

AAC Adventures at the Park



Objective

Utilize a visit to the park or playground to boost communication skills, focusing on interactive play, expressing preferences, and social interactions, facilitated through AAC device use.

Before Leaving for the Park

Communication Opportunity:

Choosing playground activities or equipment to use.

Communication Temptation:

Before heading out, discuss the park's features or equipment using the AAC device. "Do you want to swing or slide first?" Encourage the child to make choices, thereby setting intentions for play.

Arriving at the Park

Communication Opportunity:

Expressing initial reactions and choices upon arrival.

Communication Temptation:

Once at the park, prompt expressions of excitement or preferences for what to do first using the AAC device. "Show me on your AAC what you're excited to do here!" This immediate engagement upon arrival fosters a sense of anticipation and decision-making.





Engaging in Play

Communication Opportunity: Interacting with others and negotiating play (taking turns, sharing equipment).

Communication Temptation: Use AAC to facilitate turn-taking and sharing, like asking, “Can I have a turn after you?” or “Let’s slide together!” Encourage communication with peers to enhance social skills and cooperative play.

Snack Time

Communication Opportunity: Deciding on and discussing what snacks to have.

Communication Temptation: Present snack options on the AAC device and encourage selecting, “Which snack would you like?” This integrates decision-making and expressing preferences into a routine part of the park visit.

Planning Next Activities

Communication Opportunity: Choosing the next set of activities before leaving or planning a return visit.

Communication Temptation: Towards the end of the visit, use the AAC device to discuss what they enjoyed most and what they might want to do next time, “What was your favorite part today?” and “What do you want to do next time we come?”

Leaving the Park

Communication Opportunity: Express feelings about the visit and say goodbye to the park.

Communication Temptation: Encourage reflections on the day and goodbyes to the park through the AAC, “Say bye to the park. Did you have fun today?” This helps in closing the outing with a reflective and appreciative note.

