



AAC modeling at home

Five habits that help your child learn to use their board or device.

Modeling means pointing to words on your child's board or device while you talk with them. Children learn a language by seeing and hearing it used, many times, before they use it themselves.

1

Point while you talk

Say your normal sentence and point to one or two words on the board as you say them.



"Do you want **more**?"
Touch **more** as you say it.

2

Show, don't test

Modeling is showing. Don't ask your child to copy you, or to "show me more". Just keep using the words.

Try: "I **want** coffee."
Skip: "Show me want."

3

Wait

After you model, stop talking. Count to ten in your head, and look at your child, not the board.



Model. Then **wait**:
1, 2, 3 ... 10.

4

Answer every try

Any touch, look or reach toward a word counts. Do what it says, and say the word back.



Your child touches **stop**. You stop:
"Stop! Okay."

5

Keep the board where life happens

Meals, play, bath, the car, the park. A board in a drawer can't be used. In the bath, use a plastic sleeve.



meals



play



bath



car



outside



books

What counts as a try?

- touching a word, on purpose or not
- looking at a word
- reaching toward the board
- a sound or a gesture, with a look at the board

Good to know

- You don't have to point to every word you say.
- Mistakes are fine. Laugh, fix it, keep going.
- Never take the board away as a punishment.
- Give food, drinks and comfort freely, not only when asked "the right way".

Our words this week

From: