

Communication Partner Strategies

Value Wait Time

Giving more time supports communication.

- **Pause, wait, and stay engaged**
- **Wait at least 10-15 seconds or more before providing support**

Support all communication attempts and honor the individual's unique ways of expressing themselves.

Communication Partner Strategies

Offer Meaningful Communication Opportunities

- **Focus on meaningful communication opportunities that encourage communication**
- **Prioritize communication that is relevant and motivating to the AAC user**

Support all communication attempts and honor the individual's unique ways of expressing themselves.

Communication Partner Strategies

Input Through Modeling (Aided Language Input)

- **Partner selects words on AAC as you speak**
- **Learners need to see how AAC is used in real conversations**
- **Do not expect imitation or specific response**
- **Support authentic communication**

Support all communication attempts and honor the individual's unique ways of expressing themselves.

Communication Partner Strategies

Carry AAC Everywhere

**Ensure the AAC system is
ALWAYS ready and accessible.**

- **Keep the device charged and turned on**
- **Keep AAC device accessible to the AAC user**
- **Have a paper based back up available**

**Support all communication attempts and honor the individual's
unique ways of expressing themselves.**

Communication Partner Strategies

Expand and Recast

Expansion:

Add 1-2 words to what the AAC user says to model longer messages.

Recasting:

Model the same message using more complete grammar or vocabulary while keeping the original meaning.

Support all communication attempts and honor the individual's unique ways of expressing themselves.