

Teaching Core Words for AAC

Step One

Introduce the core word. Show the individual where on the device they can find it and practice navigating and using the word.

Step Two

Choose an activity that can help implement the use of the core word you are targeting.

Step Three

Review the core word in a variety of contexts and track the progress of using the core word throughout the week.

Core Words

Activities

Week One:

Core Word:
Go



- Playing with cars
- Showing pictures of places we go (e.g. park, store, school, home, etc.)
- Reading books that focus on the word go (e.g. Go Dog Go by Dr. Seuss, Go Away Big Green Monster by Ed Emberley)
- Create a visual scene with pictures showing things that “go”
- Engage in conversational speech and ask questions such as “Where do you want to go?” and encourage the individual to use the word on their device.

Week Two:

Core Word:
On/Off



- Play with Mr. Potato Head
- Light up toys or switches that can turn on/off
- Turning music on/off
- Using the word during daily activities such as getting dressing, washing hands, brushing teeth or watching TV.

Week Three:

Core Word:
Eat



- Cooking/making a favored snack
- Playing with play food
- Reading stories such as The Very Hungry Caterpillar by Eric Carle
- Integrate the word into mealtimes
- Go grocery shopping and talk about things you eat.
- Asking/answering questions (e.g. What do you like to eat? Are you hungry? What should we eat?)

Week Four:

Core Word:
Want



- Requesting for favored toys or food
- Choice making
- Go on a scavenger hunt and talk about the items we “want” to find.
- Throughout daily routines, talk about what you “want” to do or who “wants” to do certain activities.
- Coloring or Play Doh. Have them request for things they want while playing.