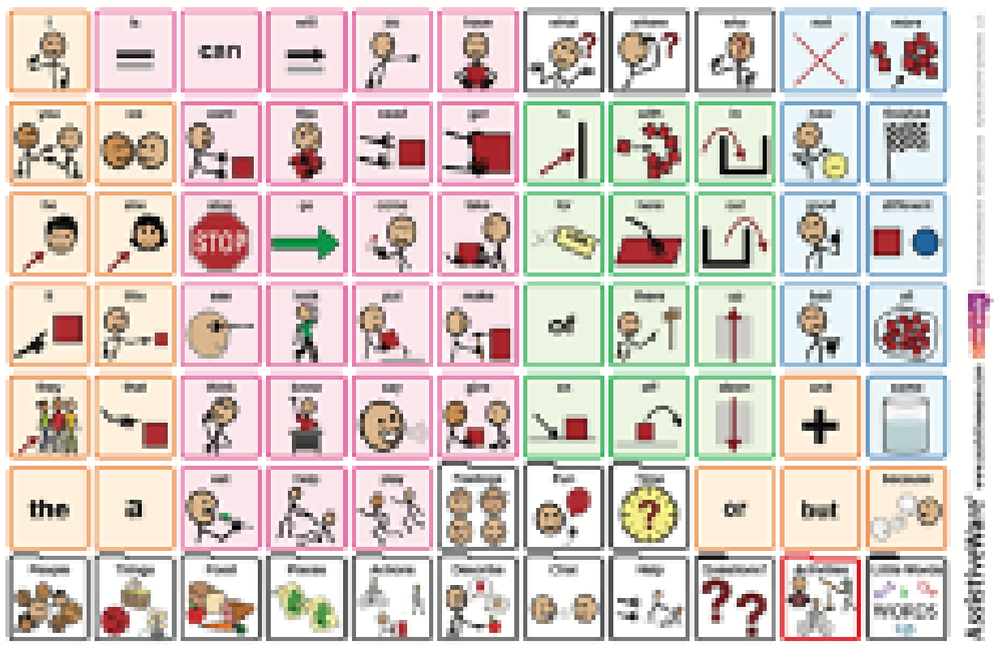
AAC AT HOME

If you have a child with Complex Communication Needs (CCN) it would be great if you could use their AAC system at home. It gives them a voice - and should be a part of their life, all day, every day. Even if you understand them most of the time, there are going to be times when you won't. At those times AAC can help you get your message across to each other – and to do that requires practice.

Children and adults with CCN need us to use their AAC system so that they can learn how to use it. So, a large part of our job as their communication partner is to use their system ourselves. We call this modelling or aided language stimulation.

Where do I start?

- In most AAC systems there is some central vocabulary that you can focus on to get you started
- If your child has a core vocabulary system, there is often a home page with high frequency words. These are words that we use all the time and that you can use through the day. Below is an example of a home page from Proloquo2Go.



Proloquo2Go® Crescendo core word board

- If your child has a PODD book, you would start by focusing on using Pages 1a and 1b.

The Golden Rule

And remember the golden rule – your child's AAC must always be with them! You can't model it, and they can't learn to use it, if it isn't there.

More Information

For more information about learning to use an AAC you should check the manufacturer's website.

- For Proloquo2Go, go to https://www.assistiveware.com/learn-aac.
- For PODD there are some great handouts from Interactive Speech Pathology available at janefarrall.net/poddsheets.

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Literacy - AAC - Assistive Technology