

# 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 Words:**  
**This/That**



### **Two-Choice Game:**

Materials: Two different toys or objects.

Activity: Place the objects apart from each other. Ask the AAC user, "Do you want this or that?" while pointing to the respective items.



### **Scavenger Hunt:**

Materials: Various items around the room.

Activity: Ask the AAC user to find items by saying, "Can you bring me this?" while showing a picture of the item. Then switch to "Can you bring me that?" while pointing to a distant item.



### **Interactive Songs:**

Activity: Sing songs like "If You're Happy and You Know It" but modify the lyrics to "Point to this, point to that."



### **Music & Movement:**

Activity: Play "Simon Says" but with a twist. Use "Do touch your toes" or "Don't jump" and see if the AAC user can follow along.



### **Safety Rules Game:**

Materials: Pictures of safe and unsafe behaviors.

Activity: Show the AAC user a picture and ask, "Do we [action in the picture]?" or "Don't we [action in the picture]?" For example, a picture of running with scissors would prompt "Don't we run with scissors?"



### **Sorting Activities:**

Create a set of cards with different actions depicted. Have the AAC user sort them into things they "do" and things they "don't" do on a daily basis.

**Week Two:**

**Core Words:**  
**Do/Don't**

# Teaching Core Words for AAC

## Core Words

## Activities

**Week  
Three:**

**Core Words:  
Here/There**



### **Hide and Seek:**

Play a modified game of hide and seek with toys. Hide a toy and ask the AAC user, "Is it here?" while pointing to a nearby location, or "Is it there?" while pointing to a distant location.



### **Ball Toss:**

Sit across from the AAC user and toss a ball back and forth. When you have the ball, say "The ball is here." When the AAC user has the ball, say "The ball is there."



### **Musical Chairs with a Twist:**

Set up chairs in a circle. As music plays, have the AAC user walk around. When the music stops, they must find a chair. Ask, "Is the chair here or there?" before they sit.



### **Toy Sharing:**

Play with toys and practice the act of sharing. Emphasize "give" when handing over a toy and "take" when receiving one.



### **Role-Playing:**

Set up a pretend shop where one person is the shopkeeper and the other is the customer. Practice the act of buying and selling, emphasizing "give" when handing over items and "take" when receiving them.



### **Pass the Object:**

Sit in a circle with a group and pass an object around, using the phrases "give me the [object]" and "take the [object]" each time the object is passed.

**Week  
Four:**

**Core Words:  
Give/Take**