



AAC BOOT CAMP. Getting AAC users communicating.



Do this...

MODEL, MODEL, MODEL

Model expected communication behaviours BEFORE expecting to see those behaviours from the user



PRESUME COMPETENCE



FOLLOW a prompt hierarchy



TEACH language functions including directing, commenting, requesting assistance, etc...



Wait 10-20 sec. (W/an expectant look) before re-prompting!!



TEACH me to direct action, comment, reject & more



PROVIDE CORE WORDS including verbs, describing words (in addition to nouns)



COLOUR CODE parts of speech for me.



KEEP icon placement constant keep repeated icons in the same location on each page/screen



ALLOW user time to explore and learn the system



MAKE AAC available at ALL TIMES.



PROVIDE aided language input. **USE SYMBOLS** when talking to me!



ASK open-ended questions



Don't do this...

DON'T expect a user to know how to communicate without directing models and instruction **SHOWING ME HOW.**



DON'T do ALL the talking.



DON'T overprompt



DON'T teach ONLY requesting



DON'T provide ONLY nouns



DON'T focus on vocabulary that won't be functional/used tomorrow.



DON'T remove the device



DON'T move symbols



DON'T stop all "babbling" (exploring, button pressing)



DON'T keep the AAC device in their desk, cubby, or backpack.



DON'T expect sentences right away.