

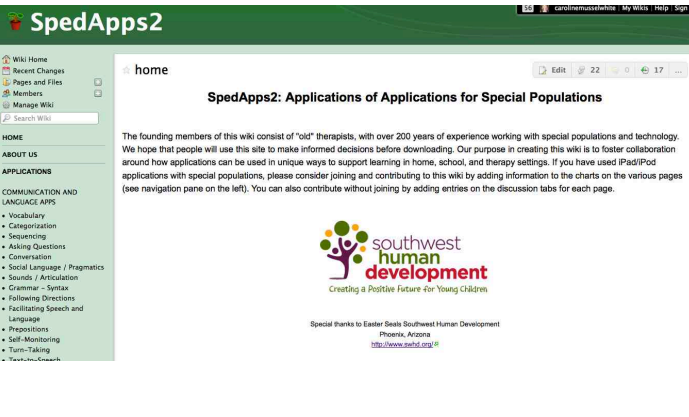
**How Can We Get Started?
AAC in
Everyday Life!**

Dr. Caroline Ramsey Musselwhite
www.aacintervention.com
<http://aacgirls.blogspot.com>
<http://spedapps2.wikispaces.com/>

www.aacintervention.com



<http://spedapps2.wikispaces.com/>




Communication is when one person shares something the other person did not know they were thinking.

Erin Sheldon

Big Idea #1: AAC All Day!

AAC All Day Long!!

- Copy your home page and put it EVERYWHERE



High Tech . . . And Light Tech!

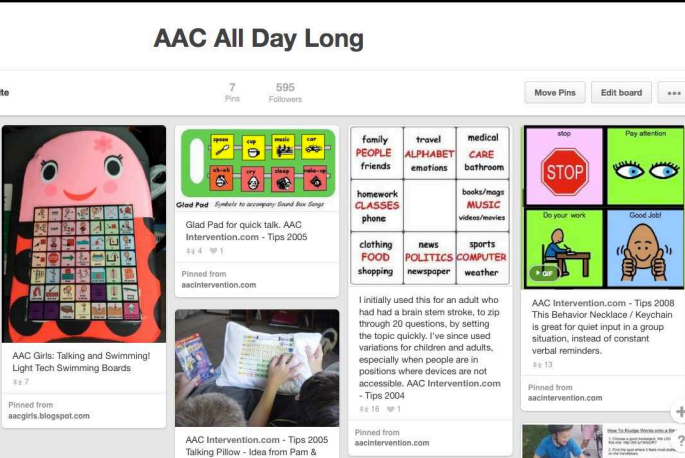


On the bike



In the shower!

AAC All Day Long



Pinterest Page – Caroline Musselwhite

AAC... Everywhere!

AAC - Available everywhere all the time!
We try to make sure that we have a low tech AAC option available wherever we go.



We added Symbolix and communication boards to this mass guide for Visual Learners available from www.FATHCatholic.com

<https://specialcraftsforpecialkids.wordpress.com/2017/05/02/aac-everywhere/>

Since my daughter uses WordPower on her NovaChat10, I use the low tech communication boards provided by Symbolix, and then add boards with fringe vocabulary as well.
<https://symbolix.com/checkboxes/content/28>

Kristine Witkowski
AAC Team
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www.specialcraftsforpecialkids.wordpress.com

**Big Idea #2:
Models
MATTER!!!**

Hart & Risley Study, 1995

“The data revealed that the most important aspect of children’s language experience is **its amount.**”

*Meaningful Differences in the Everyday Experience
Of Young American Children, 1995*

- How Much Input??**
- **Typically Developing Children . . .**
 - Hear 4000 – 6000 words per day for about a year . . .
 - We say YAY when we get that first word!!
 - **And Then . . .**
 - They hear 4000 – 6000 words per day for the 2nd year . . .
 - We are thrilled when we get those 2-word combos!!

What Is Aided Language Stimulation / Aided Language Input?

(Goosens, Crain and Elder, 1992, 1994)

- Communication partners provide aided language input by highlighting symbols on the child's communication display as they interact with the child verbally
- So, we are just 'thinking out loud' and touching key symbols as we talk

TIPS For Aided Language Input . . .

Just point to the key words!

- Ex: Do you WANT something?
- Do you FEEL bad?
- This is GOOD!


Don't over-do!!

- For beginners, just model one or two words!
- We typically 'stay ahead' by 1 – 2 words

**Aided Language
Input:
Make it Interactive . . .
And FUN!**

FREE Webinar by Dr. Caroline Ramsey Musselwhite
www.angelman.org
Webinar # 4: Communication Training Series

**Big Idea #3:
Attribute
MEANING!!!**



AS THEY
START TO SPEAK
WE CALL THAT
BABBLING

- Speechless Video: Cerebral Palsy Foundation
- <http://yourcpf.org/speechless/topic-of-the-week>

Why Attribute Meaning?

- A natural response to children without disabilities
- Teaches student to be less random
- Builds cognitive understandings over time
- Sends message of competence
- Implies high expectations

Big Idea 4: More Is MORE!!!

Big Idea: More Is MORE!!



Complex language communication supports
must include:
1 a sufficient quantity
of 2 individual words and letters
representing a 3 range of language
functions

Slide from Maureen Nevers, 2015
www.angelman.org
ASF Webinar # 2 – Does Your App Measure Up?

**Communication Factors to Consider:
FUNCTIONS of Communication**

- **Comment / Opinion:** LIKE; GOOD; COOL
- **Request Objects & Actions:** WANT; GET; GO; STOP
- **Negate / Protest:** NOT; DON'T; STOP
- **Recurrence:** MORE
- **Question:** WHO; WHAT; WHERE
- **Teases/ Tattles:** YOU ARE BAD; SILLY MOMMY

These should be EASY to get to – hopefully no more than 2 hits!!

**Use the MOST Language Possible
MORE IS MORE!!!!**

**Do NOT Limit Based on Perceived
Cognitive Status!**

Potential Limiting Factors:

- Compromised vision
- Poor access, with minimal chance for improvement in the next school year

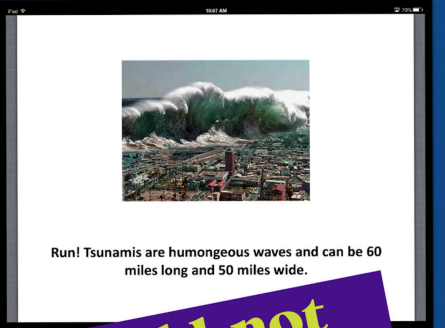
**Big Idea #5:
Core Language
COUNTS!!!**

**Core + Content
Vocabulary**

- ◆ **CORE** vocabulary
 - Most common words
 - Permits talking about any topic
 - Stored together rather than by theme
- ◆ **CONTENT** vocabulary
 - Other words that fit into broad themes

WHY Core Language??

- Highly **efficient** approach to communication
- Supports **motor planning**
- Enhances **literacy**
 - Core words for language and high frequency words for literacy have a significant crossover



Evelyn, age 14

Big Idea #6: Divide and CONQUER!!!

WHO Would Be Great For Modeling:

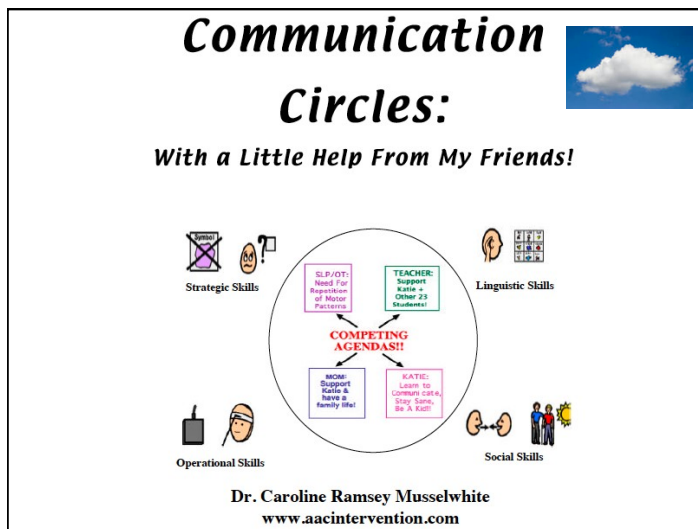
- **Comments** (COOL, AWESOME, EPIC)
- **Core words** (especially the 'home page'?)
- **Describing words** (UGLY; SILLY; SCARY; FRUSTRATED; PRETTY)
- **Fun action words** (JUMP; CHASE)

IT IS BUILDING
FRIENDSHIPS



- Speechless Video: Cerebral Palsy Foundation
- <http://yourcpf.org/speechless/topic-of-the-week>

**Big Idea #7:
Peer POWER!!!**



Definition CC-1

Communication Circles have been developed to promote follow-through in use of assistive technology. They are an extension of the peer tutors model, with peers working as a team with the AAC user and professionals to plan and carry out activities.

Outcomes??

Interactive Device USE After 1 Year

Sped director called to report:

- 5 phone calls over 2 weeks
- Vanessa initiating with unfamiliar partners
- Vanessa's teacher: verbal participant in every class
- Going to multiple parties, having friends over

Want to Learn More?

- **Apps for Interaction & Language**
 - Augmentative & Alternative Communication Ideas & Peer Groups
 - Thursday, 10:30 – 12:00 am
- **Apps for Engagement in Learning**
 - Reading & writing Supports
 - Thursday, 1:30– 3:15 pm

Angelman Webinar Series



Communication Training Series

Find information, schedules, video recordings and handouts.

43 Webinars

Erin Sheldon
Caroline Musselwhite
Maureen Nevers

- Webinars (Video)
- Handouts
- Books for THR

www.angelman.org

Dropbox Link

<http://bit.ly/2qGDFwY>

Name	Modified	Members	
AAC INTERVENTION ...	--	4 members	...
Comm Circle book 08...	24 mins ago	4 members	...
HANDOUTS	--	4 members	...
IPAD SUPPORTS	--	4 members	...
LIGHT TECH MATERL...	--	4 members	...