

SLP-chosen for you, from the Nicespeechlady.com library SPEECH PATHOLOGY PATIENT: _____

SPEECH PATHOLOGIST: _____

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS: _____

_____ DATE: _____



HOME PROGRAM: A/AC Communication Need Practice Ideas

Practicing tasks that address goals need to be conducted every day for positive outcomes. Patients performing home programs each day — allow for daily work toward goals.

Instructions: Caregivers are to set a time aside each day, for about 10 minutes at least, in order to “role-play” different scenarios where wants/needs need to be communicated — outside of a real-world situation.

1. Identify as a pair (family member and patient) which need is going to be communicated (see below)
2. Identify details on the role-playing scenario (for example, if the need is communicating that a drink is desired — decide as a pair in advance that the request will be for water; if the need is to communicate that the room is hot — decided as pair in advance what solution needs to be communicated, such as turning down the heat, or taking off a sweatshirt, etc.)
3. The caregiver should model for the patient how to communicate this via the A/AC access/mode — via role-playing.
4. The patient could then return demonstration by performing the same task toward the caregiver.
5. As time goes on, the modeling by the caregiver may not be indicated.

Example Communications of a want/need via A/AC access, no/low-tech to high-tech:

- REQUESTING:
 - Something to eat
 - Something to drink
 - A light be turned off
 - That shades be closed
 - That shades be opened
 - A towel
 - That it be warmer in the room/home
 - Help to the restroom
 - Command others to perform an action
 - Time alone
 - That someone be contacted
 - That a specific person be called
 - To lay down
 - To get out of bed or a chair
 - To take a shower
 - To take a bath

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- Time with a special individual
- A cool rag
- A back rub
- A blanket or cover
- That the floor be swept
- That the sheets be changed
- That perfume be made available
- That the trash be taken out
- To go into another room
- To make the bed
- To have a wash cloth
- To change clothes
- To go to the doctor
- To stop the therapy session
- To check the oxygen levels
- Pain medication
- The purchase of new clothes
- New makeup
- New deodorant
- That the bed be raised
- That the bed be lowered
- ASKING FOR:
 - More information about something
 - Ideas about a project
 - Brainstorming help on a project/issue
 - Someone's opinion on a subject
 - Someone's consent to give them advice
 - Ideas on how to validate someone
 - The next upcoming holiday or birthday
 - The next excursion or therapeutic trip
- COMMUNICATING AN EMOTIONAL NEED
 - Relay an emotional need ("I need to hear when I do things right," "I need you to listen to my concerns," "I need you to please focus on me when I am speaking to you," "I need an apology, please," etc.)
 - Relay that there is a desire for the A/AC to "speak their mind"/provide feedback
 - Communicating not feeling well
 - Communicating anger
 - Communicating jealousy

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- Communicating surprise
- Communicating that the conversation needs to stop
- Communicating sadness
- Communicating happiness
- Communicating excitement
- Communicating despair
- Communicating the need to perform at task that will cheer-up the communicator
- Communicating the need to take a break
- Communicating that the speaker is feeling overloaded
- Communicating fatigue
- Communicating boredom
- SHARING IDEAS ON:
 - A future event
 - A debatable subject-- like politics, religion, world events
 - Celebrity news
 - Ways to be more effective with a task
 - Different viewpoints
 - Preferences of activities
 - Ideas for plans
 - What might help a situation
- ASKING FOR CLARIFICATION ON:
 - A misunderstanding
 - What someone said to the speaker
 - A complex subject matter — relaying the message that was received and reiterating it for confirmation that there was full understanding
- EXPLAINING FURTHER ON:
 - A misunderstanding
 - A question that is being asked
 - A previously-discussed subject
- TELLING A JOKE/TEASING
 - Formal jokes out of a joke book
 - Make fun of a friend, family member or caregiver
 - Reciting a riddle
 - Share a funny story
- PLAY “WHAT IS IT,” A DEFINING WORD GAME
 - Describing a word without saying the word, and ask the listener to guess which word the speaker is describing

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- AFFIRM/VALIDATING OTHERS
 - Tell someone they are loved
 - Tell someone they are appreciated
 - Tell someone it is liked what they do
 - Tell someone their experience is valid
 - Tell someone they are unique
 - Offer empathy
- CHALLENGE OTHERS
 - Dare others to perform an action or activity
 - Communicating that it is not possible that the listener can perform a desired task of the speaker
- DECEIVE
 - Communicate a “white lie”
 - Produce sarcasm, in an attempt to relay dark humor
- MAKE SUGGESTIONS TO OTHERS
 - Give advice
 - Profile feedback
 - Advise someone on a difficult subject
 - Instruct on an issue
 - Provide an explanation with a suggestion
 - Communicate plans
 - Offer assistance
- ASK FOR INFORMATION
 - Ask others for advice
 - Ask others for assistance with a task
 - Ask for opinions on different matters
 - Ask for input
- DENY
 - Start a conversation in denying a concept, action, etc.
 - Protest an action
 - Resist an idea or concept
- ASK FOR MORE
 - Ask for more of an action
 - Ask for more of an item

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- PERSUADE
 - Communicate the benefits of an action or viewpoint
 - Self-advocate
- GIVE A COMPLIMENT/PRAISE OTHERS
 - Let others know the enjoyment of an action
 - Let others know the enjoyment of an object
 - Let others know of the enjoyment of the absence of an action
 - Let other know of the enjoyment of the absence of an object
 - Express attitude
 - Speak to a pleasant issue as an attempt to socialize
 - Show interest in an activity
- GAIN ATTENTION
 - Calling out someone's name
 - Calling out an introductory phrase, greeting or pleasantry
 - Seek approval for an action, object
 - Show interest in others
 - Assert an opinion
- INFORM OTHERS
 - Communicate insights and details about a situation or the speaker
 - Comment on something
 - Agree about an issue
 - Assert an option onto a listener
 - Warn a listener of a dangerous issue
- DISAGREE
 - Provide constructive criticism
 - Correct a misunderstanding/perform communication repairs
 - Start a disagreement/debate
- APOLOGIZE
 - Attempt to make amends/a relationship repair with someone over an action of the speaker
 - Attempt to make amends/a relationship repair with someone over the non-action of the speaker in a situation that required action
 - Attempt to communicate that the speak wants to "patch things up."
 - Attempt to communicate desires to know from the listener how to make amends/a relationship repair, and inquires on what this would look like from the listener