

Let's Chat: Assistive Technology Recipes for Success!

Magazine Activities



What do you need?

Magazines or catalogs that interest you and your family member

What do you say?

Core vocab: More, stop, go, turn, on, off, want, big, little, fast, slow, color, I/you/me, he/she/it, that, play, look, make, in/out, need, open, close, please/thank you, help, read, feel

| <u>Language Purpose</u> | <u>One Word</u> | <u>Two Words</u> | <u>Three Words</u> |
|-------------------------|------------------------------|---|---|
| Requesting | Want, Help, That, Read, Open | Read that, Turn it (page), Help me, Open it | I want make, Turn that please, Want that color purple |
| Commenting | Like, Don't, | Like it, That fast, Don't like, | I like that, He don't like, Color green like it |
| Refusing | Don't, Stop | Don't want, Don't turn, Stop that, Don't read | Don't like it, I want stop, Don't want color red |
| Directing | Read, Turn, Fast, | Turn that, Please look, Read it | Read more that, Help me turn |
| Social | Feel, Please, Thank you | My/your turn, Feel good, Want that? | You like that? You want that? |

What do you do?

Looking at a magazine together can be a good way to practice back and forth interaction, commenting and directing. Choose a magazine that really interests your family member: sports, fashion, cooking, whatever. Explore the magazine together and talk about the articles or the picture.

- Ask your family member their opinion about what they see. Use the device to ask: "You like that?"
- Let your family member have the chance to ask you to help open the magazine or turn the pages.
- Take turns describing what you see using the device. Whether the magazine is about cooking or clothes, you can comment using the device: "that look(s) good", "I don't like it", "I want that."
- You can also make comments about the pictures in the magazine: "he feel(s) sad", "she wants that!"
- Use a catalog to decide what your family member might want for a birthday. Encourage them to tell you what clothing they want or in what color: "I want that, color red."

What's next?

You can also use family photo albums, newspapers or books to give your family member a chance to interact using their device. The more you show them how to describe, request or comment using the device, the greater their understanding will be and the more they will use the device to talk about things that interest them. Allow them plenty of time to respond. Accept and praise anything they say, and let them know how much you like to hear their "voice".

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Painting Your Nails



What do you need?

Nail polish, paper towels, polish remover

What do you say?

Core vocab: more, turn, want, my, get, I/you, that, look, put, help, make, please/thank you, it, don't, colors

| <u>Language Purpose</u> | <u>One Word</u> | <u>Two Words</u> | <u>Three Words</u> |
|-------------------------|---|---|--|
| Requesting | Want (with or without pointed finger), More, Need, Help | Want that (with pointed finger), Want more, Need help | I want that (with pointed finger), I need help |
| Commenting | Like | Like it, Like ___(color) | Don't like it, Don't like ___(color) |
| Refusing | Don't (and push away) | Don't want, Want stop | I don't want |
| Directing | Get, Put | You get, I get I put/You put, Put it (point with finger), Get ___ (color) | You get it, You open please, I/you feel it, I get ___(color), Get more ___(color) |
| Social | Look, Please/Thank you | My/Your turn, You look | My turn that, look at that |

What do you do?

Painting your nails or getting a manicure offers opportunities for use of core vocabulary. Be sure to model using the device during this activity.

- You can pick which colors you **want** or say which colors you **don't want** and can comment on colors you **like** or **don't like**.
- Caregivers and device users can take turns painting each other's nails.
- Ask for **help** to open nail polish containers.
- After painting your nails you can show them off to friends and family by asking them to "**look!**"
- Refer to handouts on Direct Language Stimulation for ideas on how to model using the device!

What's next?

You can use the same language throughout other activities as well or expand on this activity! You can use the same vocabulary with other elements of fashion such as picking out a fun outfit or styling your hair a certain way. You can request certain accessories and then ask people to "look" at your outfit. You can even have a whole fashion show and use all of previously mentioned core vocabulary! If you like looking at fashion magazines then refer to the "Reading a Magazine Together" activity sheet for ways to use core vocabulary when looking at a magazine with a friend or family member.