

7 Steps to Make Your First Session with the QTF a Success!



You took the QuickTalker Freestyle (QTF) out of the box, selected the speech application, and programmed it! Click [here](#) for further assistance with editing and customizing the device.

Now what?

1. Participate in a typical greeting, as you would upon any initial introduction, but now while implementing the device. “Hi! How are you?” Facilitate page navigation to feelings and use the opportunity to show how to communicate emotions.
2. Allow your client time to explore the device on their own! It’s important to remember that this communication system may be completely brand new to your client.
 - ✓ Verbally praise and narrate what they are exploring and learning. Model use of the device alongside and converse with them. Keep it fun!
3. Pick your client’s favorite activity, or model how they can choose their preference, while showing them HOW to communicate during an engaging activity.
 - ✓ It’s okay if they do not show interest towards the device right away. They are relying on you as the SLP to teach them how to communicate using the device and are learning alongside you!
4. Don’t be afraid of core words! Core words are the most commonly used words and can be applied across many activities and experiences. These are typically found on the home page of the speech application and are essential in enhancing language skills! These include: more/all done, go/stop, want, like, see, etc.
 - ✓ Whether the engaging activity is reading a book, playing a game, watching a video, or creating arts and crafts, core words can be implemented across any session. Click [here](#) for additional activity ideas.
5. Create language opportunities and increase repetitions while reducing your prompting as needed. For instance, “Ready, set, GO!” while modeling “GO” on the QTF. “Ready, set...” Allow wait time and reduce prompting from there or continue to model. Don’t stop modeling!

Need some data collection resources?

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- ✓ Be patient! Wait time and allowing your client an opportunity to process what has been expressed is key! By providing an expectant delay, this allows your client a chance to understand what has been asked and provide a response when ready. If no action is obtained after 10-15 seconds, adjust your level of prompting from there.
 - ✓ Take note of your prompting! Modeling the entire session is fine! It's good practice for you as the SLP to also become acquainted with the device. This is a new concept for your client and will take time to spark their interest and motivation to communicate in a new way.
 - ✓ Model with no expectations! Avoid "testing" the use of the device. Consider narrating and modeling other functions of communication besides answering questions such as making requests, commenting, directing actions, describing, protesting, terminating, asking questions, etc. Click [here](#) for examples of functions of communications.
- 6.** Model and demonstrate termination of the speech session and participate in a closing, as you would any other exit. While you verbally express, "Thank you for learning with me! Speech is now done. It is time to say goodbye and go back to class" you can simultaneously model on the device in more simplistic terms, (Thank you + all done + goodbye + go). Add fringe vocabulary as your client progresses with use of the device. Click [here](#) to view our Core Vs. Fringe vocabulary resource.
- 7.** Reflect on your session and gather a baseline to demonstrate progress throughout the utilization period with the QTF.
- What was my level of prompting throughout the session?
 - Did my client communicate any messages? If so, what were they?
 - What was the purpose of the messages?
 - On average, how many utterances were produced?
 - What functions of communication did I model?
 - Was my activity engaging for my client?
 - What was the overall outcome from the initial introduction to the device?
 - Did use of the device decrease challenging behaviors from arising?
 - Did the device allow for communication breakdowns to be repaired?
 - Were my client's wants and needs able to be met while using the device?
 - Does my client understand that the device is paired with communication?
 - What data should I focus on collecting during my next session?

As a reminder, these questions should be used as a guideline throughout the course of your duration period. You as the SLP need to prove to the insurance company that growth and progress has been made in order to achieve funding.

Click [here](#) to view our Medical Justification resource for further support.



Contact our Medical Data Support team for questions about data collection to support your recommendation for the QTF:

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