



# The World of A.T. Assistive Technology



Educational Equity For All

May 2019



AbleNet University Live Webinars

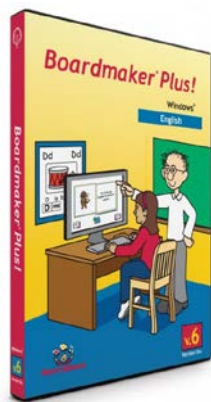
April 17, 2019, 11:00 am CST - 60-minutes

TITLE: **Inquiry, Exploration, Problem-solving: Nurturing STEM Thinking in All Young Learners**

April 22, 2019, 02:00 pm CST - 60-minutes

TITLE: **The Freedom Series: Empowering Independence and Untethered Learning For Students With Moderate to Severe Disabilities.**

[https://www.ablenetinc.com/resources/live\\_webinars/](https://www.ablenetinc.com/resources/live_webinars/)



There are now 7,000 PCS FREE for the taking if you're using any version of the 'classic' Boardmaker V6. Get them here:

PCS High Contrast:

<https://goboardmaker.com/pr.../pcs-high-contrast-boardmaker-v6>

PCS Thinline Set 1:

<https://goboardmaker.com/.../pcs-thinline-set-1-for-boardmake...>

PCS Thinline Set 2:

<https://goboardmaker.com/.../pcs-thinline-set-2-for-boardmake...>

Pssst ... that'll probably double what you currently have on offer! ☺ You're welcome!



## Making AAC Work

*Implementation Classes*

Live Online

- AAC 101: Using Early Language Development to Guide AAC Intervention- Thu, April 18 @ 3:00pm - 4:00pm Elyse Pycraft 0.1 \$10.00
- Getting Beyond Basic Requesting- Mon, April 22 @ 1:00pm - 2:00pm Beth Browning 0.1 \$10.00
- Learning to Read with AAC: Emergent Literacy- Mon, April 22 @ 6:00pm - 7:00pm Beth Waite-Lafever 0.1 \$10.00 Ten Tips To
- Help Grow Language- Tue, April 23 @3:00pm - 4:30pm Kara Bidstrup 0.15 \$15.00  
<https://is.gd/idXZHI>

### *Guidelines for Enhancing Engagement in Interactions*

The promotion of engagement in interaction requires an accepting and open frame of mind to explore and be with another. Here are four pointers important in this process:

- Quality attention: Pay relaxed attention to the person and what s/he is communicating.
- Interest in the other: Show a genuine curiosity in the other and in what they can contribute.
- Openness to the process: Accept multiple ways of expression as a means to develop meaning. Interact with another to explore ways of expression and deepening joint understanding by being together.
- Awareness of self and other: Be acutely aware of how one's own behavior and preoccupations (and stresses) can impact this process.

<https://is.gd/14wNDe>

**EDUCATIONAL EQUITY FOR ALL**  
..... Giving kids what they need to succeed.

Tana Donaghy, President, Educational Equity For All  
[Misstanad@educationaequityforall.org](mailto:Misstanad@educationaequityforall.org); 909-964-5057  
[www.educationalequity4all.com](http://www.educationalequity4all.com)

## FEATURED IDEA OF THE MONTH

### Autism Acceptance Month 2019 AAC and Special Education App Sales and Dates

<b>AMP</b> AMP Words for Life (normally \$279.99) 50% off 4/2 - 4/6	<b>Gateway</b> Gateway to Language & Learning (normally \$119.99) 50% off 4/2-4/5 Pictello (normally \$19.99) 50% off 4/2-4/5	<b>Prologica2Go</b> (normally \$249.99) Prologica4-let (normally \$119.99) Pictello (normally \$19.99) 50% off 4/2-4/5	<b>Snap Scene</b> (normally \$49.99) Accessible Literacy Learning (normally \$79.99) iOS & Windows 50% off 4/1 - 4/15	<b>Snap + Core First</b> (normally \$49.99) 15% off iOS & Windows 4/1 - 4/15
<b>Choiceworks</b> (normally \$200.00) 50% off all platforms 4/1 - 4/5	<b>Speak for Yourself!</b> (normally \$299.99) 50% off 3/28 - 4/3	<b>Aax Pro</b> (normally \$199.00) \$14.99/mo. (norm. \$24.99) \$17.99/yr (norm. \$204.99) 4/1-4/8	<b>GoTalk® WOW for Apple Watch</b> \$4.99 (normally \$49.99) 90% off 4/2 only	<b>Choiceworks \$2.99</b> Choiceworks Calendar \$2.99 Choiceworks Bundle \$5.99 4/1 - 4/5

<https://is.gd/lfjkMQ>

## TalkSense 101 ideas for ... Literacy & AAC

Literacy is an important tool for AAC too. Without it, it is impossible to access the many thousands of fringe words in a language. Without it, the Learner is limited to those fringe words that are provided by the system in use. While there are Learners whose cognitive condition makes it unlikely that they will ever go on to develop emergent literacy skills, it is not our role to play God and simply decide that we will not bother. If we never make any attempt then, by definition, a person has no chance of gaining such skills.

### Why Learners fail

Talksense believes that it is NOT individuals who fail to develop communication skills but, rather, (significant) others who fail to teach the individual to communicate. Too often are practices observed in schools (and beyond) that would stifle the best of us had we been in such a situation.

<https://talksense.weebly.com/literacy-and-aac.html>

### Moving beyond cause and effect to communication

- 1) Making Choices
- 2) Environment control – and the reactions of people!
- 3) Being the boss

<https://is.gd/tuK11k>

## Lesson Plans

Lesson Plans

give you instant access to a variety of activities that you can do with your student based on specific language objectives. Lesson plans do not have to be fully completed, simply choose activities that your student will enjoy. Smart charts are provided to help both you and your student find vocabulary based on core words. At the end of each lesson, you will find a link to more practice, the next language objective and some even include a homeward card.

<https://aclanguelab.com/lesson-plans>

## WEBSITES AND RESOURCES

<https://is.gd/oMPgMR>

[https://www.xbox.com/adaptive-controller.\\*](https://www.xbox.com/adaptive-controller.*)

<https://www.ieautism.org/>

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT



Welcome to the AAC Institute Self-Study Program  
The Self-Study Program (SSP) offers the opportunity to learn about various aspects of AAC that support the goal of the most effective communication possible for the individual. The courses allow individuals to work at their own pace. No fee is charged for our first four courses. There are no prerequisites. All AAC stakeholder groups can find value. All that is required is Internet access.

### Free courses

- Introduction to AAC
- AAC Language Representation methods
- Language-Based Approach to AAC Assessment and Intervention
- AAC Performance Report: Definition, Generation, and Use: Updating, will come back soon~~

### Paid courses

- Data Collection in AAC

<https://aacinstitute.org/online-courses/>



How To Size A Desk  
When You're Stuck With The Wrong Furniture

The Crucial Importance Of Positioning In The Classroom  
This post is part of a 12-month series called Functional Skills for Kids written by pediatric OTs and PTs to post on different developmental topics that impact functional skills for kids.

“Functional Skills for Kids” blog hop is the School Day Functions, so check out the landing page for the rest of our posts and information on all things related!

<https://www.missjaimeot.com/positioning-in-the-classroom/>