

Augmentative and Alternative Communication: Accessing

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Who is this guy?

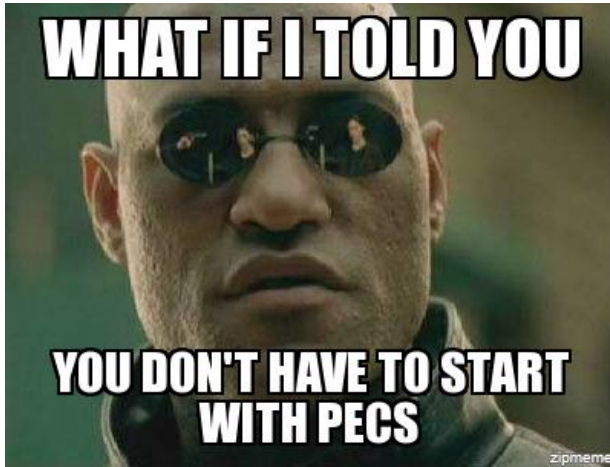
- ▶ David G. Schneider, M.A., CCC–SLP
- ▶ Graduated Bachelor's and Master's Degrees from Wayne State University – Speech/Language Pathology
- ▶ Graduated from California State University–Dominguez Hills (2014) – Assistive Technology Specialist Certification
- ▶ Clinical Fellowship – Detroit Institute for Children
- ▶ Beaumont Health Center for Childhood Speech and Language Disorders – (5 years)



Beaumont Health

Beaumont + Botsford + Oakwood



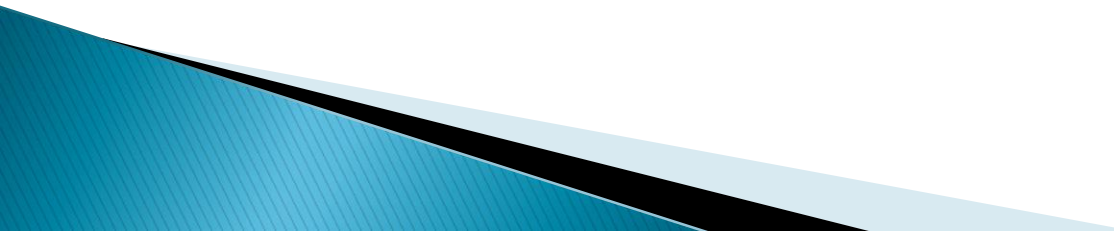


Think about it...

- ▶ “Not being able to speak is not the same as not having anything to say.”

-Rosemary Crossley
Educator, Developer of Facilitated
Communication Training

Objectives:

- ▶ Define Augmentative and Alternative Communication
 - ▶ Define Accessing
 - ▶ Understand the types of accessing
 - ▶ Understand the importance of accessing for school-based children.
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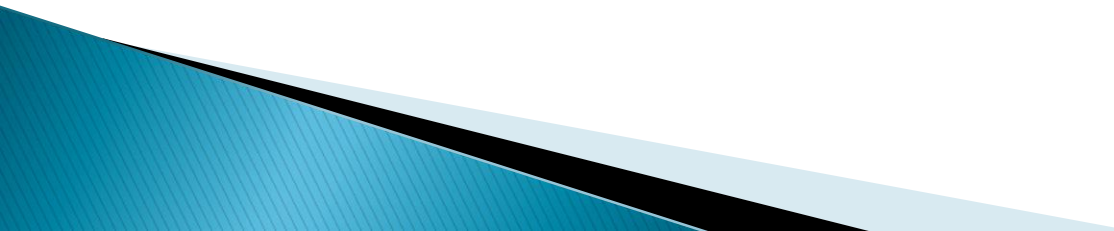
What is Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC)?

- ▶ ASHA defines AAC as:
 - Augmentative and alternative communication (AAC) includes all forms of communication (other than oral speech) that are used to express thoughts, needs, wants, and ideas. We all use AAC when we make facial expressions or gestures, use symbols or pictures, or write.

What is accessing?

- ▶ ASHA defines accessing as:
 - Access is the way an individual makes selections on a communication board or speech generating device.

Types of Accessing

- ▶ 1. Direct Selection
 - ▶ 2. Scanning (Auditory, Visual, Partner Assisted)
 - ▶ 3. Eye Gaze
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Direct Selection

- ▶ **Direct selection**—includes pointing with a body part such as a finger, hand, or toe, or through the use of a pointing device such as a beam of light, headstick, or mouthstick. Those with severe physical impairments may need to access systems by using a switch. The switches can be turned on with a body part, puff of air, or wrinkle of an eyebrow.

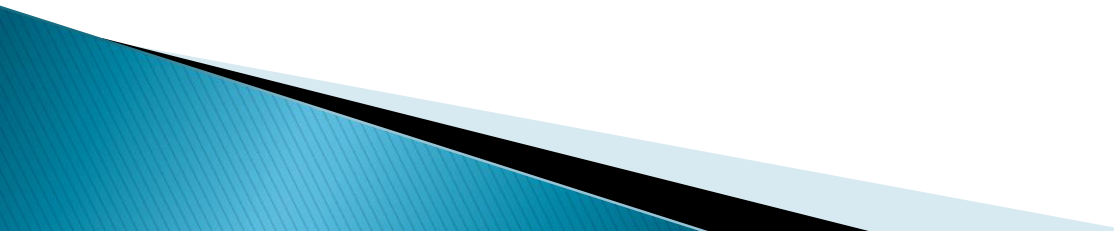
Examples of Direct Selection

- ▶ Switches and communicators
- ▶ Dynamic Displays (Tablets)
 - iPad
 - Nova Chat
 - Accent
- ▶ Static Displays
 - GoTalk

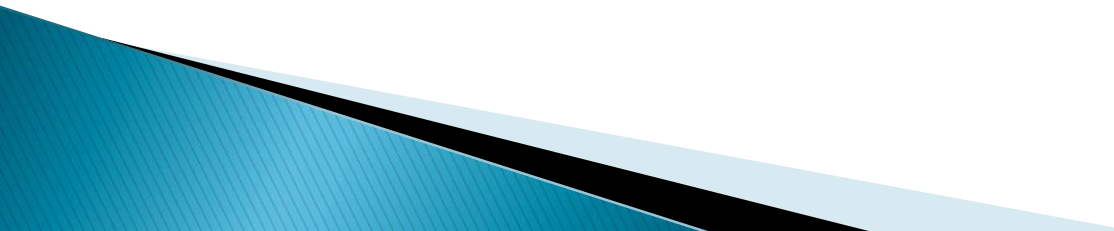
Switches and communicators

- ▶ The ultimate switch
- ▶ Sip and puff switch
- ▶ Grasp switch
- ▶ Candy corn switch
- ▶ Pal pad
- ▶ Ribbon switch
- ▶ Mini gumball switch
- ▶ Joggle variable pressure switch
- ▶ N-Abler Pro Joystick
- ▶ Head pointer
- ▶ Big Mack
- ▶ Little step by step
- ▶ Big talk triple play
- ▶ iTalker 2
- ▶ Talkable 4

Dynamic Displays

- ▶ iPad
 - ▶ Nova Chat
 - ▶ Accent
 - ▶ Dynavox Maestro
 - ▶ Tobii I12 with eye gaze interface
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Static Displays

- ▶ Go Talk 9+
 - ▶ Go Talk 20+
 - ▶ 7-level communicator
 - ▶ Quicktalker 12
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Scanning

- ▶ **Scanning**—involves the use of lights on a system that pass over each choice and the user activates a switch to stop the light and pick a choice, other types are auditory scanning and scan patterns (such as row/column, quadrant, step, and linear). Scanning requires less motor control but possibly more cognitive skill than direct selection access.

Smart Series

Smart / Scan 8 Plus

REC LED

how are you



friends



ask me a yes-no question



thank you



I am fine



play



do you understand



Let's talk later



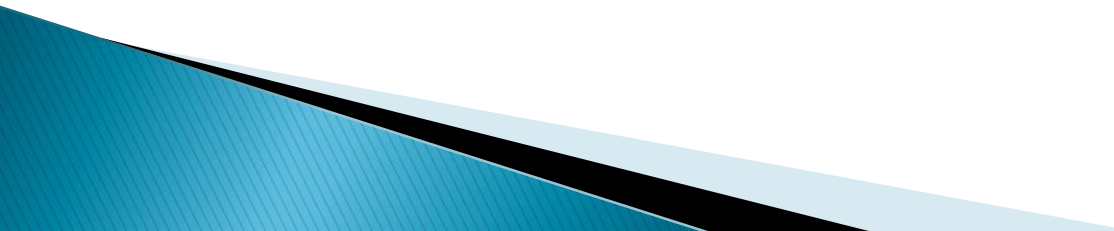
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Eye Gaze

- ▶ Using light to reflect off the eye which registers through the eye gaze interface.



Dave, why is this important?

- ▶ Each and every child has the right to communicate.
 - ▶ Each and every child has the right to express their basic wants and needs.
 - ▶ As speech/language pathologists, we need to help children who are non-verbal, find the necessary means to access a communication device.
 - ▶ And of course...
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- ▶ “Not being able to speak is not the same as not having anything to say.”

References

- ▶ What is AAC?

<http://www.asha.org/public/speech/disorders/AAC/>

- ▶ Information for AAC Users.

<http://www.asha.org/public/speech/disorders/InfoAACUsers.htm>

Questions?

