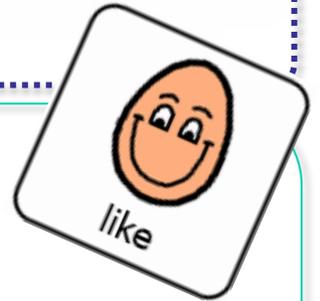


# CTC-CK Augmentative Communication Services (ACS)

## Core Word of the Month: Like



### What are core words and why are they important?

Core words are made up of verbs, adjectives and pronouns. They are the words we use across all activities, situations and environments. Teaching core vocabulary to your AAC user allows them to say whatever they want, whenever they want, without limitations. In this newsletter we will focus on the Core Word **LIKE**. We will learn to demonstrate /model different ways of using **LIKE** throughout the day with your AAC user. **LIKE** can be used to express preferred/non preferred activities, and during social interactions. Let's plan some ways we can demonstrate/model **LIKE** with your AAC user throughout the day.

### BOOKS

Books can be used for more than just reading all the words on each page. Instead try doing picture walks while talking about what is happening to each picture.

**Red is Best** by Kathy Stinson

- ◆ "I **LIKE** my red mitts the best."

**Pete the Cat: I Love my White Shoes** by Eric Litwin

- ◆ "Pete **LIKES** his white shoes."

**If Looked Like Spilt Milk** by Charles G. Shaw

- ◆ "Sometimes it looked **LIKE** a bird" or "I **LIKE** birds."

### ACTIVE ACTIVITIES

Baking and trying new foods.

With your AAC user select a few new recipes to try making together. After making these recipes enjoy sharing with friends and family members and finding out if they **LIKE** or **DON'T LIKE** these new recipes. This is a great way to encourage your AAC user to communicate with others.

Go to the Zoo.

While looking at the animals talk about which ones you **LIKE** and **DON'T LIKE**. Take pictures of your AAC user with all of the different animals so that they can share this digital photo album with other communication partners.

### BE CREATIVE

Enjoy making a digital photo album of all of your AAC users favourite things. Have your AAC user share all of the things that they **LIKE** with other communication partners. They can also ask others their opinion on their favourite.



## Communication Functions

Requesting

Directing

**Giving Opinion**

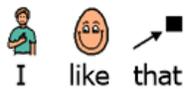
Sharing News

Commenting

Protesting

Asking Questions

Communication functions are the reasons we communicate. There are so many of them! A common mistake in AAC implementation is to underestimate the functions that a learner needs to be able to express themselves. This month we are looking at **GIVING OPINION**. We need this function to get our wants and needs met. Focusing on **GIVING OPINION** can be a good function to start working on. It is often motivating to give your opinion so that your ideas/thoughts can be heard and understood.



## Strategy of the Month:

*Respond to all communication attempts*

Aided Language Stimulation Pause and Wait

**Respond**

Have a Plan

Be prepared to Change

Sabotage

Expand

Obtain Attention

Importance of Core

The Power of No



There are many different strategies that you can use to help your AAC user learn to use their communication system. This month we will focus on **Responding**.

Responding means acknowledging all communication attempts. This includes pointing, vocalizations, standing near something/someone, actions, and verbal communication. As you notice your AAC user's communication attempts demonstrate the symbol usage by pointing to or pressing the buttons that match their communication attempts. This does not have to be full sentences.

For example, your AAC user stands by another person. You say "You like her" and you may model the word "**LIKE**" on the system. Your AAC user pushes an activity away from them. You're telling me "You don't like that" and model "**DON'T LIKE**" on the system.

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