

THE KNOWN (AND UNKNOWN) OF AAC & GESTALT LANGUAGE PROCESSING

NLA FRAMEWORK

Stage 1 - Delayed Echolalia

Stage 2 - Mitigated Gestalts

Stage 3 - Single Words

Stage 4 - Original Utterances

Stages 5-6 - Advanced Grammar

GESTALT LANGUAGE PROCESSING

A type of language development that moves from whole, memorized phrases to single words & original utterances. There is a focus on intonationally defined units, meaningful experiences, and emotional connection.

THE RESEARCH BASE

Research on echolalia and gestalt language dates back to the work of Ann Peters & Barry Prizant in the 1970-1980s. There is currently no research that includes both GLP & AAC together in the same study.

Learn more here:
<https://bit.ly/meaningfulspeech>

MODELING THROUGH THE STAGES

- Stage 1 - Provide language models that can be easily mitigated (e.g. I'm gonna getchyou! It's really fun!)
- Stage 2 - Continue providing language models and support mixing & matching of gestalts to form new gestalts.
- Stage 3 - Create opportunities to use nouns, attributes, and locations.
- Stage 4 -6 - Provide a wide variety of models while you begin experimenting with new grammar concepts.

DEVICE PROGRAMMING CONSIDERATIONS

- Think long term. Robust systems will still be important in the end.
- Keep core words. The goal is still spontaneous, novel utterances.
- Consider features: keyboard, insert video, YouTube access, personal images, audio recording.

POSSIBLE NON-SPEAKING GLP TRAITS

- Long unintelligible strings of jargon
- Interest in music, humming, intonation
- Replaying portions of videos
- Lack of progress with traditional therapy approaches
- Stuck in phrases or single words