

# 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 Word

## Activities

**Week 1:** **Open/Close**



Things we can “open/close” in a natural environment.

- Lids to toys
- Doors/windows
- Snack containers
- Books

Activities to work on these core words:

- Sing wheels on the bus and “open/close” your hands for gestures.
- Play with toys that that lids/ doors and have the child request to open/close
- Arts and crafts: can use crayons, markers, glue, paint, etc., and have the child request what they want to open/close.

**Week 2:** **Like**



- Play any game the child likes and ask questions about whether they “like” certain toys/foods (e.g. apple, ice cream, ball, books, milk, etc.)
- Read a favored book and talk about things you “like” in the book (e.g. I like the dog, I like the trucks, etc.)

**Week 3:** **Make**



- Make a snack with the child, modeling the word “make” throughout.
- Play bubbles, have the child request to “make” the bubbles big or small, a lot or a little, high or low, etc.
- Play-Doh. Talk about what you are going to “make” throughout.
- Pretend food play. What are you going to “make” to eat?

**Week 4:** **Mine/My**



There are many activities that you can use to target the word “mine” that are both naturally occurring or more structured:

- Matching game
- Playing with cars
- Eating a snack
- Bubbles
- Playing a board game
- Arts and crafts
- Going shopping

Work on the word mine/my during turn-taking activities throughout the day!