Jane Korsten: communicative opportutnies

“It is critical for an individual to not only have symbols, but also to have experience with those symbols in a symbols rich environment/print rich environment. The typically developing child will have been exposed to oral language for approximately 4, 380 waking hours by the time he begins speaking at about 18 months of age. If someone is using a different symbol set and only has exposure to it with the speech pathologist two times a week, 20-30 minutes each, it will take the alternate symbol user 84 years to have the same experience with his symbols that the physically developing child has with the spoken word in 18 months!!!

The typically developing child will demonstrate language competency around 9-12 years of age having been immersed in and practicing oral language for approximately 36, 500 waking hours. For 9-12 years that child has been using and receiving corrective feedback while practicing with the spoken word. At twice a week, 20-30 minutes each time, it will take the alternate symbol user 701 years to have the same experience with his symbols. YUP! 701 years to have the commensurate experience!!!”