



# The World of A.T. Assistive Technology



Educational Equity For All

October 2019



AbleNet University Live Webinars

October 09, 2019, 02:00 pm CST - 60-minutes

TITLE:

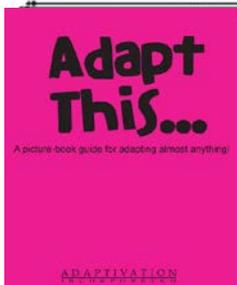
**Working with Students Using Switches:  
Collaboration is Key – Part 1**

October 16, 2019, 02:00 pm CST - 60-minutes

TITLE:

**Working with Students Using Switches:  
Collaboration is Key – Part 2**

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



Adapt This... "Adapt This..." is a picture-book guide for adapting almost anything! Includes over 140 pages of photos and useful information about adapting activities using everyday materials.

The application ideas in this book are referenced by features (i.e. direct select, sequential messaging, random messaging, etc.), not just products. Includes ideas on visual cues, organization, literacy, visual schedules and real life!

The CD version of "Adapt This..." will be sent to you in the mail. Shipping charges will apply. The ebook version is in PDF format. It is recommended that you download a sample of the book from [HERE](#) to make sure it works as expected with your tablet or computer. Use the password "1234". <https://goo.gl/K9a1TN>

Each October is International AAC Awareness Month. The goal is to raise awareness of augmentative and alternative communication (AAC) and to inform the public about the many different ways in which people communicate using AAC.

Let the celebrations begin! October is more than pumpkins and Halloween. It's internationally recognized as AAC Awareness Month and it offers a wonderful opportunity for spreading the word as to how we can support people with complex communication needs.

## PRAACTICALLY OCTOBER: A MONTH OF AAC IDEAS



PRAACTICAL AAC

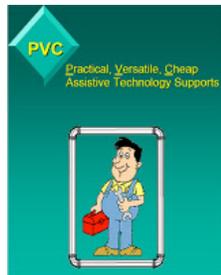
October	Set 1 Words	another, change, every, far, idea, pretty, say, start, thank you, think, try, under				
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
October is AAC Awareness month!	Get ready to START an amazing month!	Look for opportunities to show gratitude today. "Thank you!"	Play the START of a popular song and see if others can help you sing it to!	Share a picture of something that CHANGES. Trees, leaves, caterpillars all CHANGE!	I CHANGED my work.	What is something far we can do today? Share your IDEA!
Go on a message hunt and look for THINGS that are PRETTY.	Read a story and tell the main IDEA.	Read a story and tell the main IDEA.	Collect some CHANGE and count it.	Try asking someone's opinion. "What do you THINK?"	TRY something new today!	Make a list UNDER a table.
Do you like to TRY on clothes?	Read a story and tell the main IDEA.	Read a story and tell the main IDEA.	Name something you do EVERY day.	Go exploring! Look UNDER things to find something hidden.	Do you know someone who is PRETTY fast?	Someone who START over. "I can TRY again!"
Do you ever ask someone to CHANGE the channel?	Find a song with the word SAY. Say something. Say My Name, You Say.	What does a fox say?	Find a book about being UNDER the sea.	Being a reporter: ask someone "What are you doing?" and see if you can find out how to TRY.	another	Instead of saying "no", sometimes we could say ANOTHER! Another... cookie... book... shoe
Find a new author and START reading a book.	Try the phrase "I have no IDEA."	Ask Friends to go TO a walk.	Share an opinion. I THINK...	Write a THANK YOU note to someone. "Thank you for..."	Explore EVERY word! Everyone Everything Everywhere	AAC awareness doesn't end in October! Keep talking about AAC.

<https://practicalaac.org/practical/practically-october-a-month-of-aac-ideas/>

## FEATURED IDEA OF THE MONTH



Celebrate October holidays and special dates with Storyline Online® and take advantage of our free activity guides aligned with Common Core Standards to help strengthen comprehension, and verbal and written language skills! Downloadable activity guides (pdfs) are located beneath each video. <https://www.storylineonline.net/>



### Practical, Versatile and Cheap (PVC): Assistive Technology Supports

Free booklet on using PVC to make a variety of adaptations for your students. This booklet developed by the Assistive Technology Education

Network in Florida provides direction for making adapted writing aids, various stands for switches and communication devices, number lines, easels, and even a locker organizer. <https://goo.gl/1BiSiy>

## CONNECT Modules

CONNECT: The Center to Mobilize Early Childhood Knowledge

### Module 5: Assistive Technology

Learn about the purpose, use and potential benefits of assistive technology interventions when working with young children. <https://goo.gl/B4qxou>

### Assistive Technology for Struggling Readers

From apps to software to cloud-based cross-platform supports, this webinar explored tools that can aid struggling readers in the following areas:

- phonemic awareness
- vocabulary
- comprehension
- fluency

<https://goo.gl/HsmeR4>



Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC) is a range of strategies and tools to help people who struggle with speech. These may be simple letter or picture boards

or sophisticated computer-based systems. AAC helps someone to communicate as effectively as possible, in as many situations as possible. <https://t.ly/E9Dvj>

## WEBSITES AND RESOURCES

<https://t.ly/1BwWM>

<https://t.ly/dj1wr>

<https://t.ly/xPmYg>



## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT



A Program of the  
California Foundation for  
Independent Living Centers

### AT Training Library

Welcome to the Ability Tools (formerly AT Network) training library. Many of the trainings were recorded live. All trainings are open captioned and available for you to view on YouTube at your leisure: AT Basics, AT Professional Development, Communication Devices & Apps, Disability Specific, Funding, Learning & Literacy, Reuse, Walk, Marathon, Activity, AT Product Demonstrations, Children & Youth to 18, Computers, Tablets, Software & Apps, Evaluation & Assessment, Law & Advocacy, Professional Development, Transition & Community Living. <https://t.ly/PXGZ7>



### *Plan for AAC throughout the day*

Look at routines and make a plan for where, when and how AAC can be integrated into the day.

Communication is always happening. This means there are always opportunities for modeling AAC, interacting and building language. When we start out, making a plan for how AAC can be incorporated into the day can be beneficial. Without a plan, AAC may feel overwhelming. Often the absence of a place to start or finish can lead to people not starting at all! Or worse, starting in one place and never moving on!

This article will help us to look at where and when AAC can happen in a day. It will also consider how AAC is incorporated within routines, as well as adapting to unplanned activities and making changes as needed.

### Links & References

- Dos and Dents article on [access to AAC](#) in a day.
- AssistiveWare Core Word Classroom: [Planning for core words in activities](#).
- Video from AAC in the Cloud: [AAC all day](#).
- From PrAACtical AAC: [Tools for AAC planning](#).
- Video about [Embedding AAC throughout the day](#).

<https://www.assistiveware.com/learn-aac/plan-for-aac-throughout-the-day>