

## APPLICATIONS

Smart phones have apps that can be very beneficial to your child's social interaction and communication

- ✓ Image it-Breaking the Language Barrier- \$0.99.

Linking images together to create ideas, can use/draw own pictures. This application comes in 6 different languages!

- ✓ Visual Prompts Board- \$9.99.

Another AAC device that can prompt child in expressing wants and needs

- ✓ Grace Picture Exchange for Nonverbal People- \$24.99.

Allows individual to build sentences by selecting a set of topic related images

- ✓ AAC Speech Buddy \$27.99.

This application allows you to create your own speech sets and upload them on your device

- ✓ Proloquo2Go: AAC in Your Pocket- \$189.99.

This application contains over 7,000 vocabulary words, popular, recognizable symbols with text-to-speech clarity. It is user friendly to those who have a difficult time communicating

Get information on applications at:

<http://www.autismspeaks.org/autism-apps>

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## Communication in Public Places

- Restaurants (eating)
- Stores (shopping)
- Parks (playing)

This pamphlet is designed to help parents create effective intentional communication with their children. It is designed to help prompt nonverbal children express their wants and needs.

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CSU, Chico, Autism Clinic Website:

[http://www.csuchico.edu/kine/academic\\_programs/ape/programs/autism.shtml](http://www.csuchico.edu/kine/academic_programs/ape/programs/autism.shtml)

### WHAT TO DO WHILE AT THE PLAYGROUND?

Does your child have trouble communicating with peers on the playground? Do you want to get involved in interacting with your child during their favored activities at the park?

Items can be brought to the park such as a small ball, a shovel or a jump rope. You can use these items to ask your child if they would like to participate with you in these activities. These items may work as communication prompts aiding them in speech acts (commenting, requesting or asking a question).

You can bring your child's favorite toy to the park as a way to promote activities as well. Prompt your child to go on the swing by letting them play with their toy simultaneously.

Simple sign language or signs that you create to help your child initiate these speech acts can be helpful. Your child can use signs to request to go on the swing or down the slide.



### WHAT TO DO WHILE SHOPPING?

Do you want help from your child at the grocery store?

It is beneficial to you and your child to interact during shopping experiences. Have you found yourself in the grocery store, wanting to communicate with your child to ask what they would like for lunch, but the lack of effective communication becomes a barrier?

The use of pictures and symbols can be a helpful tool in prompting speech acts and intentional communication with nonverbal children with autism.

Create a shopping list for yourself and one for your child. Picture booklets that are filled with pictures of essential or common foods that are usually purchased can be a way to engage your child. This will allow your child to find items in the store.

With advancing technology, applications on today's smart phones can also be a great way to communicate with your child. There are a range of options that can be found on the Autism Speaks website under Autism apps.

### WHAT TO DO WHILE EATING?

Communication can become stressful when the individual you are trying to communicate with does not understand, or what the individual is trying to express is not effective.

Be creative with your child depending on their age and ability to use certain resources. Figuring out which communication prompt they desire will be helpful.

Creating and personalizing picture books that relate to your family's favorite menus can be an easier way to get your child to interact with you when you are out dining.

Planning ahead is another option. You can find menus online before going into the restaurant and figure out what your child may like to eat by communicating with them at home. This will make your time in the restaurant a little easier.

