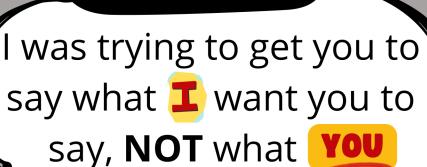
Ideas for Encouraging & Supporting AAC Users





want to say!"



Instead of

saying things like...

"What is this?"

"Find ball ."
"Touch all done ."
"Push go ."

"Tell me you're <u>tired</u>."

"Ask for a <u>a cookie</u>."

"Say I want iPad ."

Can we really know what someone is thinking, feeling, or wanting? NOPE!

"No, that's not a dog. That's a cat. Say cat ."

"We're not talking about McDonald's.

I asked if you want more bubbles."

"You can have a drink when you say drink."

Prompts & responses like these can discourage communication because they may feel like a test, an instruction, a demand, or a correction.

Everyone needs communication autonomy.
It can really helpful to check yourself by asking,
"Am I trying to encourage them to say what I want them
to say or what they want to say?".

using phrases like...

"I SEE you yawning, maybe you're TIRED."

"I HEAR your <u>TUMMY rumbling!</u>

I'm thinking you might be <u>HUNGRY !"</u>

"I love to EAT <u>COOKIES</u>!

I wonder what SNACK YOU LOVE to EAT!"

"I think this game is <u>BORING</u>!

I'm curious what YOU think of this GAME.

"I saw you PUSH my hand AWAY.

Maybe you wanted to tell me Do NOT TOUCH!

Make sure you use the AAC system to point out key words *while* using inviting language.

Then... Pause to allow time to process & respond.

Suggested words to model with AAC are shown above in CAPS.

Phrases like these allow you to model for & encourage AAC users WITHOUT suggesting that you think you can read their mind.

Encouraging phrase suggestions from Dr. Caroline Musselwhite





© **AUGUST 2022**