

Communication

Communication is a key skill for all of our pupils to develop and is supported in many ways, for example through PECS, Makaton and Aided Language Displays (ALD). It is important that communication is functional and meaningful. This means that activities need to be exciting, motivating and meaningful to your child. Let's get communicating! Please refer to the Speech and Language link for more information and where to find communication support:

<https://www.strathmore.richmond.sch.uk/page/?title=Speech+and+Language&pid=152>

Below you will find several suggested activities. Please choose the ones that best suit the needs and interests of your child. Makaton and ALD support can be found below.

Starter activity - Making sensory bottles

This is an attention-based activity in which the adult makes a 'sensory bottle'.

The adult is to comment on what they are doing so they engage the child and promote language.

Starter activities are based on adult modelling. The adult plays and comments during the activity to capture the child's attention and encourage communication.

Sensory bottle – Simple 1-2 word commenting

Resources: clear bottle, water, beads, pasta, glitter, pebbles (anything you can get your hands on!)

First, open the bottle whilst commenting "open". Reach for your objects, one at time and count to 3 for each item e.g. "Oooo beads!", "1, 2, 3, stop!" Stop and shake the bottle "shake, shake, shake!" Repeat this process for every item you add to the bottle.



Sensory bottle – 2-3 word and phrase commenting

Resources: clear bottle, water, beads, pasta, glitter, pebbles (anything you can get your hands on!)

See activity above. The difference in this activity is the language you are using to comment. For example, when getting beads to put in the bottle you would say "I want beads", "1, 2, 3 beads in the bottle!"

Making a drink in a bottle

Resources: drinks bottle, cup, fruit juice, water.

This activity is about modelling how to make a drink or bottle of juice for yourself and commenting using more complex sentences. Comment on what you are doing as you are doing it e.g. "I am thirsty, so I need to make a drink!", "I want blackcurrant because it is my favourite!"

Extension: Have a cup or bottle for your child and see if they copy or imitate your language.



Communication

Favourite Toy!

Resources: one favourite toy.

Play with the toy and make it exciting! Hold the toy in front of your child to prompt communication.

Focus: attending activity, requesting more (reaching) or finished (pushing away) with preferred means of communication.

This activity is similar to the last two weeks as it is important to use motivating toys when promoting communication.

Cause and Affect Apps

Resource: iPad or tablet plus link below:

<https://www.helpkidzlearn.com/>

Trial different activities on Help Kidz Learn. See which ones interest your child the most.

Focus: attending activity, requesting more (reaching) or finished (pushing away) with preferred means of communication.



Fruit Activity (Snack Times)

Resources: chopped up fruit of two choices.

Explore which fruit your child likes and reaches out for. When you know, model the Makaton sign “more” before giving them the fruit.

Focus: touching and exploring different fruits, experiencing simple language “more” and “finished”



Exercise!

Think of and practise your own warm up and core strength activities! For example, sit ups, squats, standing on one leg, hopping and jumping. Or follow a ‘Jump Start Jonny’ video:

www.jumpstartjonny.co.uk

Focus: Exercise is important! Comment using “more” and “finished”, “stop” and “go”, “up” and “down”. Count and ask “How many?”



Washing Up

Resources: Bowl with water, bowls, plates, cups, spoons, knives, washing up liquid, washing up brushes, sponges, tea towels and gloves.

Role play washing and drying plates, cups, spoons etc. Practise how to take turns, put gloves on, take them off, ask for help and follow simple instructions.

Focus: Requesting and following simple instructions.



Bath Time Fun!

<https://speechandlanguage.info/resources/perch/parents/bathtimewording7master.pdf>

See the link above for ideas on how to make bath time a wonderful communication experience!



Communication

Building Using Lego

Focus: Requesting Lego blocks, commenting on what is being built and practising taking turns.

Resources: Lego, Duplo, any blocks!

Signs and key vocab:

“different colour”, “big”, “small”, “I want”, “I don’t want”, “I see”, “more”, “finished”.

**Fashion and Dance Show**

Choose an outfit to wear, put on your child's favourite music and have a dance!

Focus: Requesting what they would like to wear and what colour it is e.g. “I want to wear the red dress”. Requesting a favourite song. Commenting on what movements they are making and what they might be feeling.

**We Are Going House Hunting!**

Choose a room in the house and have a search for different items that would match that room!

Resources: kitchen e.g. big spoon, little spoons, fork, a frying pan, a saucepan.

Focus: Following instructions “Can you help me find the spoon?”, “Where is a frying pan kept?”, “Where is the fridge?”
Commenting on what they can see in the kitchen.



It may take some time for your child to start making requests. Keep trying but if you feel they are not interested please change the toys or the activities.

Please refer to this video on adult modelling and using different communication supports:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Elipq0h5AJE&feature=youtu.be>

Please refer to these videos for information on communication support apps Grid Player and GoTalk:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L2Zxpg5xqWk&feature=youtu.be>

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q6Ep_6uSagk&feature=youtu.be

Communication

Useful links

<http://www.brainparade.com/products/see-touch-learn-free/>

<https://www.helpkidzlearn.com/>

<https://www.sensoryapphouse.com/>

<https://www.visuals2go.com/>

<https://speechandlanguage.info/parents/activities>

<https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/sites/default/files/file/information-childcare-providers/treasuretrove.pdf> (NEW)

<https://chatterpack.net/> (NEW)

<https://pecsusa.com/support-at-home/> (NEW)

Below are some Aided Language Displays and Makaton signs to support you with the activities.

Please do not worry if you do not have a printer.

You can print screen the visual you need as a photo and use this with your child.

Use Makaton signs to help you and any device or communication aid your child has e.g. PECS, ALD, iPad.

Communication

Eat and drink



want



biscuit



help



eat



stop



fruit



water



drink



more



open



yogurt



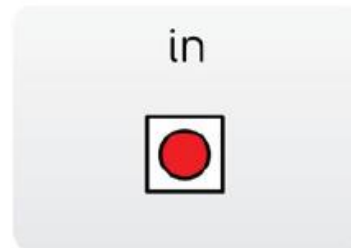
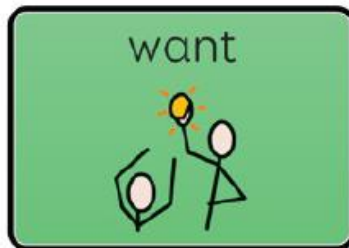
hungry




Communication























Cooking



Communication


 **Super Core Learning**

Eat and drink Grid

I 	want 	biscuit 	help 	eat 
you 	stop 	fruit 	water 	drink 
good 	like 	open 	yogurt 	hungry 
more 	not 	juice 	milk 	thirsty 





















thinksmartbox.com Smartbox

Communication

 Super Core Learning

Cooking

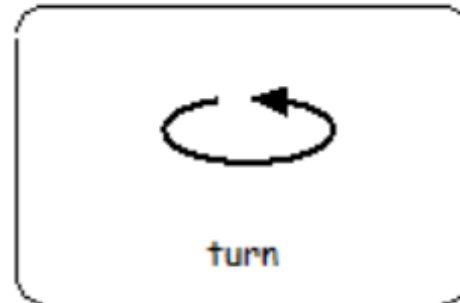
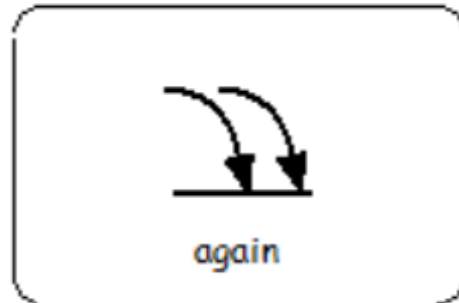
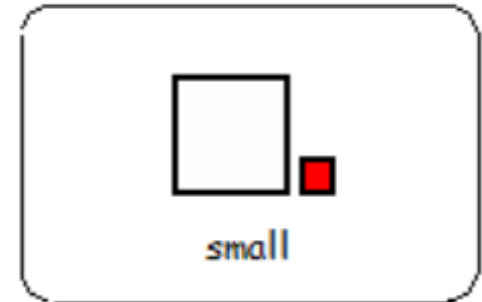
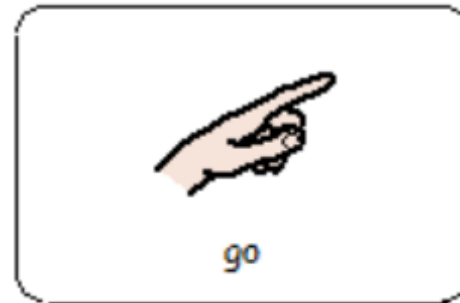
Grid

I 	want 	cut 	in 	hot 
you 	stop 	cook 	knife 	cold 
good 	like 	pour 	food 	stir 
more 	not 	peel 	saucepan 	oven 




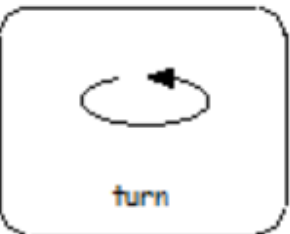

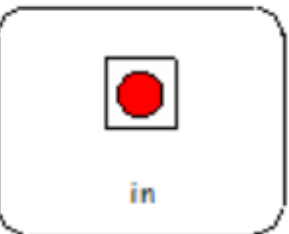


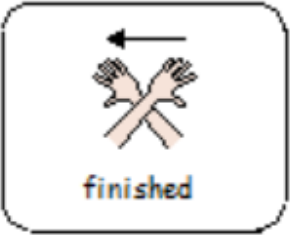


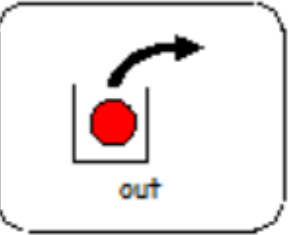
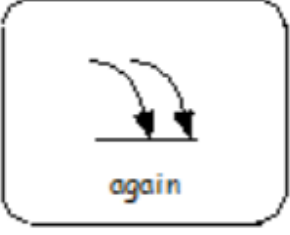
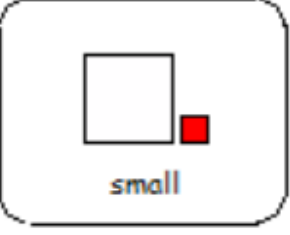

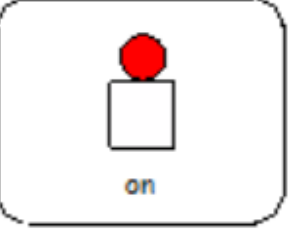
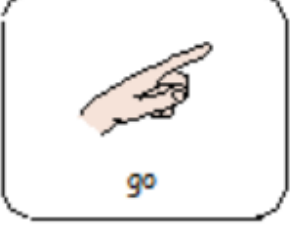
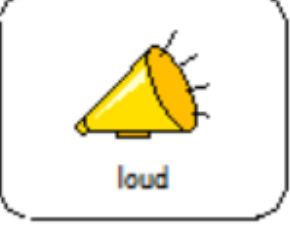



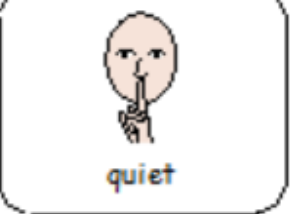

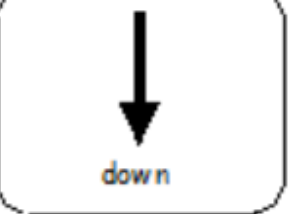
thinksmartbox.com

Smartbox

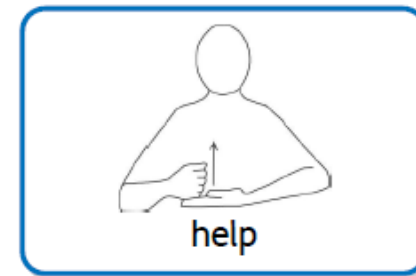
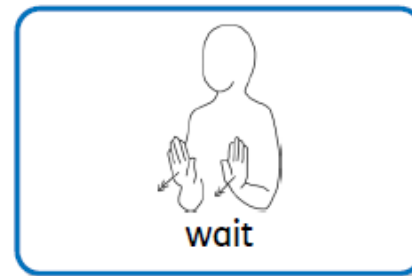
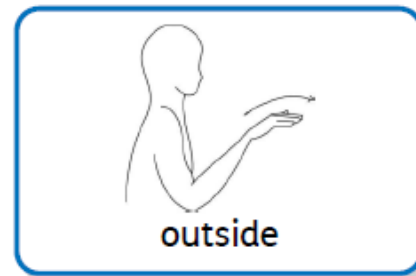
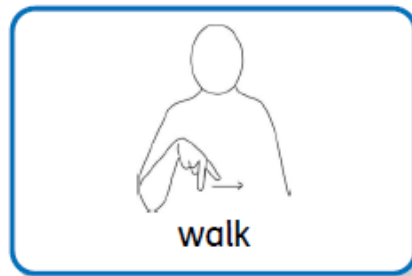
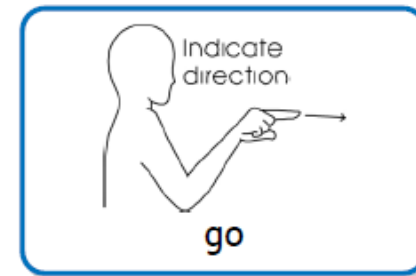
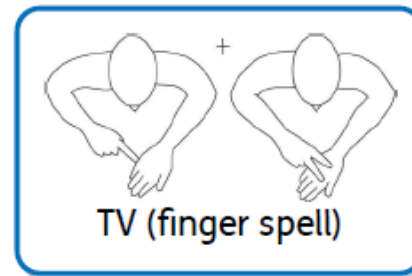
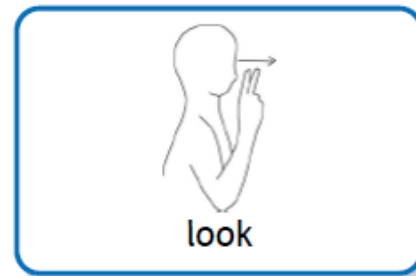
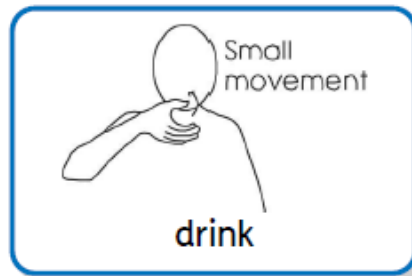
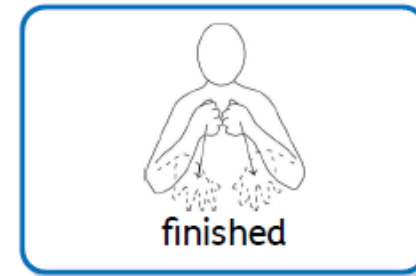
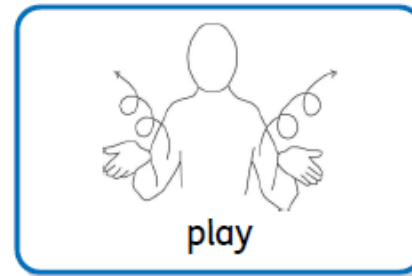
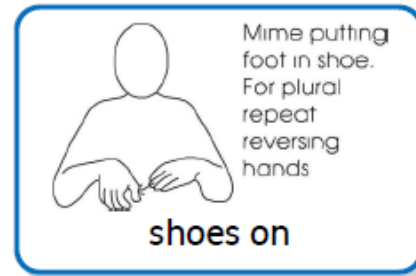
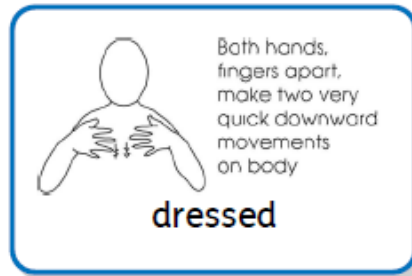
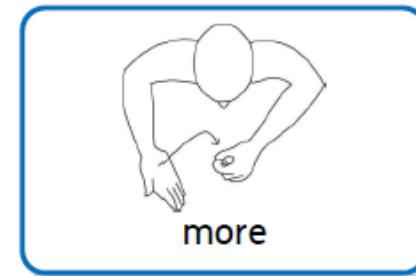
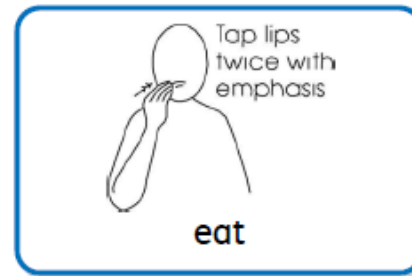
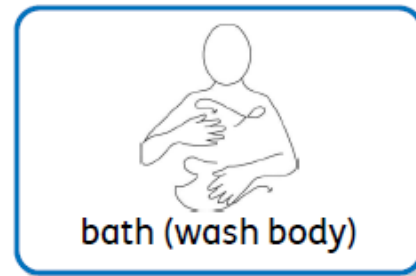
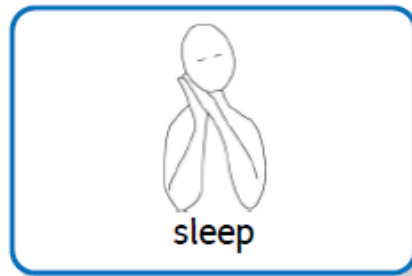
Communication



Communication

 <p>I</p>	 <p>see</p>	 <p>more</p>	 <p>turn</p>	 <p>red</p>	 <p>in</p>
 <p>My</p>	 <p>want</p>	 <p>finished</p>	 <p>big</p>	 <p>green</p>	 <p>out</p>
		 <p>again</p>	 <p>small</p>	 <p>blue</p>	 <p>on</p>
		 <p>go</p>	 <p>loud</p>	 <p>yellow</p>	 <p>up</p>
		 <p>stop</p>	 <p>quiet</p>	 <p>orange</p>	 <p>down</p>

Communication



Communication



go



big



stop



small



turn