

SELECTING & USING PROMPTS

what, how, & when to fade

PROMPT:
ASSISTING OR
ENCOURAGING OUR
AAC USERS

WHAT ARE PROMPTS

Prompts help your kids know what to do and help them learn new skills

Prompts are scaled based on the needs of our communicators

We are always planning to fade prompts

WHAT ARE WE ALREADY DOING?

Aided Language Modeling: we are already providing modeling prompts and gesture cues

These give our kids valuable information about what we want from them and how they can communicate with us

HAND OVER HAND

In recent literature, the use of hand-over-hand prompting has been discouraged.

1. We are forcing our kids to say something
2. Taking away their independence
3. Creating a negative experience
4. Can lead to misunderstanding

TYPES OF PROMPTS

1. Gesture- point to a word or picture
2. Verbal- state a word, give a cue like “that word is in foods”
3. WAIT- such a big one, exaggerate those pauses to help you kids learn it is their turn to talk
4. Question cue- “what should we do next”
5. Leading statement- “tell her what you think”
6. Model- show them what you are saying or what they can say
7. Start the phrase- I need the ____, Ready, set, ___

HOW DO WE USE PROMPTS: IN THE BEGINNING

It is common to use more prompts to get a behavior “going”. For a communicator new to AAC that may look like a most to least approach. When engaged in a task you can bring the device close, within arms reach, create an opportunity → then provide support.

Create the opportunity (pause in a routine or game)

→ Model the language

→ Gesture prompt (point to the button as you say the word)

→ Wait

→ Model prompt (push the button and say the word)

→ Wait

** You can use a HOH prompt in this example if you are comfortable

HOW DO WE USE PROMPTS: MORE PROFICIENT COMMUNICATORS

As your kids get better and better with their device we want to move to a least to most prompting hierarchy.

We use dense prompting in the beginning to teach them their part in this interaction, that the device is meaningful and is a great tool for them. Now they should be able to respond to less and less prompting.

LEAST TO MOST PROMPTING

Create the opportunity

→ Wait

→ Provide a verbal cue (what do you need, what comes next)

→ Wait

→ Start the phrase (ready, set, ___)

→ Wait

→ Gesture to the word

→ Wait

→ Provide the model