



Edition 56

Editor 's Desk

Dear friends,

As I compile the edition featuring new innovations for people with speech difficulties , one thought lingers in my mind-***Communication is about people, not devices and let's not forget that!!!***

"Go confidently in the direction of your dreams! Live the life you've imagined." -***Henry David Thoreau***

Happy Reading!!

Regards,

Bhavna Botta

connectspecial.in

Get ready for Talk Suite Pro.

And an exciting new concept – Anticipatory Communication.

Originally featured in Access and inclusion through technology-

http://www.accessandinclusion.news/?edition_id=db0751b0-1c30-11eb-af11-0cc47a0d164b#/

<https://www.closingthegap.com/talk-suite-do-more/>



To date, the AAC field has done a great job developing many approaches to word-by-word sentence building. And, of course, one can always create a step-by-step story with something as simple as a Big Mac. However... word-by-word communication is slow. And... step-by-step stories are confining

Talk Suite Pro began by wrestling with that reality. Despite a variety of terrific apps and devices, people who use AAC still have so much trouble gaining inclusion, acceptance, and engagement. It may be hard to admit, but it is true. Given that, Talk Suite asked.... maybe it's time we also tried some other approaches, some other ways to structure things and bring more to the party.

Anticipatory Communication is built on that insight – and fully embraces one of our field’s key ideas – Multi-Modal Communication – in a way that hasn’t happened before.

Talk Suite Builder allows you to create content and share with anyone who has Talk Suite Pro. And.... Because it has all Talk Suite’s innovative communication modes, the Builder also lets you explore all .Talk Suite’s phenomenal approach, it’s state-of-the-art “real feel” editing interface, and many features in Talk Suite Pro – without having to purchase the App!

bit.ly/TalkSuiteBuilder

Anticipatory Communication allows for many engaging and novel ways to communicate in the broad space between word-by-word and step-by-step. To deliver this new paradigm, Talk Suite Pro provides smart, well-organized and highly intuitive access to multiple communication modes – from clusters of efficient phrase-groups in Talk Topics, to easy-to-create Photo Albums, to Stories built to enhance engagement, to a section called My Life for initial conversation, and many others.

Talk Suite Pro provides smart, well-organized and highly intuitive access to multiple communication modes – from clusters of efficient phrase-groups in Talk Topics, to easy-to-create Photo Albums, to Stories built to enhance engagement, to a section called My Life for initial conversation, and many others. Ten in all.

Talk Suite Pro began with that concept. Thinking not only about the building blocks of literacy... but about the building blocks of inclusion, engagement, and relationships.

There are also many simple ways for an individual to expand on their content, build their own conversations streams, keep things organized, and really find ways to more quickly show personality, interests, and the magic of engagement.

The app's website features all sorts of powerful support content. Fun, engaging, activities – like adding Family Pages, or Coloring Together. It has quick, watchable “How To Videos’ that are only 60 – 90 seconds long.

Talk Suite Pro is designed for beginning communicators, and advanced communicators. Talk Suite was created working with a range of children with varying abilities. So it was created to offer robust scanning to support those with even the most complete motor challenges. And all sort of critical customizations. You can change highlights, delay time, hold times and more. The app even offers Audio Scanning... with the ability to change what is read: messages or labels. Lastly, because Talk Suite's core columns go vertically, it is the perfect structure for column/row scanning.... which is the way we typically read lists (versus left/right... which is how we read words in sequence.)

New feature from Google for people who are non verbal

Action Blocks makes routine actions easier with customizable buttons on your Android home screen.

Powered by the Google Assistant, you can easily set up Action Blocks for a loved one. Action Blocks can be configured to do anything the Assistant can do, in just one tap: call a friend, watch your favorite show, control the lights, and more.

Action Blocks can also be configured to speak phrases. This can be especially useful to people with speech and language disorders to quickly communicate during urgent situations.

Built with the growing number of people with age-related conditions and cognitive differences in mind, Action Blocks can also be used for people with learning differences, or even for adults who want a very simple way to access routine actions on their phones. Set it up for your family, friends, or for yourself. Action Blocks now features tens of thousands of picture communication symbols (PCS® by Tobii Dynavox), providing a seamless visual experience for users of augmentative and alternative communication (AAC) devices and special education software.

Action Blocks may also be useful for anyone who could benefit from an easier way to perform routine actions on their device, including individuals with dementia, aphasia, speech disorder, autism, spinal cord injury, traumatic brain injury, Down syndrome, Parkinson's disease, essential tremor, dexterity impairments, or other conditions. People who use adaptive switches, Switch Access, or Voice Access may also benefit.

https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.google.android.apps.accessibility.maui.actionblocks&hl=en_IN&gl=US



Travel seat for dignified travel

The EasyTravelseat is an innovative travel seat designed to make airplane seat transfers quick, easy, comfortable and dignified. A compact travel seat and sling in one – helps in transfer directly from wheelchair to aircraft seating with ease.

The EasyTravelseat gives you a dignified alternative to being carried by staff under the arms and legs. It provides a smooth, simple, stress-free transfer as the chair itself can be carried using the attached manual handles or looped hoist straps.

Once the EasyTravelseat has been placed into your wheelchair, you are able to be transferred into it, where you can remain for the duration of your travel.

<https://shop.disabilityhorizons.com/products/mobility-aids-disabled-walking-aids/easytravelseat-airplane-transfer-chair/>



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