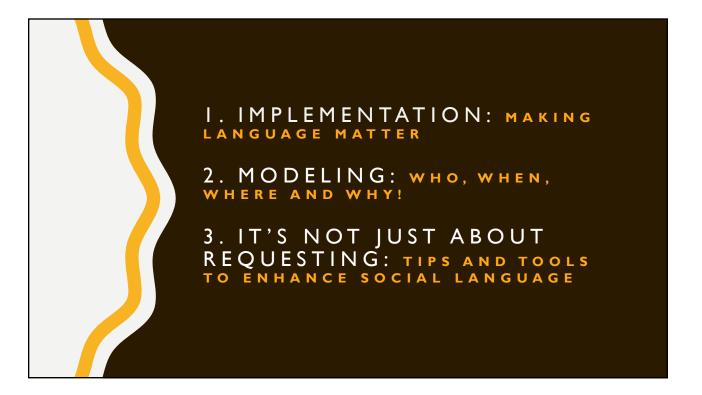


COMMON ROAD BLOCKS TO EXPANDING LANGUAGE BY: BROOKE OLSON AND CHLOE ROTHSCHILD



1. IMPLEMENTATION: MAKING LANGUAGE MATTER

- You have the device
- The appropriate app is downloaded
- The case is secured, amplifier is installed

NOW WHAT?

SCENARIO:

Luke is a 12 year old boy who has no formal communication system (no verbal language, does not use PECS or his beautiful new AAC device). Multiple teachers, aides and his parents have completed reinforcement inventories for him and repeatedly they state that his has no interests and just sits in the corner of the room playing with a piece of string. At times he has found interest in water play, but many times begins to drink the water, so they have to put the water bin away.

VOCABULARY IS KEY TO MAKING LANGUAGE MATTER!

- Setting the stage...its about "Luke's" timing and interests, not ours!
- · Starting off with two-word verb-noun requests
- Meet the child where they are currently NOT where you expect them to be in a month etc.
- Why does it have to be meaningful?
- Start simple!
- Must be taught not absorbed
- Core Vocabulary (e.g. help, more, stop, again, you, don't)
 - These words can/should be used in almost all settings throughout the day...choose words that appear in multiple settings.
 - Use these words/symbols in other environments as well...Print them out and put them in sensory bins, share them with the
 whole team, use them in songs or chants! (Source: http://praacticalaac.org/praactical/a-year-of-core-vocabulary-words)
 - Advanced core vocabulary Seasonal words (e.g. January: Cold, winter, snow, mittens, boots, etc.)

MODEL, MODEL, MODEL!

- Model!
- Show them what to do!
- We can't expect them to do it unless we show them how!
- It doesn't have to be expensive!
- Laminated template of their home screen



