

Words for Life – LAMP Starter Communication Booklet

A simple AAC communication guide for nonspeaking and minimally speaking autistic children.

Stage 1: First 10 Power Words

More, Go, Stop, Help, Want, Like, No, Yes, In, Out

Practice these throughout meals, play, walks, videos, and daily routines.

Example Modeling

WANT COOKIE • MORE JUICE • GO OUTSIDE

Stage 2: Feelings & Body

Happy, Sad, Mad, Tired, Sick, Hurt, Scared, Calm

Examples: I FEEL HAPPY • I AM TIRED • HURT HELP

Stage 3: Daily Needs

Eat, Drink, Bathroom, Sleep, Wash, Finished, Break, Wait

Examples: EAT NOW • DRINK WATER • NEED BATHROOM • FINISHED WORK

Stage 4: Social Words

Hi, Bye, Thank You, Please, Look, Listen, Friend

Examples: HI FRIEND • LOOK AT THAT • THANK YOU

Stage 5: Favorite Activity Words

iPad, YouTube, Music, Swing, Walk, Basketball, Bubbles, Car Ride, Park, Movie

Combine favorite words with core words such as WANT, GO, MORE, LIKE.

Stage 6: Early Sentences

Requests: WANT COOKIE • MORE MUSIC • GO PARK

Protests: NO • STOP • DON'T LIKE

Comments: LOOK • FUNNY • BIG • GOOD

Feelings: I HAPPY • I TIRED • I MAD

6-Week Core Word Routine

Week 1: GO, STOP

Week 2: MORE, WANT

Week 3: HELP, FINISHED

Week 4: LIKE, DON'T LIKE

Week 5: IN, OUT

Week 6: LOOK, PLAY

Parent Modeling Tips

1. Use the AAC device yourself.
2. Model 1–3 words at a time.
3. Do not require imitation.
4. Respond to every communication attempt.
5. Use AAC during enjoyable activities.
6. Keep word locations consistent.

Top 25 Core Words

I, YOU, WANT, MORE, GO, STOP, HELP, LIKE, NOT, IN, OUT, ON, OFF, UP, DOWN, OPEN, CLOSE, EAT, DRINK, PLAY, LOOK, BIG, LITTLE, GOOD, FINISHED