

Ways you can use core vocabulary boards

Anticipation Games

(e.g. bubbles, pop up toys, wind up toys, building block towers)

- Model words like, 'go', 'stop', 'more'
- Carry out an action, e.g. get ready to wind up the toy or blow bubbles, and point to 'go' when you let the toy go, or 'stop' when it's stopped
- Point to 'more' and carry out the action again, e.g. winding up toy, blowing bubbles.
- After a few turns, pause after carrying out the action and watch to see if your child can request 'more' or 'go'.
- If your child shows you they want in other ways, e.g. touching the bubbles tube, pushing the item away, that's ok. You can show them the word by pointing to it.

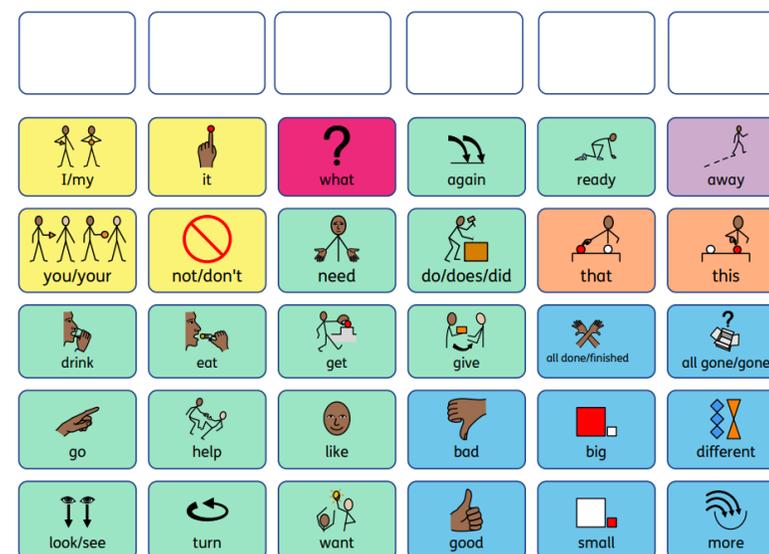
Snack time

- Show choices of snack using fringe vocabulary.
- Model 'I want orange' and give your child the orange.
- Use 'I want' for different activities such as 'playground' or 'song' choices and daily routine activities such as 'toilet'.



Core Vocabulary Boards

To support with developing expressive functional communication



Contact details

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What is AAC?

AAC stands for Augmentative and Alternative Communication. This means any method of communication that can 'add-on' to or replace speech. We use AAC when we communicate (e.g. gesture, Makaton, pointing to signs), some young people who have limited or no language require an AAC system to support or replace speech. There are low tech forms of AAC e.g.

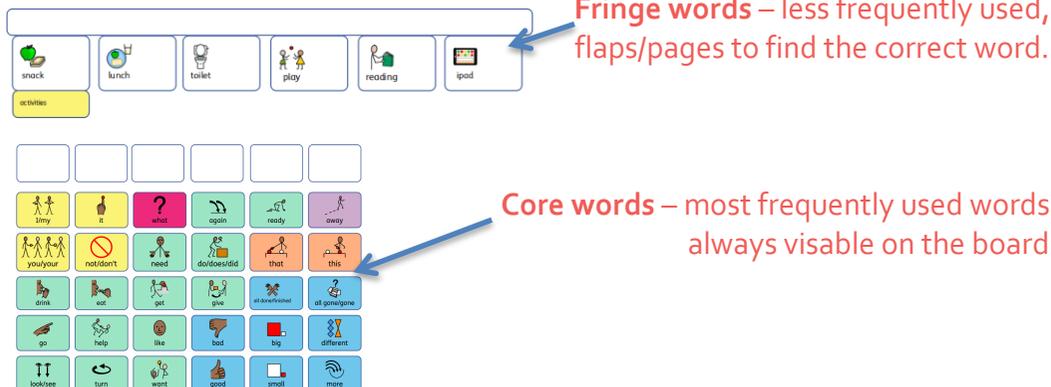
- Core Board
- Core Exchange Book
- Communication Book



What is a Core Board?

A visual to show **core words**. These words are the most frequently used in our vocabulary, make up 80% of what we say and are the basis of communication (e.g. more, stop, go, want, I, good, look etc.).

The other 20% of that we say is made up of '**fringe words**', these are generally words linked to a specific situation or topic (e.g. pizza, teacher, TV, shopping, dog etc.)



How can I help the young person to use the Core Board?

- You have a really important role in supporting a young person to use a core board! They will not use the Core Board unless we show them how.
- Point to symbols when you are speaking. Don't worry if you can't find a symbol for every word, just point to the key words (e.g. 'I want', 'more', 'I go' etc.).
- Reinforce the words the young person points to (e.g. if they point to 'more', you could add words by speaking and modelling 'you want more bubbles!').
- Use the coreboard **all the time**. If children using AAC only see symbols modelled twice a week for 20-30 minutes, it will take 84 years for them to have the same exposure to aided language as an 18 month old to spoken language.

Coreboard Top Tips

✓ Use the coreboard all the time! Core words come up in all activities in our everyday lives!	× Do not physically prompt and move your child's hand to the symbols
✓ Follow your child's lead	× You do not need to model every word you say
✓ Slow down and model key words – don't worry about grammar!	× Do not assume coreboards stop speech. There is no evidence to suggest visual support will prevent speech developing.