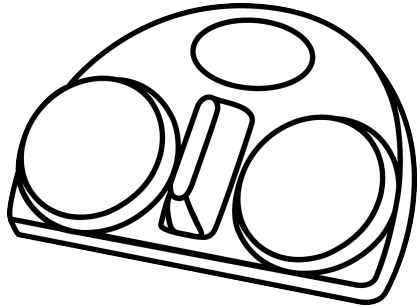


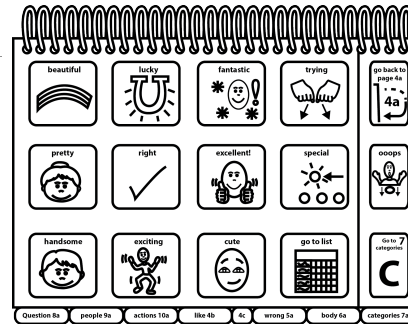
# ALTERNATIVE MEANS OF COMMUNICATION

Children who use limited verbal speech may use alternative methods of communication such as picture cards, communication boards, aided language mats and/or speech generating devices. Here are examples of some of the types of alternative communication your child's therapist may recommend with some possible skills to target using each device.



## Button Devices

- ☐ Making requests ("want" or something specific)
- ☐ Commenting (go/stop/all done)
- ☐ Greetings/Farewells (hello/good-bye)
- ☐ Communicating when a break is needed
- ☐ Taking Turns (your turn/my turn)
- ☐ Transitions (Ex. "Time to clean up.")
- ☐ Asking for repetition (more/again)
- ☐ Answering yes/no questions

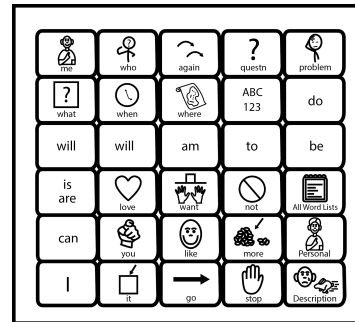


## Communication Books

- ☐ Express wants/needs for items
- ☐ Aid language through academic subjects, settings or specific books/lessons
- ☐ Commenting (go/stop/all done)
- ☐ Answering questions
- ☐ Asking for repetition (more/again)
- ☐ Good tool for specific events in the school setting (Ex. lunchtime, free play, art class, reading time)

## Communication Board

- ☐ Making requests or choices for preferred items
- ☐ Commenting (go/stop/all done)
- ☐ Answering yes/no questions
- ☐ Developing a better understanding of vocabulary words to include adjectives, prepositions, verbs, etc.)
- ☐ Asking for repetition (more/again)
- ☐ Core words are versatile and can be used to communicate through a larger setting of communication events.



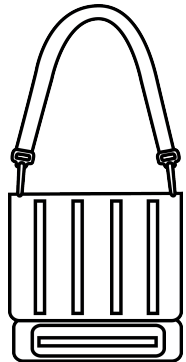
## Static Display Device

- ☐ Express wants/needs for items
- ☐ Commenting (go/stop/all done)
- ☐ Answering simple questions
- ☐ Asking for repetition (more/again)
- ☐ Putting together 1-3 word phrases.
- ☐ Limited to the vocabulary provided on the board
- ☐ Change create and change the boards as needed or the user makes progress
- ☐ Will generate speech for the user



## Picture Exchange System

- ☐ Making requests or choices for preferred items
- ☐ Commenting (go/stop/all done)
- ☐ Answering yes/no questions
- ☐ Developing a better understanding of vocabulary words to include adjectives, prepositions, verbs, etc.)
- ☐ Asking for repetition (more/again)
- ☐ Exchange process is taught to expand from wants/needs to comments, answering questions and/or generating longer sentences



## Dynamic Display Device

- ☐ Express wants/needs and knowledge
- ☐ Commenting
- ☐ Answering questions
- ☐ Asking for repetition/clarification
- ☐ Putting together multiple word phrases and sentences
- ☐ Access to a large amount of words and vocabulary
- ☐ Can take longer to train the user and/or caregivers to use, device needs to be programmed for the user
- ☐ Will generate speech for the user