



Introduction

Below are things for you to consider!

Why a Tortoise to narrate our videos?

We chose a tortoise to represent the kind of careful, thoughtful individual that a STAR needs to become when supporting a person learning to use a communication system. The lesson in being more like the tortoise comes from a very famous children's story.

The Hare and the Tortoise Fable

<http://read.gov/aesop/025.html>

The Center for the Book in the Library of Congress

<http://read.gov>

“Aesop's Fables”—also called “the Aesopica”—are a collection of stories designed to teach moral lessons credited to Aesop, a Greek slave and story-teller thought to have lived between 620 and 560 BCE. Aesop's fables are some of the most well known in the world and have been translated in multiple languages and become popular in dozens of cultures through the course of five centuries.

<http://read.gov/aesop/about.html>

Complex Communication Needs (CCN)

From Communication Matters Glossary of Terms

<http://www.communicationmatters.org.uk/page/glossary#ccn>

A term used in relation to complex developmental conditions that affect children throughout their lives. It refers to severe speech, language and communication



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impairments including autism spectrum disorders (ASD), cerebral palsy (CP), certain learning disabilities and profound and multiple learning difficulties (PMLD).

What is AAC?

From International Society for Augmentative and Alternative Communication (ISAAC)

<https://www.isaac-online.org/english/what-is-aac/>

AAC is a set of tools and strategies that an individual uses to solve everyday communicative challenges. Communication can take many forms such as: speech, a shared glance, text, gestures, facial expressions, touch, sign language, symbols, pictures, speech-generating devices, etc. Everyone uses multiple forms of communication, based upon the context and our communication partner. Effective communication occurs when the intent and meaning of one individual is understood by another person. The form is less important than the successful understanding of the message. (Linda J. Burkhart, Technology Integration Specialist)

Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC)

From Communication Matters Glossary of Terms

<http://www.communicationmatters.org.uk/page/glossary#aac>

Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC) is the term used to describe various methods of communication that can 'add-on' to speech and are used to get around problems with ordinary speech. AAC includes simple systems such as pictures, gestures and pointing, as well as more complex techniques involving powerful computer technology.