qiat.org/docs/resourcebank/Sorting_AA_C_aaps_OCT302011.pdf)
  - Spectronics Apps for AAC <https://www.spectronics.com.au/iphoneipad-apps-for-aac>



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96

# Prioritize Systems for Trial

- Resources for Systems Comparison: Dedicated Speech Generating systems:
  - Closing the Gap Resource Directory  
<http://www.closingthegap.com/>
  - Assistive Technology Industry Association  
<http://www.atia.org/i4a/pages/index.cfm?pageid=3>
  - Assistive Technology Exhibits (ATIA, CTG, CSUN etc.)

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# Develop a Trial Action Plan

A document drawn up by an AAC user's team that describes:

- Names the communication systems
- Criteria for a successful trial
- How to know when troubleshooting is required?
- Strategies that will be employed including
  - Prompting hierarchies
  - Descriptions of activities & vocabulary plan


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# Identify Goals & Conduct Trials

- Make sure that everyone on the team is on the same page!
- Frequently discuss goals and data with your team to make sure that you are all tracking the same behavior.
- What do you hope to achieve by the end of this assessment and evaluation process?

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101



# Keep in Mind...

What is your end goal?

Be sure to select a system for today and tomorrow.

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# Examples

Assistive Technology Extended Assessment Plan	
Date of Extended Assessment Planning: _____	
<b>Student Data</b>	
Student Name _____	
Parent Name _____	
Parent Phone _____	
Parent Email _____	
Parent Address _____	
Date of Birth _____ CA _____	
Disability _____	
IEP Date _____	
Medicaid ID# _____	
Social Security # _____	
Grade/Placement _____	
Student ID _____	
School _____	
School Address _____	
School Phone _____	
School Fax _____	
<b>Team Members</b>	
All Extended Assessment Coordinators	
Name _____	
Title _____	
Phone _____	
Email _____	
Other Team Members	
Name _____ Title _____	
Phone _____	
Email _____	
Name _____ Title _____	
Phone _____	
Email _____	
Name _____ Title _____	
Phone _____	
Email _____	
<b>Overall Goal for Device Use</b>	

<https://douglasced.k12.or.us/files/2016/04/extended-assessment-plan.pdf>

# Feature Match AAC Assessment

1. Gather information about strengths and needs as they relate to device features.
2. Compare participation patterns and identify barriers.
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4. Identify goals and conduct trials.
5. Determine tool(s) based on data collected.
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102

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## Begin with the End in Mind!

"... begin each day, task, or project with a clear vision of your desired direction and destination, ... then continue by flexing your proactive muscles to make things happen."

Covey, S. R. (2004). *The 7 habits of highly effective people: Restoring the character ethic*. New York: Free Press.

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103

## Remember

- It's not about mastery
- All students deserve:
  - To be given a means to communicate
  - To communicate in their chosen method
  - And to be understood and heeded by others

No person should have this right denied because he or she has been diagnosed as having a particular disability

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Walser, 2009

104

## Questions?

Please feel free to contact me via email  
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[hmiller@ucpnet.org](mailto:hmiller@ucpnet.org)

## Thank you!

\*References provided in a separate handout

Original presentation (AAC Assessment- Working Together to Achieve Functional Communication) was created in partnership with Kathleen Post, M.S., CCC-SLP

105