

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:
Because/Want**



Cause and Effect Games:

Create simple scenarios and ask the student to explain why something happened using “because.” For example, “The floor is wet because...”



Classroom Helper Decisions:

Give the student a choice of tasks they can help with and ask them to explain their preference. “I want to erase the board because I like cleaning.”

Week Two:

**Core Words:
Could/Would**



Imaginary Travel:

Discuss imaginary trips and ask the student what they could do in different places. “What could you do if you went to the moon?” or “What would you do if you visited a castle?”



Manners and Politeness:

Practice asking for things politely using “could” and “would,” emphasizing manners. “Could you please give me the glue?” or “Would you be so kind as to help me

Week Three:

**Core Words:
Will/Won't**



Yes/No Movement Game:

Play a game where you call out activities, and students move to one side of the room if they will do it or another side if they won't. For example, “Will you jump?” or “Won't you shout?”



Will it Float?

Set up a water table with items that sink or float. Students can predict which items will sink or float and test their predictions, stating “It will float” or “It won't sink.”

Teaching Core Words for AAC

Core Words

Activities

**Week
Four:**

**Core Words:
Near/Far/
Through**



Treasure Hunt:

Hide objects around the classroom or playground. Use clues that incorporate “near,” “far,” and “through” to guide the students to the treasures. For example, “The treasure is near the door,” “Walk far past the swings,” or “Go through the tunnel to find the next clue.”



Bean Bag Toss:

Set up targets at varying distances and have students throw bean bags. Use the core words to direct them: “Throw the bean bag near the red target,” “Now throw it far to the blue target,” or “Can you toss it through the hoop?”