



The World of A.T. Assistive Technology



Educational Equity For All

October 2015

isaac

International Society for
Augmentative and Alternative Communication

AAC Awareness

International AAC Awareness Month is celebrated around the world each October. 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 communication devices.

<http://praacticalaac.org>

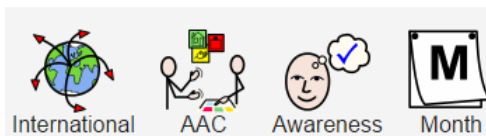


A Year of Core Words – October 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
October is AAC Awareness Month!	Monthly word list: another, change, giving, for, idea, pretty, say, start, thank, you, think, try, under	1 Try something new today! A new food, a new book, etc. try	2 What should we do? I have an IDEA!	3	4 Talk about things that change. We change clothes.	5 Go for a walk outside and look for fall changes.
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

Created by Rachel Langley, MA, CCC-SLP - 2015 - rangelay@bestnema.org

October is International AAC Awareness Month



Countries all over the world are celebrating International AAC Awareness Month in October with imaginative awareness raising events, including a '24 Hour Non Speech Challenge' to only use alternative means of communication - such as writing, symbols, gestures, applications - for a day. To take part in the challenge, please visit www.cscocoe.com/defi_e.php

Why not organize an event in your school, workplace or neighborhood? Here are some ideas from events taking place around the world:

- A 24 Hour AAC Chat / Read-a-Thon on Facebook, Twitter, Blogs, Skype, Anywhere!
- A 12-hour chat on Facebook, Skype and Twitter
- Webinars on Social Media and People with Disabilities: Building Online Networks to Enhance Community Engagement and Create a Level Playing Field.
- A 'Quiet Coffee' event where communication boards and small devices will be available for people to use in order to request coffee and snacks, and to chat with each other.



The AAC Language Lab offers real-life solutions in support

of language development. Explore language stages and interactive materials specifically designed for [Speech Language Pathologists \(SLP\)](http://www.speech-language-pathologists.com), Educators, and Parents.

<https://aaqlanguagelab.com/>

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

Tana Donaghy, President, Educational Equity For All
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FEATURED IDEA OF THE MONTH



Totally Tactile Communicator

Communicate with textures! Our tactile communicator is a wonderful place for the VI user to start communication. Our unique communicator has adjustable activation time (1-12 seconds) so you can feel the plates for the set time without activating the message.

6 levels, Total of 36 messages, Total record time is 300, seconds, 7 seconds per message, Tactile level changer http://enablingdevices.com/catalog/assistive_technology_devices_used_in_education/special-communicators-accessories/totally-tactile-communicator

10 Things You May Not Know About AAC

1. AAC supports speech development.
2. AAC builds language skills.
3. There are no cognitive prerequisites to AAC use.
4. People learn AAC best when others use it to talk to them.
5. AAC helps build literacy skills.
6. There is no evidence that people need to start with simple, paper-based AAC systems before they can be successful with high tech electronic systems.
7. Some speaking people need AAC and use it when highly stressed.
8. AAC can reduce the severity and frequency of challenging behavior.
9. Eye contact is not a prerequisite for successful AAC use and something we rarely prioritize.
10. It's never too late for someone to develop better communication skills with AAC.

See this full handout for AAC Awareness Month on <http://praacticalaac.org>



Action Verbs Picture Dictionary (FREE!!!)



This is a 3-page picture dictionary which can also be used as classroom posters for teaching the most common action verbs.

There are 108 verbs illustrated with pictures for easy memorization.

Available in both color and black and white version.

<http://busyteacher.org/11378-action-verbs-picture-dictionary.html>

WEBSITES AND RESOURCES

<http://slilleberg.blogspot.com/2012/06/aac-single-switch-games.html>

http://www.patinsproject.com/trainop_files/BethA1.pdf

<http://www.slideshare.net/teechkidz/core-vocabulary-learning-book>



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT



FREE Online Professional Development



DATE: October 07, 2015, 11:00 am CST

TITLE:

Literacy Journey: Invigorate Instruction to Engage Learners with Severe and Multiple Disabilities

DATE: October 21, 2015, 11:00 am CST

TITLE:

Math Magic: Motivating and Outcome-Based Activities to Inspire Learners

DATE: November 04, 2015, 11:00 am CST

TITLE:

Science Stimulates: Active Engagement to Arouse Learners

https://www.ablenetinc.com/resources/live_webinars/

Core Vocabulary?

Core vocabulary is a small set of simple words, in any language, that are used frequently and across contexts (Cross, Baker, Klotz & Badman, 1997).

Core vocabulary contains all parts of speech - nouns, pronouns, verbs, adjectives, adverbs, prepositions, conjunctions, and interjections and serves as a great medium for teaching language.

Core words are familiar and most of them are short - six letters or less. Only a few core words have more than six letters (for example, "sometimes" has nine letters).

From toddlers to seniors, core's simple words make up 80 percent or more of everyday communication and are the heart of language development. Data suggests that children with disabilities build early language three-word phrases with core vocabulary (Baker, Hill & Devylder, 2000).

<http://www.minspeak.com/CoreVocabulary.php#.Vg6rjPlViko>