

Speech Session Icebreaker Activity

Objective: To facilitate conversation, promote rapport-building, and learn more about each other's interests and experiences.

Preparation:

- Create a list of trivia questions related to speech and language topics. These can include general questions about the individual, their preferences, or speech related information. Prior to the activity, program this personalized information into each individual's AAC device.
- Prepare a set of question cards or write the questions on individual slips of paper.

Examples:

- 1.) What is your name?
- 2.) Who is your teacher/Speech Therapist?
- 3.) What is your favorite color/food/tv show etc.
- 4.) Where is your favorite place to go?

Session Implementation:

- Explain the rules of the game to the individual.
- Shuffle the question cards and place them face down on a table or hold them in your hand.
- Take turns drawing a question card and reading the trivia question aloud. You can have your AAC device users speak the question on their device.
- Allow them to answer the question to the best of their ability. Provide any modeling, prompting, or cueing necessary on their device.
- After they answer, share your own response to the question, sharing a personal experience, opinion, or interesting fact related to the topic.
- If they are able, encourage them to ask follow-up questions or share their thoughts on your response.

Additional Tips:

- Choose trivia questions that are suitable for the individual's age, interests, and communication abilities.
- Be prepared to provide additional information or explanations related to the trivia questions as needed.
- Use this activity as an opportunity to build a therapeutic relationship by sharing personal experiences and insights.
- Maintain a relaxed and conversational atmosphere to encourage open communication and engagement.
- This could also be used in a group setting, by pairing up individuals with similar communication abilities to get to know one another.

Remember to tailor the questions and conversation to the individual's needs and goals. This activity can serve as a starting point for getting to know each other better while incorporating speech and language-related content.