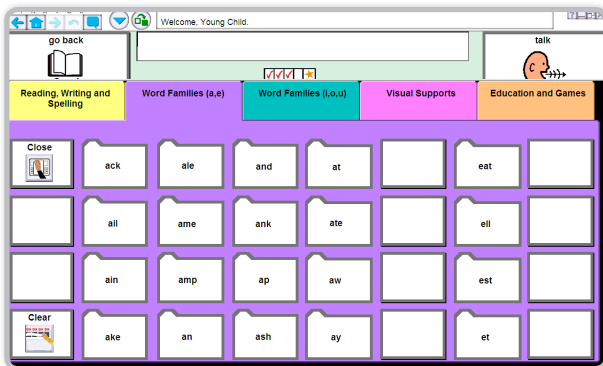


25 WAYS TO INCREASE CLASSROOM PARTICIPATION FOR STUDENTS WHO USE AAC (IN NO PARTICULAR ORDER)

1. Create a [positive communication environment](#).
 - Provide wait time.
 - Accept all forms of communication.
 - Provide support when needed. We all need support when learning something new.
2. Support social interaction with peers by adding photographs to the [photo album](#) on the device.
3. Give your students with AAC devices at least one "communication job" every day. This gives them meaningful ways to use their device in the classroom and opportunities to practice skills.
4. Support literacy learning by using the **Word Families** pages to teach phonemic awareness.

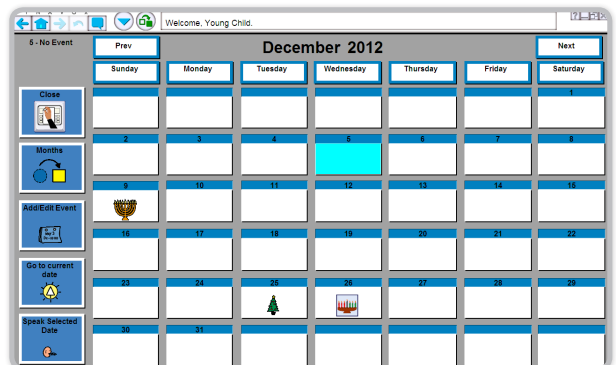


5. Add new information often. Saying the same thing over and over gets old really quickly. Learn to [modify a button](#). This allows you to add customized vocabulary to the device.
6. Make sure the device is available at all times. The student may not need to use the device for every activity, but they should have access if they do.

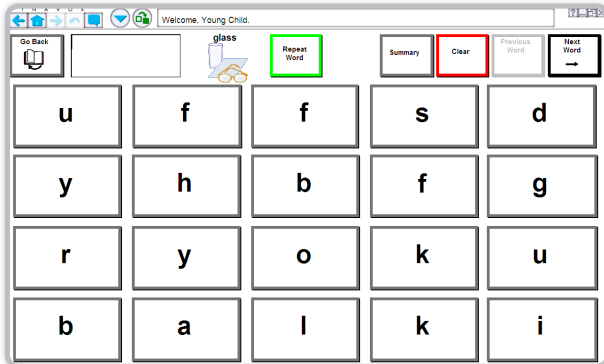
7. Sing a song. Look for Old McDonald, The Itsy Bitsy Spider and more!



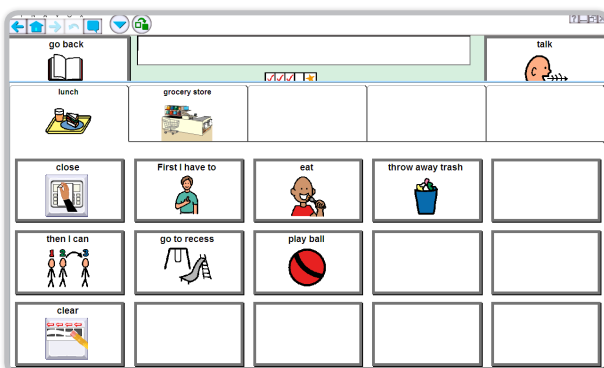
8. Use peers to gather "cool" vocabulary to program onto the **My Phrases** pages in the device.
9. [Make a plan](#). If you don't know when, where, why and how the device will be used, then it probably won't be used.
10. Use the [calendar pages](#) to increase participation during morning meeting/calendar time.



11. Use the [Dynamic AAC Goal Grid](#) to identify appropriate communication goals.
12. Create opportunities to practice social skills with peers.
13. Remember that communication should be fun sometimes.
14. Add spelling words to the **Spelling** pages so that you student can independently practice skills.



15. Use the **News from Home** and **News from School** pages to share information between home and school.
16. Provide many, many opportunities to practice communication skills.
17. Use your resources wisely.
 - Download [lesson plans](#) from the Implementation Toolkit.
 - Search the Knowledge Base to get step-by-step instructions.
 - Use the training videos that are loaded onto your device Pull-down menu>>Help>>Tutorials
18. Download [eBooks](#) to provide meaningful reading experiences.
19. Use visual supports on the device to encourage positive behavior.



20. Take 5 minutes to review classroom activities and locate appropriate vocabulary on their device before you start an activity. You need to know where the words are so that you can help your students if they get stuck.
21. Use the [holiday \(and seasonal\) pages](#) that are pre-loaded on the system to allow student to participate in holiday celebrations.



22. Use the device keyboards to support written language...even scribbling! You can also print written work right from the student's device.
23. Modify the existing classroom pages to meet your specific needs.
24. Explore core words with your student. It will build language and literacy skills.



25. Download the [editing software](#) onto your computer so that you can learn about and program when the student's device isn't available.

HELPFUL HINTS:

- If you are not sure how to find some of the pages mentioned in this document, remember that pages can be found by going to the Page Navigator. You can scroll through the list of pages or use the Search feature.
- You can find step-by-step instructions for many device operations on the DynaVox Knowledge Base.
- Students who use AAC are always more successful communicators when they have good [communication partners](#).

