

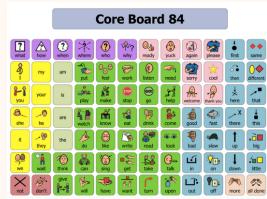
WHAT IS AUGMENTATIVE AND ALTERNATIVE COMMUNICATION (AAC)?

What Is AAC?



- AAC STANDS FOR AUGMENTATIVE AND ALTERNATIVE COMMUNICATION
- IT IS ANY FORM OF COMMUNICATION THAT DOES NOT INVOLVE VERBAL SPEECH
- EXAMPLES: GESTURES, FACIAL EXPRESSIONS, POINTING, WRITING, SIGN LANGUAGE, CORE BOARDS, OR A TABLET WITH A COMMUNICATION APP (E.G., LAMP, TOUCHCHAT, PROLOQUO2GO)
- THERE ARE NO PRE-REQUISITES FOR AAC AND CHILDREN AT ANY SKILL OR ABILITY LEVEL CAN LEARN AND BENEFIT FROM USING IT

Why AAC?



- WORDS ARE FLEETING, SOME CHILDREN ARE VISUAL LEARNERS AND NEED A VISUAL REPRESENTATION OF LANGUAGE
- AAC GIVES THE CHILD A MEANS TO COMMUNICATE AND HAVE CONTROL OVER HIS ENVIRONMENT
- EVEN THOUGH YOU MAY BE ABLE TO UNDERSTAND YOUR CHILD AND ANTICIPATE HER NEEDS, YOUR CHILD NEEDS A CONSISTENT WAY TO COMMUNICATE WITH PEOPLE AT SCHOOL AND IN HIS COMMUNITY TO GAIN INDEPENDENCE

Will AAC prevent my child from using his/her voice?



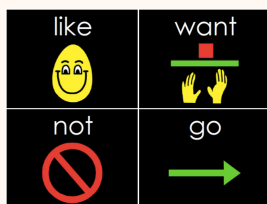
- RESEARCH SHOWS THAT AAC DOES NOT HINDER VERBAL SPEECH AND ONLY ENHANCES THE CHILD'S UNDERSTANDING AND USE OF LANGUAGE ([ASHA- AAC EVIDENCE MAP, 2020](#))
- EVERY CHILD'S PATH OF DEVELOPMENT IS DIFFERENT: SOME CHILDREN USE AAC AND GAIN VERBAL LANGUAGE, WHILE OTHERS USE IT AS A LIFELONG TOOL TO COMMUNICATE

Where can I get AAC?



- YOU CAN FIND PAPER CORE BOARDS TO PRINT AND USE AT THE FOLLOWING WEBSITE:
 - [HTTP://WWW.PROJECT-CORE.COM/COMMUNICATION-SYSTEMS/](http://www.project-core.com/communication-systems/)
- IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN AAC AND TRIALING A COMMUNICATION APP, TALK TO YOUR SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST HERE AT THERAPY AT PLAY WHO CAN HELP YOU FIND A SYSTEM THAT WORKS BEST FOR YOUR CHILD

Other resources:



- AIDED LANGUAGE MODELING:
 - [HTTPS://WWW.YOUTUBE.COM/WATCH?V=FLFNMKY22-U&T=3S](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FLFNMKY22-U&T=3S)
- WHAT ARE CORE WORDS:
 - [HTTPS://WWW.YOUTUBE.COM/WATCH?V=UG5JEH2H_OY&T=38S](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UG5JEH2H_OY&T=38S)
- MODELING WITH A CORE BOARD:
 - [HTTPS://WWW.YOUTUBE.COM/WATCH?V=B-AAM4LI3KC&T=109S](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B-AAM4LI3KC&T=109S)