

How to: Read Stories with Core Words

Remember-You can use say the word, uses gestures or sign language, and/or point to picture communication symbols to highlight core words. If you are using picture communication, use the communication board that you have available or there are electronic copies of core boards on our AAC site. If you do not have a printer, you could have the core board as an image on a device (e.g. an iPad) while you are sharing the book. If that is not possible, it is okay just to read the book using our reading hints.

Children learn to communicate for many different reasons: directing your attention, directing the activity, sharing information, asking questions, expressing feeling and likes/dislikes, rejecting, etc. Learning and using core words will help to broaden your child's reasons for communicating messages.

Here are some of the core words that can be used with any book that you read.

Ready-when the child is ready to look and listen to the story Turn- for turn the page Look-to comment or for the child to ask to look at the picture Uh oh-for all the surprises and unexpected events What-what is going to happen? More-to keep continue reading the story or read it again Finished-at the end of the story Like/Not like-talk about what you like or don't like in the story Different-to ask for a different story



And here are a few possible core word phrases that could also go with any story:



I like it Not want that I want (to) look You do it, Do you like that? Uh oh not good Turn it I don't want

May 2020