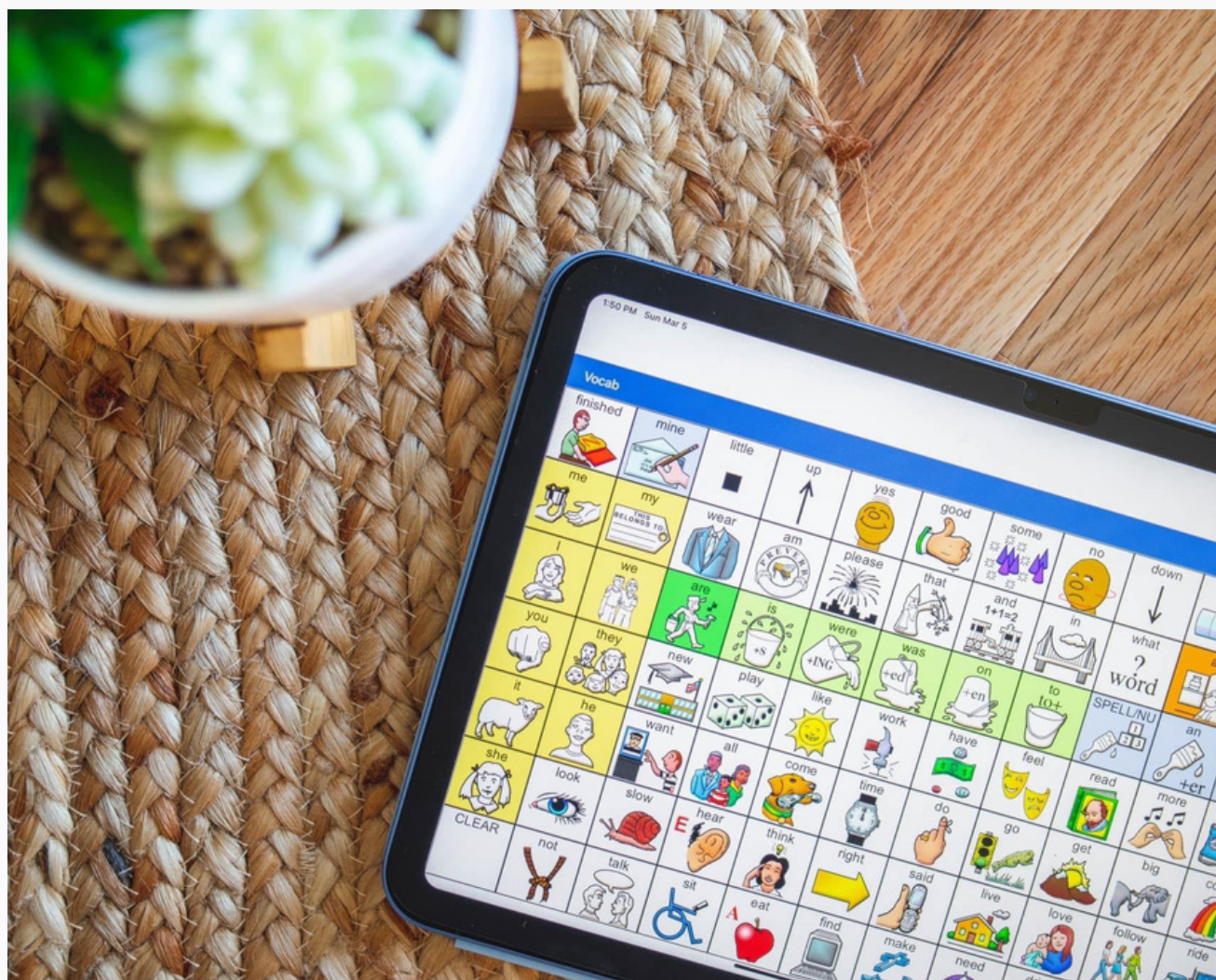


FREE RESOURCE GUIDE

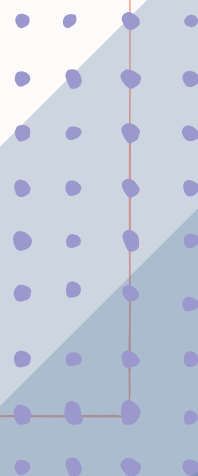
AAC RESOURCE ROUND UP



WWW.EMILYDIAZSLP.COM

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ABOUT ME



Hi There!

I'm Emily Diaz.

When I first began my career as an SLP, believe it or not, I had ZERO knowledge or experience with AAC. Everything I've learned over the years has come from professional development, other SLPs a step ahead of me, resources, and hands-on practice. It wasn't easy, but I figured it out along the way.

There is certainly a ton of information out there about AAC but it can be overwhelming and time consuming to find exactly what you're looking for. So instead, I've done the work for you and compiled the most helpful resources I've used over the years to grow my confidence with AAC!

Be sure to follow me on Instagram @emilydiazslp where I share weekly about all things AAC related. You can even slide into my DMs to ask questions!

your signature here

About Me

AAC-RELATED FACEBOOK GROUPS

AAC for the SLP

This group is for those who work with and evaluate individuals for AAC. The purpose of this group is to be able to discuss with other professionals anything related to AAC and share useful information.

Ask Me, I'm an AAC user (24 Hour Rule!)

This is a group where AAC users are the authority on AAC and here AAC users, SLPs, support staff, doctors, parents, family, and others who are interested in AAC, can ask questions and get advice and some insight from actual AAC users!

AAC & Gestalt Language Processing

This group is designed to discuss AAC and Gestalt Language Processing! Many people have had success stories with these students, but we don't have one place to share all the information. This group is designed to do just that! Share ideas and collaborate as professionals, parents, and others

AAC Through Motivate, Model, Move Out Of The Way

The goal of this group is to share how to use motivating activities and interactions, modeling and fading supports to increase independence to support AAC users in becoming competent communicators. This group is for everyone regardless of where they are in their AAC journey and what robust communication system is being used.

AAC and Literacy

A venue for sharing and researching information regarding best practices in literacy assessment and instruction for individuals who use AAC.

We Speak AAC

Our story begins with a vision of an online AAC Academy where quality and comprehensive AAC training is easily accessed world-wide. We aim to create a certificate program taught by industry leaders and trailblazers, including users of AAC integrated in all AAC courses. A place where parents, teachers, and stakeholders continue to build their confidence in implementing AAC.

This is not an exhaustive list of AAC related Facebook Groups. I encourage you to search for additional groups that may address your support needs.

AAC-RELATED INSTAGRAM ACCOUNTS

@emilydiazslp by Emily Diaz

Grow your confidence with AAC. Supporting parents & professionals. Accepting new clients (in-person/virtual). Explore more AAC resources.

@aac.and.me by Janna Bedoyan

National Board Certified Teacher. AAC Assessments & trainings. Autism Preschool Teacher. Co-author of AAC visualized.

@omazingkidsaac by Angela Moorad

Pediatric SLP with over 33 years experience in AAC. OMazing Kids AAC and app consulting.

@bilingueaac by Melissa, Sarah, Alma, & Maria

Culturally-Affirming Spanish AAC. Managed by @hablame_de_language (Melissa), @aac_together (Sarah), @aacforyouandme (Alma), and @code.switch.slp (Maria).

@diverseaac by Alma, Jill, & Christina

A group of SLPs working towards a diverse world of AAC in terms of language, access, icons, & more. Managed by @aacforyouandme (Alma), @jbdspeech (Jill), and @playonwordstherapyllc (Christina).

@drawntoaac by Jennifer

SLP/AAC Specialist in CA. Canva Artist. DM for collaboration, check links for consult. Freebies + shop + links.

@courtneyburnettadvocate by Courney Burnett

Board Certified Advocate. AAC parent coach. Helping parents advocate and support their child, so they can feel more at peace. IEP/504 help.

@chickadee.aac by Jennifer Wiegert

Speech-Language Pathologist. Supports complex communicators. AAC in-home therapy. Coaching & workshops for educators, teams & families.

@the.aac.coach by Kate McLaughlin

Speech-Language Pathologist. AAC Enthusiast. Course Creator: Authentic AAC. Links in Linktre.ee!

AAC-RELATED INSTAGRAM ACCOUNTS

@aac_innovations by Laura Hayes

SLP & AAC Specialist. Trying to help others find their voice with augmentative alternative communication (AAC/AT) innovative supports.

@aacforall by Mary Katherine Daly

AT Consultant, Outpatient SLP, Preschool SLP. Switch adapting toys is my love language.

@senseableliteracy by Megan Stewart

ASHA certified SLP, passionate about AAC, literacy and creating fun & engaging multi-sensory literacy experiences.

@coffeedogsandspeech by Sarah Weber

Over caffeinated SLP with a passion for AAC. Helping you advocate for ALL students. 1:1 consults. Therapy dog mentoring. Free AAC tools.

@aacchicks by Vicki Clarke

Dynamic Therapy, providing "Wrap Around AAC": therapy, evals, materials & workshops. Led by Vicki Clarke, Co-creator DAGG & Classroom Goals Grid.

@beautifulspeechlife by Anne Page

Speech Language Pathologist. Founder of AAC Academy. Get AAC tips, strategies & resources. Free AAC activity & core board.

@rachelmadelslp by Rachel Madel

Speech therapist advocating + educating about AAC. Private Practice Owner. Podcast host @talkingwithtech. Download free AAC resources.

@inspireconnectionstherapy by Lauren Greenlief

Speech Therapy Private Practice. Northeast Ohio. Child centered and family supported. Neurodiversity Affirming. AAC and GLP..

@sarahgregoryslp by Sarah Gregory

SLP, AT/AAC enthusiast. Academic inclusion. Tech tips. Upstate NY.

AAC-RELATED INSTAGRAM ACCOUNTS

@sarahcruzslp by Sarah Cruz

Pediatric Speech Pathologist. AAC Coaching & Play-Based Therapy. Co-founder of the AAC PreK Pilot Program. In-home & virtual services.

@rachaellangleyaac by Rachael Langley

SLP and AAC Consultant. Located in Michigan. Owner of Reach Language, LLC. One of the organizers of the #TalkingAAC Conference.

@miss.d.slp by Amy

Kindergarten mama. School Speech-Language Pathologist. AAC Enthusiast. Coffee Obsessed. Type B.

@come_learn_aac_with_me by Gabriel Lopez

I love AAC. Gabriel is an AAC user sharing his passion for AAC!

@spinsandstomps by Erin

Autism Advocacy. Different, not disordered. All Neurotypes celebrated here. AAC and GLP. Probably sensory seeking.

@click.speak.connect by Lydia

An AAC consultation agency to implement a new approach to speech therapy and education. AAC mentoring to improve communication skills with AAC.

@we_believe_in_darcy

Mum of boys. 5 year old. 16p11.2 Microdeletion Syndrome. Proloquo2Go. Apraxia. AAC. Keyword Sign. Australian Family

@graciellablooms by Gracie

Self Care. Independence. Communication. Homeschool. Therapy free. AAC User. Autism. Apraxia. Non-speaking.

@afriendforlillybug by Lilly & Indy

All about the AMAZING Lillybug, her service dog, Indy, & her AAC journey. Created a non-profit to help other families buy AAC devices @lillysvoice.

AAC RESOURCES WORTH THE MONEY

The AAC Handbook by Emily Diaz, SLP

The AAC Handbook is a must-have digital resource full of simple handouts about a full range of AAC topics that do the explaining for you. 40 handouts included. Available in English & Spanish. Shop here: www.emilydiazslp.com/handbook

AAC Implementation Toolkit by Speechy Musings

One of the most important parts of AAC implementation is making sure that the entire team (family members, staff) is using simple but effective AAC strategies such as consistent AAC access, modeling, and core vocabulary throughout the entire day! This resource will help you educate others about four foundational, research-based, strategies (or "best practices") for implementing and teaching AAC. Available in English & Spanish. Shop on TpT!

AAC Core Word of the Week Supports for Staff by Speechie Side Up

I have had the opportunity to implement AAC and AT in the classroom, and I want to help you too. That is why I created this guide, which provides a year's worth of 48 functional core word implementation supports. Shop on TpT!

Home Visuals for Beginning AAC Users by Inspire Connections

Check out this quick and easy way for parents to support language through visuals and verbal routines! All visuals are designed to fit into daily routines at home. Visuals can be prepared by the SLP and sent home to the family for them to place around the home and use during daily routines. They also work great for homework! Shop on TPT!

Core Vocabulary Task Boxes by The Communication Classroom

Target 11 different core vocabulary words through 9 printable books and 8 printable activities/games! Words included are: stop, go, on, off, up, down, come, turn, take, make, and eat. All books and activities fit in photo boxes to make for easy storage! Shop on TPT!

Sensory-Based Literacy Kits by Senseable Literacy

Literacy kits filled with all you need for an engaging, sensory-based, AAC filled activity. Shop here: www.senseableliteracy.com

This is not an exhaustive list of paid AAC resources, just some of the things I keep going back to. I encourage you to search for additional resources that may address your support needs.

AAC EVALUATION SUPPORT

WATI Assistive Technology Consideration to Assessment

12 sections ranging from hearing/vision, to seating/positioning, to communication. AT decision making guide. AT checklist. AT trial use guide for documentation. Cost is free.

Functional Communication Profile - Revised (FCP-R)

Criterion-referenced assessment. 10 subtests ranging from sensory/motor to communication. Yields an overall inventory of communication abilities, mode of communication, and degree of independence. Assess through direct observation, teacher or caregiver report, or 1:1 testing. Costs \$75 for a complete kit.

Dynamic Assessment Goals Grid (DAGG-2)

Checklist to ensure all of Light's (1989) communication competencies are considered. Allows evaluator to analyze patterns of strengths and weaknesses & determine next steps for intervention. Also includes: Ability Level Continuum and AAC Goals Worksheet/Progress Reporting. Cost is free.

SETT Framework by Dr. Joy Zabala

Student, Environment, Tasks, Tools. Pushes us away from considering the tool first and forces us to make student-centered decisions. Really great for collaborative decision-making. Cost is free.

Communication Matrix

Online assessment tool. Simple enough for parents to complete and share. Available in 14 languages. Created to help professionals and family members support individuals with severe communication disorders. Shares anonymous data to help others learn more about communication skills in various populations. Cost is free to start.

AAC Evaluation Genie App

13 subtests available ranging from visual discrimination to core vocab to word prediction. Helps you build a framework for selecting an appropriate device for on-going trials. Accommodates both direct select and scanning. Helps you keep AAC evaluations organized and systematic. Cost is \$12.99.

Assessment of Learning Process (ALP) for AAC

It provides a framework for understanding the progression in AAC access learning and helps you determine how to progress them to the next stage. Cost is free.

AAC PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

AAC in the Cloud Conference (www.aacconference.com)

Free, annual, virtual AAC conference. You can participate live or watch the recordings from the archive. Sessions covering a range of topics.

Assistive Technology Industry Association (ATIA)

The ATIA conference is the world's most extensive assistive technology conference showcasing international excellence in the field. You can register for a variety of strands and choose to participate either in-person or virtually. This conference is hosted in Florida.

Closing the Gap Conference

The Closing The Gap Conference is an annual assistive technology conference that presents an opportunity to deepen your assistive technology (AT) knowledge and strengthen your implementation strategies. This conference is hosted in Minnesota.

#TalkingAAC Conference

Our mission is to continue engaging the #TalkingAAC community in an ongoing conversation about high-quality supports for those learning to communicate using AAC, while continuing to learn from those who use AAC on a daily basis. This conference is hosted in Michigan.

AAC Ally by Rachel Madel

A self-paced step-by-step course to conduct a dynamic and collaborative AAC assessment and effectively coach communication partners. This course is only available a few times each year, so keep an eye out!

AAC for Gestalt Language Processors by Meaningful Speech

Our self-paced course will teach you how to identify, evaluate, and support gestalt language processors (GLPs) who currently communicate using augmentative and alternative communication (AAC) or who you think may benefit from AAC.

Authentic AAC by Kate McLaughlin (Learn Play Thrive)

In this course, Kate McLaughlin, CCC-SLP gives you the tools you need to support your emergent communicators in a way that fosters their autonomy, self-determination, and connection to those around them. This course is 12 contact hours and is registered for 1.2 ASHA CEUs and 1.2 AOTA CEUs.

This is not an exhaustive list of professional development opportunities. I encourage you to search for additional resources that may address your support needs.

AAC FUNDING SUPPORT

State Telecommunications Assistance Programs

In many states, you can qualify for an AAC device if your communication impairment prevents you from being able to access the telephone. In Texas, this is called STAP. Check your state resources!

Major AAC Device Companies

Major AAC Device Companies such as TobiiDynavox and PRC-Salttillo have robust funding portals on their website that walk you step-by-step through the funding process.

Talk to Me Technologies

TTMT exclusive vocabulary sets, GoTalk Now Plus, Dialogue, TouchChat WordPower, LAMP, Proloquo2Go, Proloquo4Text, Predictable, Speak for Yourself, Coughdrop, Avaz, SuperCore, Grid, PODD. See website for details.

AbleNet QuickTalker Freestyle

"App agnostic." Choose any speech app from the App Store and device size with the option to change later at no cost. 31.8 days is the average time it takes AbleNet to fund a device and help someone start their AAC journey.

Lilly's Voice

Our goal is to assist children ages 2 - 18 that have been rejected by other programs and whose families cannot afford an AAC device without help. If you have tried other avenues to get AAC for your Autistic, nonspeaking family member, and need help getting an AAC device on your own, please submit a request form!

Apraxia Foundation Scholarship

Apply for the 3-month AAC application process that began May 1, 2023. They will grant AAC devices to several families on July 1st, 2023. This may not be available all the time. Email theapraxiafoundation@theapraxiafoundation.org

School-Based Assistive Technology

Check with your local public school district to request an Assistive Technology evaluation for AAC. If there is an educational need, your child could be provided an AAC device by the district.

This is not an exhaustive list of AAC funding opportunities. I encourage you to search for additional sources that may address your support needs.

MANUAL COMMUNICATION BOARDS

AssistiveWare Core Word Classroom

AssistiveWare has different Core word boards to support our different AAC apps. All boards have a mix of core words, fringe words and include an alphabet. Some boards are also available in Dutch, Spanish and French.

Saltillo Chat Corner

These low-tech printable options are available to support some of the WordPower™ files. Pre-made downloadable options are offered for the WordPower42 Basic, 60 Basic, 60 and the 108 location files.

LAMP Words for Life Manual Core Board

Available in AAC Language Lab. Use these manual communication boards for a student who does not have access to their device, for modeling language or for a student who does not have their device yet to familiarize them with the LAMP Words for Life vocabulary layout.

Universal Core Communication Systems - Project Core

The Universal Core vocabulary is a set of 36 highly useful single words that can be used alone or in combination to communicate for a range of purposes on countless topics with a wide variety of communication partners. Several formats are available to support student access through direct pointing or touch, eye gaze selection, and partner-assisted scanning.

TobiiDynavox Communication Boards

Download and print PDF books of the core word page from our TD Snap app. These communication books are a great introduction to language for symbol-supported communicators before they get their device. Keep them on hand as a simple solution to be used in the car, at the playground, near the pool, or anywhere else it might be inconvenient to use a device.

Talk to Me Technologies Playground Core Boards

TTMT Core + Fringe Communication boards were designed with inclusion in mind, providing easy, convenient access to the most common words used to communicate across multiple settings. Available in post mount, A-Frame, and vinyl options.

This is not an exhaustive list of communication boards. I encourage you to search for additional resources that may address your support needs.

AAC RESEARCH & PERSPECTIVES

AAC Quick Links (www.emilydiazslp.com/quicklinks)

This is a growing page of evidence-based research and AAC perspectives organized by common area of discussion. While it's important to consider the research, please know that there is not going to be an article or study available for every single question we have about AAC. We hope these easily accessible links will be helpful to your AAC journey.

The Informed SLP Membership

We help speech-language pathologists with evidence-based practices (EBP). Read/listen to our SLP research reviews. Earn ASHA CEUs fast.

The AAC Agreements Clearinghouse

This is the Clearinghouse for AAC Agreements. AAC Agreements are "better" practices that are crowd sourced from stakeholders invested in improving consideration, selection, and implementation of AAC. Stakeholders include (but are not limited to) practitioners, academics, designers, parents, families, and users of AAC. These agreements are supported by research whenever possible. The AAC Agreements are organic and will expand and adapt as we learn more as a field.

ASHA Evidence Map for AAC

An Evidence Map is a searchable online tool designed to assist clinicians with making evidence-based decisions. Each Evidence Map highlights the importance of the three components of evidence-based practice—external scientific evidence, clinical expertise, and client perspectives—and provides the latest information related to the assessment, treatment, and service delivery for various communication disorders.

ASHA Wire Journal Articles

ASHAWire is the online home for ASHA journals, The ASHA Leader, and Perspectives of the ASHA Special Interest Groups. You can use ASHAWire to search a fully interconnected network of articles, as well as browse most recent and trending research.

This is not an exhaustive list of AAC research sources. I encourage you to search for additional resources that may address your support needs.

AAC-RELATED YOUTUBE CHANNELS

We Speak PODD

We are a family of eight with four kids are learning to use PODD to communicate! Tons of videos demonstrating PODD implementation in a homeschool setting.

Mister Clay

Mister Clay's videos center around Augmentative Communication and literacy, but really are for anyone who wants to have fun and learn. These language based videos cover everything from letter sounds to parts of speech. Updated monthly, come back again and again to this fun and funny channel.

Emily Diaz, SLP

Mini AAC trainings and videos to support AAC implementation at home, at school, and in teletherapy.

Speech and Language Songs

Hello! My name is Stephen Kneece, MA, CCC-SLP. Welcome to my channel! I am a certified Speech-Language Pathologist working and living in Aiken, SC. I write, perform, and record speech therapy songs. I will be adding a new song every Monday at 5:00pm EST. Subscribe to stay up-to-date with all of my new content. Also, feel free to shoot me a message if you have a suggestion for a song.

AssistiveWare

Everyone has something to say. We build apps and share best practices to help you communicate with the world. AssistiveWare is helping to build a world without communication barriers. We're committed to helping people with communication difficulties. Our users play a crucial role in who we are and we work with our community to be sure our apps best meet their needs.

Michael Dicpinigaitis

Hi! I'm Michael. I'm a student at Cornell University and the founder of JerichoAdaptsToys.org, an organization dedicated to providing switch adapted toys and assistive technology solutions at no cost to students and individuals with physical disabilities across Long Island. I also recently created an Etsy store where I sell a couple of my "AdaptedCreations" to help raise money for JerichoAdaptsToys. I made this youtube channel to help simplify the complex process of toy adaptation by providing helpful resources including step-by-step video tutorials of how to adapt different types of battery-operated toys

OTHER HELPFUL AAC-RELATED RESOURCES

PrAACtical AAC Blog

PrAACtical AAC supports a community of professionals and families who are determined to improve the communication and literacy abilities of people with significant communication difficulties. It was founded in 2011 by two SLP professors, Carole Zangari and the late Robin Parker, around a shared passion for AAC.

AAC Language Lab

The AAC Language Lab offers real-life solutions in support of language development. Explore language stages and interactive materials designed for Speech Language Pathologists (SLPs), Educators and Parents. An annual subscription provides full access to all materials including guided lesson plans, a NEW activities section, a NEW language screener, implementation tips and more.

The AAC Coach Files

AAC Handouts available in English, Dutch, French, Italian, Portuguese, and Spanish. All free to download at: <https://www.theaaccoach.com/resources>

AAC At-a-Glance Cheat Sheets by Emily Diaz, SLP

This growing library of AAC At-a-Glance Cheat Sheets makes introducing AAC to teachers and families way less overwhelming. All free to download at: www.emilydiazslp.com/freeresources

Talking with Tech Podcast

Join speech-language pathologists Rachel Madel M.A., CCC-SLP and Chris Bugaj M.A., CCC-SLP every week as they discuss all things relating to technology for communication.

AAC Connect by Tassel

12 self-paced learning modules. Community forum to get personalized support. Monthly group coaching calls with AAC users and professionals. AAC office hours for private coaching. AAC related podcast episodes. Up to 1.5 ASHA CEU courses. Growing AAC resource library with parent handouts, core word activity and implementation ideas, functional scripts suggestions, emergent literacy resources, Boom Cards® and other digital materials!

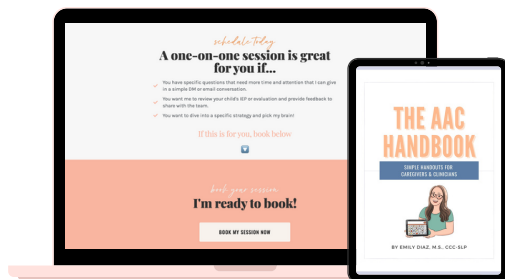
THANK YOU!

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Emily Diaz is a speech-language pathologist with a special interest in AAC.

She provides services to school districts and owns a private practice in Texas.

She also offers international speaking engagements.



[GRAB MORE RESOURCES](#)

NEXT STEPS

If you enjoyed the content in this free resource, you're gonna love the 40+ handouts included in The AAC Handbook.

Need more support with AAC than these resources offer? Consider contacting Emily for 1:1 AAC coaching.

