

Implementation Planning: Customization

Handout and Guiding Questions

Implementation Planning

Part 2: Customization of AAC Systems

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Every person using AAC needs a way to talk about their family, their favorite leisure activities, favorite places to go, and subjects to discuss.

As diligent as an AAC developer may be, they can't know this type of information about every user. THAT is where we come into play!

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Why do we need to customize?

It is highly important that we assist our families of AAC users in planning, and sometimes programming their AAC systems to include all of these highly relevant messages.

When we are called in to troubleshoot an AAC application that has "never worked" for an individual, we often find that there isn't a single personal word or message anywhere in the system; no family photos, no Larabars or Snickers, no Six Flags or McDonalds.

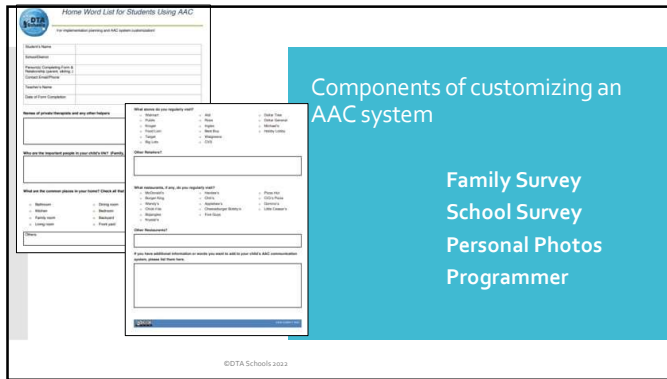
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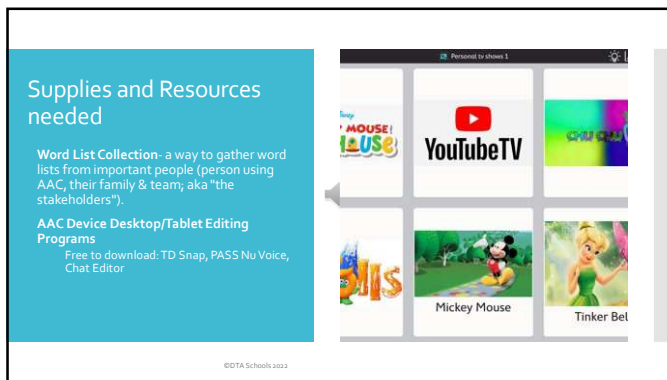
Can you imagine what your interactions would be like if you couldn't talk about your family by name, your favorite places to go, your hobbies or favorite leisure activities? Give it a try! Try to tell a partner about your weekend without using any of these words!



What words or messages would YOU need on your personal AAC system, if you were unable to speak clearly?

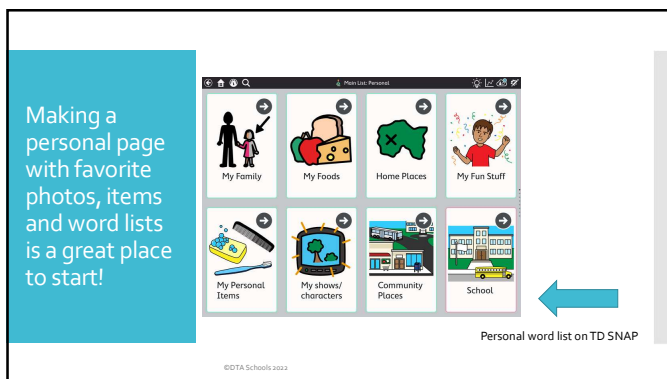


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Look at your student's AAC system, or your own trial version. Where do you think the personal words and messages should go?



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There's a big difference!

This is the symbol for chicken that is automatically in the lunch and dinner word list. The AAC user might actually eat chicken that looks like the photo!

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Let's make it motivating!

Everyone has their favorite people, activities, topics, places to talk about! If these items are on your student's AAC device, you have already given them ownership over their system!

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Find other resources for AAC implementation on our website

www.dynamictherapyassociates.com

Contact us!

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