



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.