How to do MODELING

Where to start

What is modeling

- Simply put modeling is using your child's device, or their language on another device, to show them new words
  - We want to model often and in many different places
  - We want to model many new words
  - We don't expect anyone else to use a language they have not heard or seen, it's important that we give our kids the opportunity to learn this new langauge

WHEN do I model?
START SMALL

Choose a word to focus on for the day/week.

This method can be helpful if finding new vocabulary is overwhelming for you. You can choose a word or a few words that everyone focuses on. Whenever those words come up in conversation that's your cue to model.

WHEN do I model?
START SMALL

Choose an activity

Another option is to think about certain times of day or activities you engage in where you can focus on modeling. This strategy can be really helpful if getting into the routine of having the device out and available is your first battle. Think about times where you can focus on your play and your child.

WHERE do I model?

The ideal place to model is on your child's language. This can be their actual device, a print out, or a spare device.

Some children don't like it when adults use their device, that's ok too. We want your child to see the value and importance of this system, we want them to value this system and not have a negative experience with it so we don't want to just grab that device from your kids or get into a power struggle.

Remember ownership of the device is actually a good thing so this can be a great sign that your child values his or her device. We can print out low tech versions- pages from their device or make pages with similar symbols.

WHAT do I model?

Easy rule = just add one

1. If you have a child who is not using any words/signs model single words

2. If you have a child who is using some words verbal, on their device, or signing try modeling 2-3 words

   We want to try and push your kids to the next level while still making it within their reach

What words

Find a mix of core & fringe- model words that are important to your child and your family (fringe) and how we use those words (usually core)

You can use the templates to think about what you will model with your kids

CONCEPTS

PEOPLE, PLACES,
THINGS

TARGET ACTIVITY

ACTION WORDS

COMMENTS &
EXCALIMATIONS

DESCRIBING
WORDS