



Choose Core Words

Once you have decided on your activity, use the low-tech core board to help you select 2-3 words to target in your activity. If you feel more comfortable with the core words available on your child's device, you can choose core words from there.

Plan Your Questions

Next, write yourself a script with some open-ended questions you could ask during the activity that will encourage your child to use the core words you are targeting. Remember, open-ended questions require your child to say more than a yes/no answer. Example, if my core word is "go" and we are playing with cars; you can ask, "What should the car do?"

Plan Your Comments

At the beginning, your child may not always answer your open-ended questions. Write down some comments that your child could say, and you could model, to show them appropriate responses. When targeting the word "go" while playing with cars for example, you could say, "Car go," or "go fast," or "go more".

Locate the Words on a Low-Tech Board or Device

Locate the core words you want to target on a low-tech board or your child's device.

Practice Modeling

Now, practice asking your planned question while pointing to the core word(s) as you say them. Then practice commenting while pointing to the core word(s).

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!

Stepping Stones to AAC

