

MODELLING AAC

Welcome!

We will start shortly

**Please mute your mics when you
are not talking**



House Keeping

- Welcome! We're so glad you've joined us.
- Please join in and ask questions as we go along
- Please be aware of others in the session
- Protect your own confidentiality
- Don't share information about other patients from this session outside of the session
- Be generous – this is a shared session
- If you need more information please speak to us at the end about an additional support session
- The session leader may not be able to address all questions which arise and may ask you to 'park' questions to be answered later

Introductions

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AAC West of England Specialist Team (AAC WEST)



Objectives

For you to:

- To understand what modelling is
- To feel confident in starting to model

Terminology

- **AAC – Augmentative and Alternative Communication**
- **No tech / low tech / high tech**
- **Communication aid (VOCA)**
- **Communication book**
- **Aided language**
- **Talker**

What will we cover?

- **What is modelling?**
- **Why is it important?**
- **How to get started**
- **Top tips**
- **What next?**
- **Resources**

What is modelling?

“Having an AAC device does not make you an effective communicator anymore than having a piano makes you a musician”



Beukelman, 1991

**Teaching someone to use their AAC
by using AAC yourself**

What is modelling?



Core – watch first 1½ minutes
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kGFqjhKajdM>

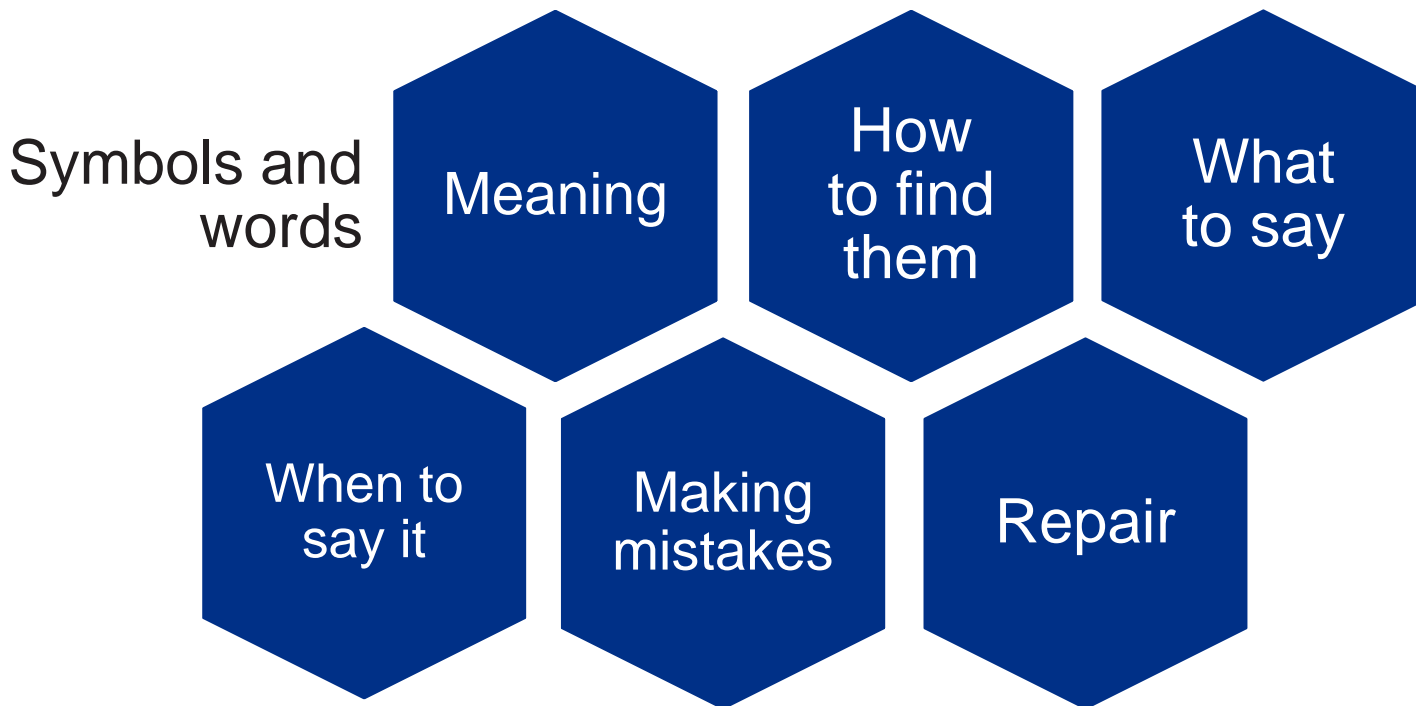


PODD – watch first minute
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Iji7BM-HE08>

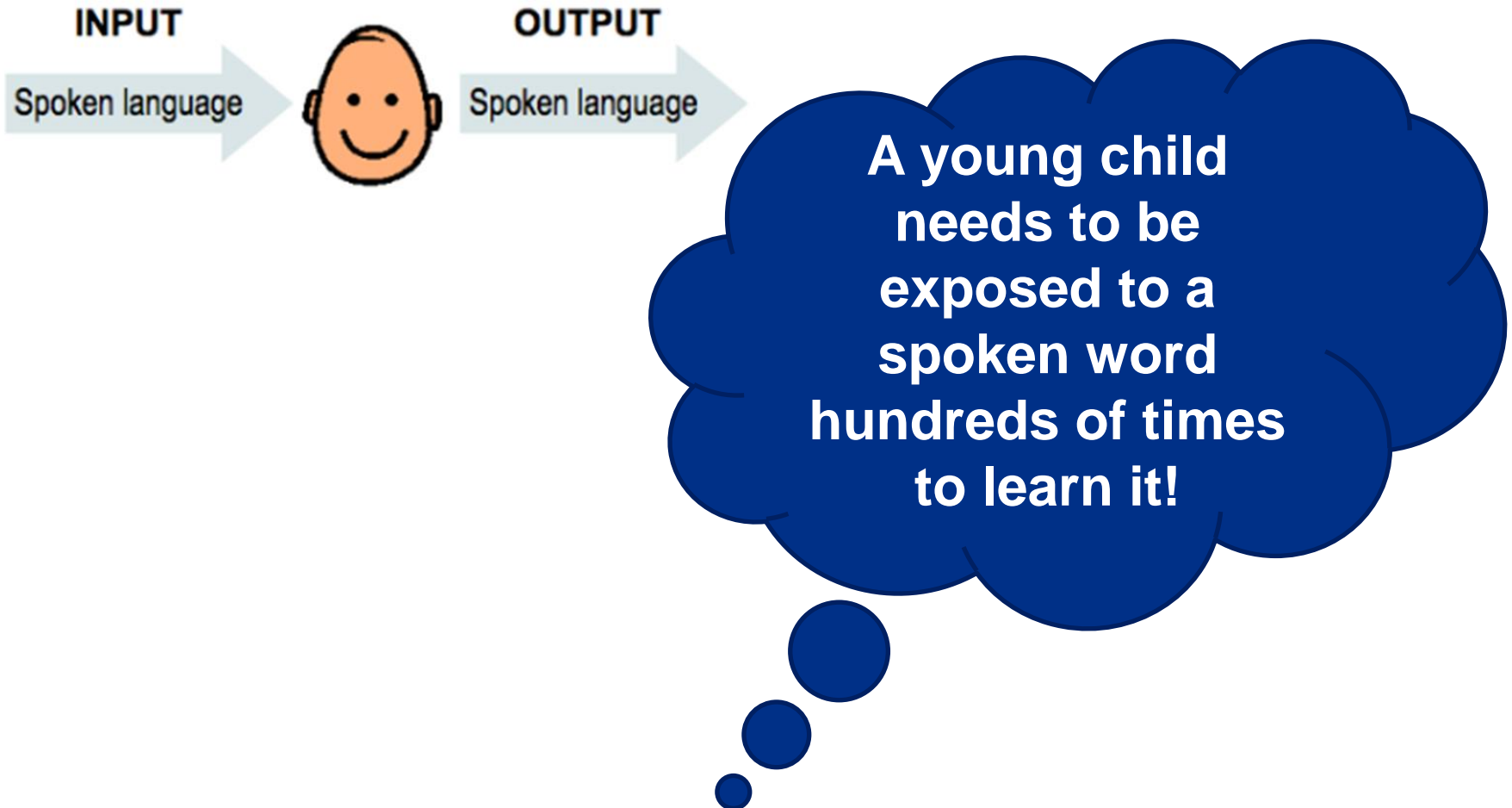


Adult with core
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PUI8kD53NQg>

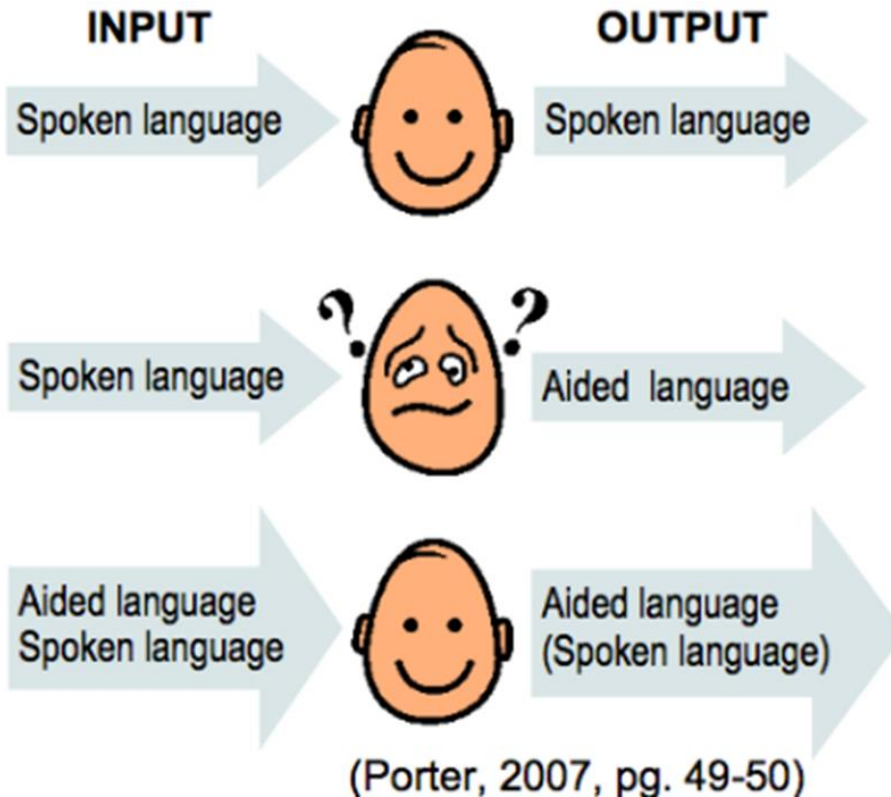
What are you modelling?



Why is it important?



Why is it important?



☺ **Need to learn the language that they use (symbols!)**

☺ **Opportunities**

☺ **Reduce pressure**

How to get started

1. Choose an activity that you do everyday
2. Choose words to focus on
3. Speak and point to the symbol at the same time
4. No pressure

1. Choose an activity that you do everyday



Breakfast

Storytime

Bedtime

Playtime

Something FUN!!!

2. Choose words to focus on

Common words in activity

Focus on 1-2 words



jump



up



turn



down



Reading books



‘Where are you **GO**ing to
little brown mouse?’

COME and have lunch
in my underground house!’

Key words

1. Cooking / baking

make cut
get pour
give bowl
oops! then

2. Reading a book

see look
turn funny
listen book

3. Eating a meal together

stop more
drink eat
help yummy

4. Playing playdough

look choose
roll colours
cut good

3. Speak and point to the symbol at the same time



4. No pressure

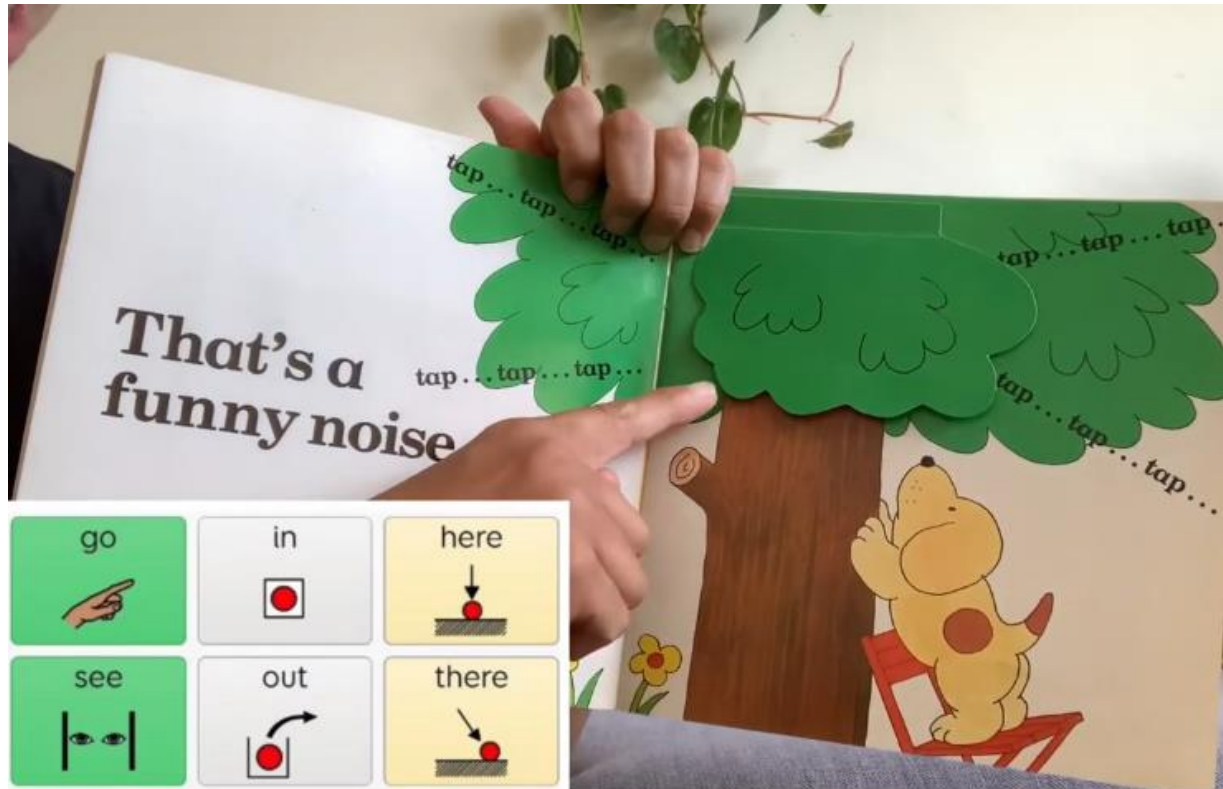
Model without expectation



Task

- Watch the videos
- Use the board on the screen to point to the word 'IN' every time you could model it
- What other words could you model?
- Try modelling 2/3 words

Point or touch 'IN' every time you hear it



<https://youtu.be/benPKNG0S-k>

Point or touch words that you could model



I 	want 
you 	like 
that 	do 
with 	not 

<https://youtu.be/5GICFLBHySY>

Recap –

How to get started

1. Choose an activity that you do everyday
2. Choose words to focus on
3. Speak and point to the symbol at the same time
4. No pressure

Top tips

1. **Speak normally**
2. **Avoid testing and questions**
3. **Pause, accept, respond**
4. **Don't worry**
5. **Have the device available!**

1. Speak normally

Even when symbols aren't grammatically correct!

“We went to school yesterday”



2. Avoid testing and questions

“Show me the symbol for MORE”

“What can you see outside the window?”

“Are you hungry?”



Use comments

Make statements and observations...

“**Look** outside the window, **there** is a big **bird!**”

“You **look** like you are **hungry**”

“I am **tired**, I will **go** to **bed** now”

“There are more **books** **under** the **bed**”

3. Pause, accept, respond

☺ **PAUSE** – give them lots of time to join in



☺ **ACCEPT** – all forms of communication

☺ **RESPOND** – give meaning to everything that is said on the device.

4. Don't worry

- Don't worry about getting it wrong
- Don't worry if they are not looking or responding
- Just keep modelling!!!



5. Have it available



Low tech alongside high tech!

What next?

**Once you start to feel confident,
gradually increase...**

- **Activities**
- **Words**
- **People**
- **Places**



Summary

Why do it?

- ★ Learning without pressure
- ★ Opportunities

Getting started

- ★ Everyday activities
- ★ Keywords
- ★ Speak and point
- ★ No pressure

Top tips

- ★ Speak normally
- ★ Avoid testing / questions
- ★ Pause, accept, respond
- ★ Don't worry
- ★ Have it available

Task

Think about your normal day:

- **Think of 2 opportunities where you could do some modelling.**
- **What messages or words would you focus on?**

Questions?



Recap objectives

For you to:

- To understand what we mean by modelling
- To feel confident in starting to model

Please complete the 3 mins survey monkey:

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/ZKXHQM5>

Other training...

- **Core vocabulary training**
- **Pragmatically organised vocabulary training**
- **Communication partner training**
- **Keeping vocabs alive**
- **Software training (Grid 3 / Grid for iPad.**

Other software training available on request)

Resources

Resources



Facebook

[Instagram - the.aac.coach](https://www.instagram.com/theaaccoach)

<https://www.theaacoach.com/free-downloads>

AAC Modeling: On A Walk

Tell each other what to do!

- COME WITH ME
- STOP HERE
- SLOW DOWN
- LET'S GO
- HURRY UP

Comment on your walk!

- NICE DAY
- IT COLD
- I TIRED
- LOVE GO OUT
- FEEL GOOD
- LONG WALK
- SEE BIRD
- WALK FAST
- WALK SLOW
- BIG TREE
- FUN OUTSIDE
- WINDY DAY

Get attention!

- LOOK!
- SEE THAT!

Ask questions!

- WHERE GO?
- WHAT THAT?
- HOW LONG?
- WHEN DONE?

AAC modeling can happen anywhere. A walk can be a lot of fun! Make sure you have an AAC option that works outside! It could be a light-tech book and/or a high tech device with an anti-glare screen protector. Enjoy your time outside and connect with your AAC learner.

@the.aac.coach

Videos of modelling

Smartbox – modelling bubbles with child using eyegaze

<https://thinksmartbox.com/news/modelling-aac/>

We Speak PODD YouTube Channel

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCfvD20l2wn-fS2Ar4bdTXZg>

Lotsacomptons

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCknkKg-D_7DldLeMXvsGpcg

Communication Tips & Strategies: Aided Language Stimulation (ALS)
Short videos developed by Senior SaLT's for teachers and families to increase awareness of communication tips and strategies for people with autism. Second video in this series is, "ALS".

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wCVfMWdAKbE>

Further learning

Liberator Model Model Model webinar

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P18gLNxzDFA>

AssistiveWare Modelling Video - Using AAC to teach AAC

<https://www.assistiveware.com/learn-aac/start-modeling>

Smartbox SIMPLE AAC

<https://thinksmartbox.com/news/simple-aac/introducing-simple-aac/>

<https://thinksmartbox.com/news/simple-aac-presentation/>

AssistiveWare Do's and Don'ts

<https://www.assistiveware.com/blog/overview-dos-and-donts-aac>

Tobii Dynavox Pathways app – free

<https://www.tobiidynavox.com/en-GB/software/free-resources/pathways-for-core-first/>