







## How to Model AAC

(April 2024)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Depending on the child's needs: Gesture or sign key words and phrases, and/or touch the word/phrase on the communication board or device as you speak</li> <li>Make comments not questions</li> <li>You don't need to sign/point to every word you say</li> <li>You don't need to be completely grammatically correct</li> </ul>
	<p>If your child is using sounds, words or phrases (signs, points to pictures, speaks), then.....</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Interpret (say what you think they are trying to say)</li> <li>Expand (model different words/phrases about what is happening)</li> <li>Extend (model different reasons to communicate, e.g., share joy, comment, greet)</li> <li>Recast (correct errors without expecting a response)</li> <li>Respond to and interpret all attempts</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Frequently</li> <li>During daily routines and planned activities</li> <li>During incidental moments</li> <li>During any conversation</li> <li>Whenever you can!</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Teaching staff and in class support team</li> <li>Peers</li> <li>Siblings, parents, friends and family</li> <li>Anyone can!</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In classes and halls</li> <li>On playground</li> <li>At home and in the community</li> <li>Everywhere and anywhere</li> </ul>
	<p>Children learn to speak by exposure to oral language. The average 18 month old child will have been exposed to 4,380 hours of oral language from birth.</p> <p>A child who has an AAC system that is only being used 10 minutes a day would reach the same amount of language exposure in 84 years. <i>Jane Korsten, SLP, (2011)</i></p>

### Remember.....

- Model without expecting anything in return.....INSPIRE don't require
- Model with variety (e.g., make comments, use greetings, predict, share ideas and feelings)
- Don't stop modelling once the student is using the system
- One is never enough (repeat the word many times and in many environments)
- AAC system should always be available and ready to use

