

Communicating During Times of Challenging Behaviors

QuickTalker Freestyle (QTF) 101

- ✓ First and foremost, make sure the QTF is charged and accessible for your child to use to communicate!
- ✓ Remember that your child is not an expert with using the QTF yet! They are relying on you to teach them how to communicate, especially during their times of challenge.
- ✓ Ensure all preferred (e.g., toys, favorite places, etc.) and necessary vocabulary is programmed on their QTF in order to self-advocate and reduce frustration.

Put Your Detective Hat On!

- ✓ Try to determine where the behavior is stemming from. Is it due to refusing to do something, lack of access to a preferred object, etc.? Acknowledge it!
- ✓ Interpret how they are feeling (e.g., sad, frustrated) and model how they can communicate that functionally on the QTF.

Show Them How!

- ✓ Model how to functionally request a break, ask for help, or terminate an activity on the QTF in order to reduce outbursts (e.g., “I need a break”, “give me space”, “I need help”, “I don’t like that”, “all done”).
- ✓ Turn the negative into a positive! Model during positive behaviors too (e.g., “Thank you for showing me how you feel!”, “I like how you asked for help!”, “I like the way you are playing!”)
- ✓ Communicate with your child’s SLP, and behavior specialist, if applicable, about other suggestions specific to your child’s needs.



Contact our ableCARE team for assistance with editing and customizing their device to reduce frustration and allow access to essential vocabulary:

Email: ablecare@ablenetinc.com

Phone: 651-294-3101



Contact our AbleNet Medical Data Support Team for questions about data collection:

Email: fundingservices@ablenet.com

Phone: 651-401-1269