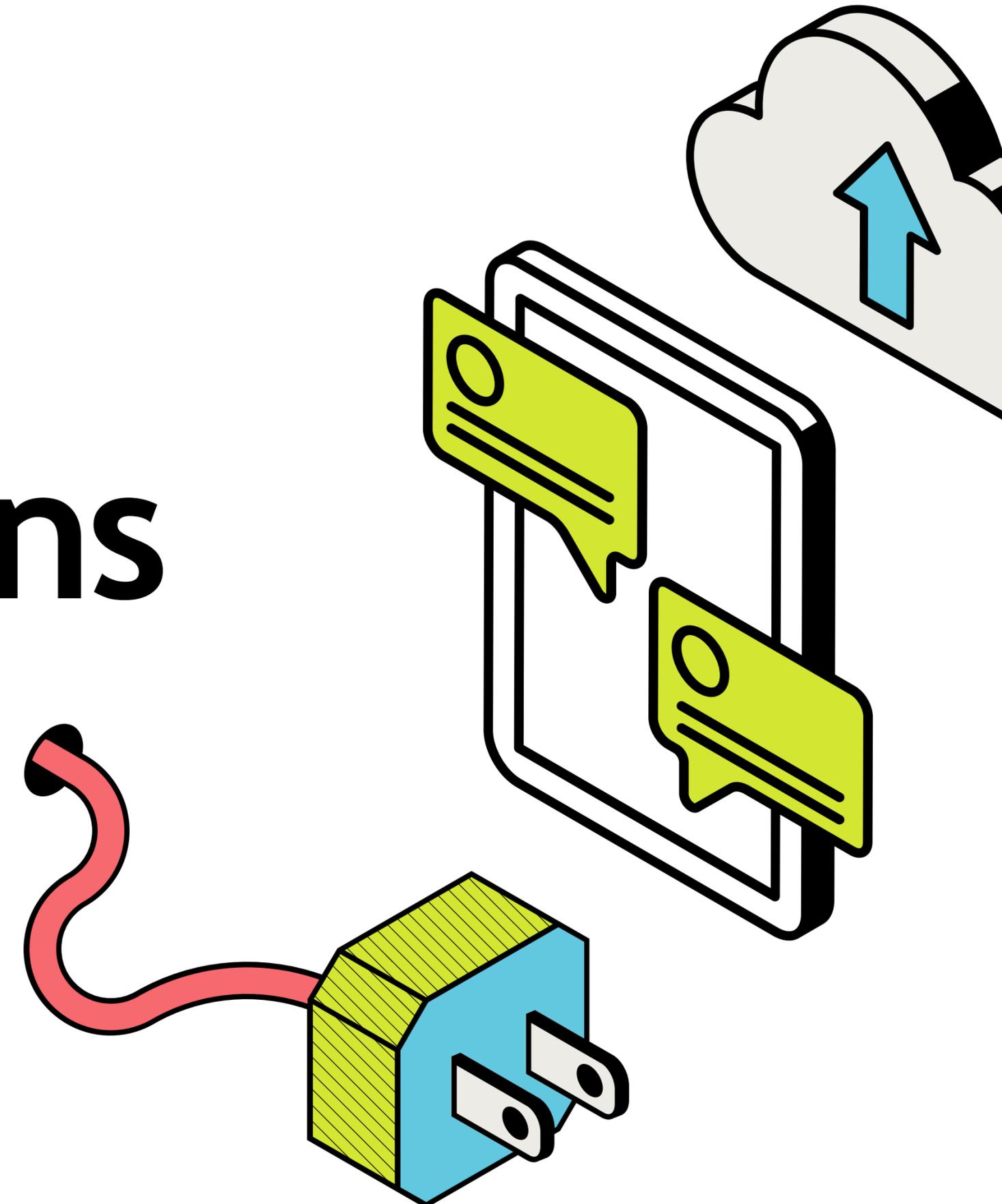


AAC Considerations



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November 8, 2023

About Me- Kelly Wanzer

- Speech Language Pathologist for 12 years
- Worked in home health, preschool, day-habilitation, and clinic settings
- Clinical specialty: AAC, clients with challenging behavior
- Consultant, writer, and trainer

LinkedIn



Curriculum

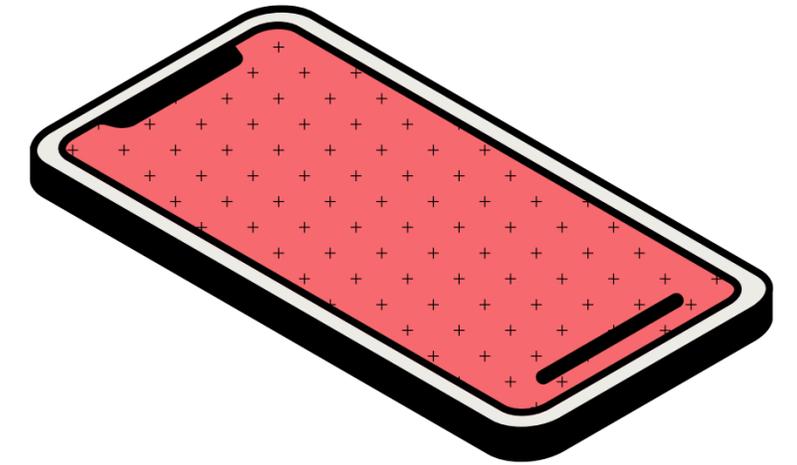


Article

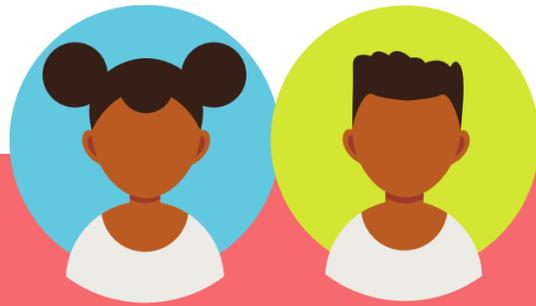


Agenda

1	Where to Start with AAC
2	Impact of AAC on Language
3	Involving Families in AAC
4	Waiting for Funding
5	Resources/Questions



Where to Start with AAC- #1



Who benefits
from AAC?

Limited functional communication

Reliance nonverbal communication/context

Poor prognosis for verbal speech acquisition/retention

Limited progress despite intervention

Gap between receptive and expressive skills (frustration)

Psychological status impacts speech ability

Medical complications impact functional communication

Where to Start with AAC- #2

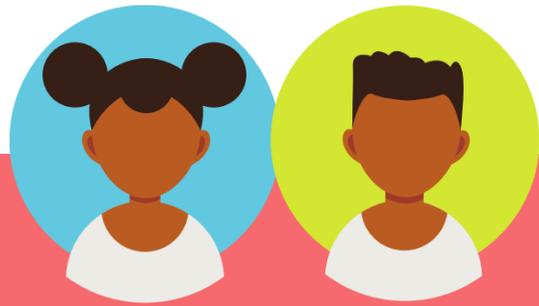


Who benefits
from AAC?



There are no
pre-requisites

Where to Start with AAC- #3



Who benefits
from AAC?



There are no
pre-requisites



Consider the
whole child

Impact of AAC on Language

- Makes language more concrete
- Reduces cognitive demand
- Offers consistent modeling
- Allows person to use their strengths to compensate
- Affords independence, success
- Decreases reliance on communication partner



Involving Families in AAC

- Explain research in plain language
- Be open to questions, feedback
- Build rapport
- Discuss presuming competence
- Set reasonable expectations
- Talk about potential for harm



Waiting for Funding

- Try to replicate the anticipated device
 - Explore apps, loaners, printables, screen shots, etc.
 - Aim to use same icons
- Offer a solution that can be used in multiple environments, not just therapy
- Plan with families and start training early



Resources/Questions

- For Parents/Caregivers
- Professional Resources
- Printable Resources
- Journal Articles



[https://wakelet.com/wake/YK3Ar48
GOObqBB7xEv6-p](https://wakelet.com/wake/YK3Ar48GOObqBB7xEv6-p)

Thank you!

