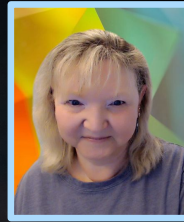



## CONSIDERATIONS IN ADDING NON-ROBUST AAC TOOLS AS SECONDARY SYSTEMS


Presentation by:

- Kelly Fonner, M.S.
  - Educational & AT Consultant
  - Special Education Teacher




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

 Youtube – Kelly Fonner



- Potential of Non-Robust Portable AAC Tools
- Types of Non-Robust Portable AAC Tools
- Feature Examples of Non-Robust Portable AAC Tools
- Resources

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

**THIS SHOULD NOT BE  
CONSIDERED A PERSON'S  
ENTIRE AAC SYSTEM**

## An AAC System Checklist

*From Pat Ourand*

Provides full range of communication

Compatible with all aspects of user's life

Does not restrict communication partners

Usable in all environments and positions

Does not restrict topic or scope of communication

Allows and fosters growth (flexible)

# However...



## There is Potential for Non-Robust Portable AAC Systems

As a secondary system

- ☐ To attract attention
- ☐ Quick chat/ Social message
- ☐ As an instant message
- ☐ Record messages that go between home and school/work
- ☐ Provide a talking lunch menu
- ☐ Provide a description of an image/poster

Can you help me get to history class?



GoTalk series of Communicators  
<https://www.attainmentcompany.com/technology/gotalks>

## There is Potential for Non-Robust Portable AAC Systems

With the sequencing systems

- ☐ Model turn taking
- ☐ Joke telling
- ☐ Direction giving
- ☐ Call out names in a game/activity
- ☐ Giving a presentation/report
- ☐ Saying lines in a play



This and more examples on <https://www.adaptivation.com>  
Click on IDEAS and on PRESENTATION HANDOUTS

## “Travel Systems” considerations by parents of AAC communicators

Enabling Devices blog  
<https://enablingdevices.com/blog/>

**Helping Children Communicate Outside the Home**

By Elin Birmingham  
Special Education Teacher at Southwest Cook County Cooperative Association for Special Education

Individuals with disabilities communicate in a variety of ways: vocalizations, facial expressions, gestures, eye gaze, body language, touch, verbalizations and more. Family members are often the translators for their son, daughter, sister or brother. Most parents can tell what their child needs just by looking at them.

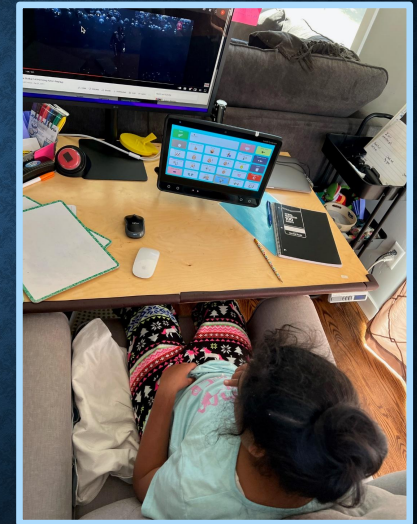
When the “translator” isn’t present, though, it can be hard for the child to make themselves understood. School, day programs, special recreation centers, residential living facilities, and anywhere in the community are challenging places for your loved one to communicate their wants and needs. That results in a lot of frustration.



“It Is A Myth That All AAC Communicators Use Only One Modality And/OR One System To Meet All Their Communication Needs”

A look at a user of hi-tech and non-robust single message devices

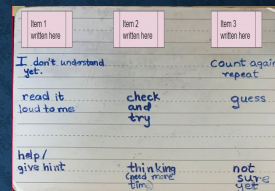
For more on this AAC communicator see Facebook – KM Communication Wins!



[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f14uio\\_2tNk](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f14uio_2tNk)

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

Providing ways to meet all communicative competencies throughout the day



Lo-tech choice board with strategic messages



Hi-tech Tobii I13 w/ Grid & PODD 24+



## Types of AAC systems

### NO-TECH / LO-TECH Non-Electronic SYSTEMS

- Voice Amplification
- Object Boards
- Clock Scanners
- Eye-gaze Frames
- Picture Cards/Rings/Wristlets
- Language Boards (Printed used via touch / PAS)
  - Static
    - Spelling Board
    - Activity Board
  - Multi-Layers
    - Picture Exchange Communication System (PECS) Books
    - PODDs( Pragmatic Organization of Dynamic Displays)
    - Core Boards (that include Fringe/Personal Words)

### MID-TECH – HI-TECH Electronic SYSTEMS

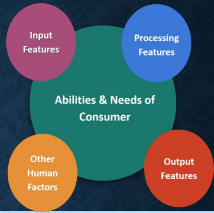
- Dedicated Devices
  - Lo-Tech Devices
  - Mid-Tech Devices
  - Hi-Tech Devices
  - Prepackaged Tablets + Locked AAC APPs
- Non-dedicated Systems
  - Computers with AAC Software
  - Laptops/Tablets with AAC Software
  - PDAs with Custom Programs
  - I pads/I pods/I phones/ Androids with APPs

For more on this AAC communicator see Facebook – KM Communication Wins!

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# Human to Technology Feature Matching considerations in AAC



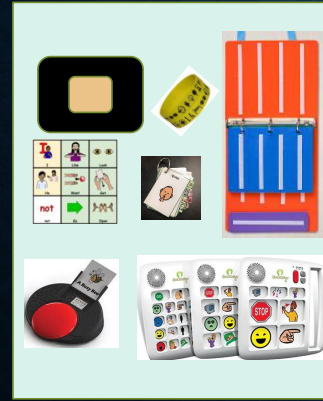
- **The Communicator**
  - **Human/Student**
    - What are their preferences and strengths in the areas of senses, cognition, language & motor?
  - **Context/Environment**
    - Where are the places that they work, play & live? Who do they interact with?
  - **Activities/Tasks**
    - What are their priorities in functions & tasks during the activities of their day?

- **AT area: Lo-Tech AAC**
  - **Input**
    - What access options are available in the system?
    - How are messages displayed?
  - **Processing**
    - What does the layout look like? How is the vocabulary organized? What is the symbol set? Are there rate enhancements?
  - **Output**
    - What text or pictures go into a message bar? Do they need to connect to other technology?
  - **Other properties**
    - What OS or printed format is preferred? Cost?
    - What support is available for set up and training?
    - Ease of use and Customizability?

www.kellyfonner.com

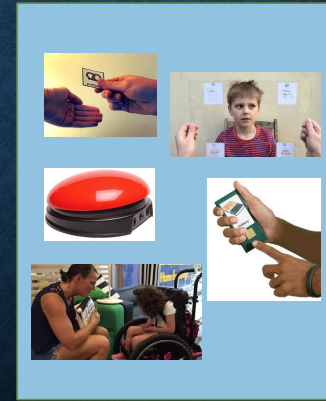
# Portable Non-Robust AAC System Feature Components

## 1. Portable Format

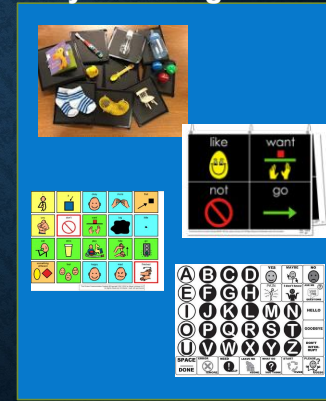


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## 2. Access Method



## 3. Language Symbol/Page-set



# Match The Features Needed by the AAC Communicator to the Features of AAC Tools & Technologies

**THE SETT FRAMEWORK - PART II - A**  
Describing an Assistive Technology Tool System to Address Identified Student Needs  
Brainstorming Possible Tools that Match the Description

STUDENT: \_\_\_\_\_ AREA OF ESTABLISHED NEED (See SETT-Part I): \_\_\_\_\_

Enter one description or important function in each column

Enter one possible tool in each

AT product names here

Feature Needs here

[www.joyzabala.com/uploads/Zabala\\_SETT\\_Scaff\\_old\\_Tool\\_Selection.rtf](http://www.joyzabala.com/uploads/Zabala_SETT_Scaff_old_Tool_Selection.rtf)

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# Features Explored for Non-Robust AAC Systems

link at: [https://bit.ly/Fonner\\_NonRobustAAC](https://bit.ly/Fonner_NonRobustAAC)



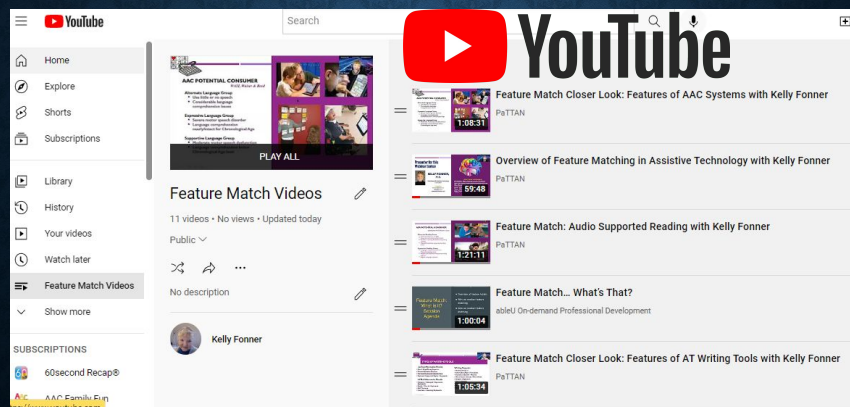
**FEATURES OF PORTABLE AAC SYSTEMS (non-robust vocabulary systems)**

	portability - attachment	size, weight, & style to suit user	visual & functions	control	programming & power	
Non-Robust Portable AAC Systems						
Assistive Technology						
Core & Phrase Picture Boards						
Portable Communication Books						
Typing Communication						
Switching Devices						
Announcer with 9 levels						
Basic 4 balls						
Stop ball						
Stop ball (4, 12) with levels						
Wireless Talker						
Talk and announce						
Word Talker						
Talkative (2.3, 4.5)						
ProVoice 2.0						
Function Responders						
Talking Button						
Talking Tube						
WordPad						
LogonTech						
PhotoPad						
PhotoBook						
PhotoTech						
PhotoBook Technology						
Smooth Talker						
Smooth Talker with Levels						
AACivity						

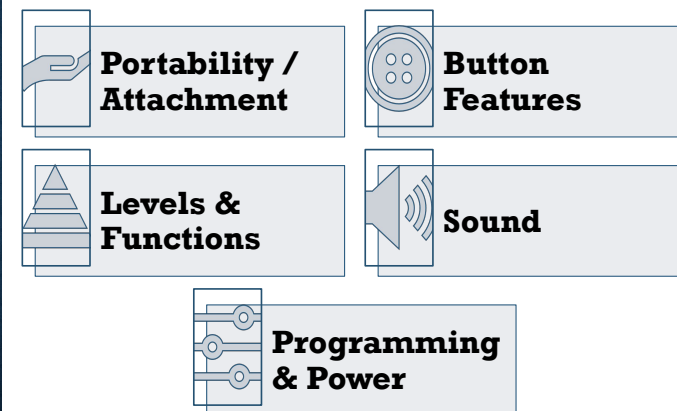
www.kellyfonner.com

## Feature Match Series of On-Demand Webinars

• [https://bit.ly/Fonner\\_FeatureMatchVideos](https://bit.ly/Fonner_FeatureMatchVideos)



## Feature Match Focus for Non-Robust AAC Systems



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

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

## Portability Attachment

### Features:

- Light weight
- Built-in belt attachment
- Carry strap
- Carry handle
- Wrist band (wristlet)
- Magnetic



augmentative resources



## Button Features

### Features:

- Push style depressible button
- Flat press style button
- # of buttons (1, 4, 8, 12)
- Moveable symbols
- Switch jack for external switch access

Attainment Company



inclusive TLC

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



# Levels & Functions

## Features:

- # of levels (1, 2, 3, 4, more)
- Sequencing of messages
- Randomization of messages
- Auditory preview of messages
- External jack for battery operated toy
- Interaction with smart technology systems



# Interaction with Smart Technology Systems

## ● Flic Smart Button

### Flic 2 | The Smart Button for Lights, Music, Smart Home and More

Flic 2 Button: Control home, smart lights, music, routines with a simple push. A new generation of smart IoT buttons is here. Control thousands of devices. (155 kB) ▾



# Sound

## Features:

- Volume control
- External speaker jack
- No sound



# Programming & Power

## Features:

- Speak to record
- Record button
- Record by press and hold
- Prerecorded
- On/off control
- Battery operated
- Recharge by USB



## Making Decisions about adding a non-robust system



## WHAT...

- Is the reason for using the non-robust system?
- Situations will it be used in?
- What features will be needed?

## Match the Needs and Abilities of the Student to the Features of AAC Tools & Technologies

**THE SETT FRAMEWORK - PART II - A**  
Describing an Assistive Technology Tool System to Address Identified Student Needs  
Brainstorming Possible Tools that Match the Description

STUDENT: \_\_\_\_\_ AREA OF ESTABLISHED NEED (See SETT-Part I): \_\_\_\_\_

Enter one description or important function in each column	Feature Needs here →										
Enter one possible tool in each											
↓ AT product names here											

[www.joyzabala.com/uploads/Zabala\\_SETT\\_Scaffolding\\_Tool\\_Selection.rtf](http://www.joyzabala.com/uploads/Zabala_SETT_Scaffolding_Tool_Selection.rtf)

## Something to think about...



Put a Symbol on it!



...No Naked Switches

## Some resources for support in lo-tech AAC

- PrAACtical AAC

<https://praacticalaac.org/>

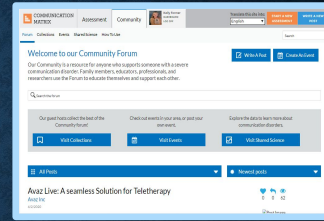
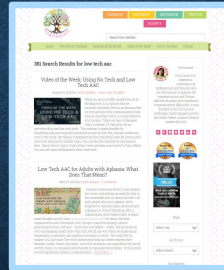
- Closing The Gap Resource Directory

<https://www.closingthegap.com/resource-directory/>  
(Membership Required)

- Communication Matrix Community of Practice

<https://www.communicationmatrix.org/Community/Forum>

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



## Some companies have support in lo-tech AAC

- Adaptivation – idea album

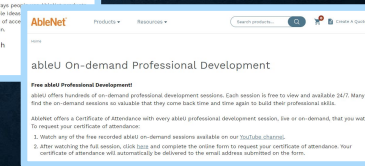
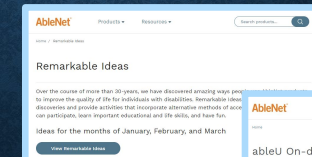
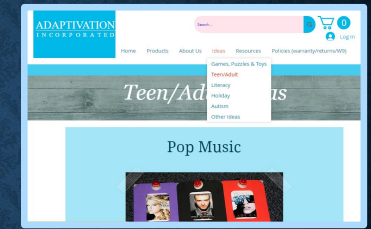
<https://www.adaptivation.com/idea-album>

- AbleNet – remarkable ideas

<https://www.ablenetinc.com/remarkableideas/>

<https://www.ablenetinc.com/ablenet-university-recorded-webinars/>

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**THANK YOU & PLEASE CONTINUE TO ADD YOUR IDEAS TO THE SHARED DOCUMENT**


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- Special Education Teacher

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 [@kellyfonnerAT](https://twitter.com/kellyfonnerAT)

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

 Youtube – Kelly Fonner

