

Communicative Intents



Linguistic Context-Dependent:



Goal

Combines various communicative intents to expand and increase the complexity of interactions.



Preparation

- Review for yourself and the individual that communication intents are things like questions, comments, and requests. You may want to watch other people's conversations or videos, and discuss the various intents we all use in interactions.
- Select a motivating conversation subject (e.g., favorite sports team).
 - Conversation Subject: _____
- If using TD Snap Core First, locate an appropriate Topic on the device for the activity selected (e.g., Sports Topic). If using a communication book or another software, locate the appropriate vocabulary set.
 - Topic or Vocabulary Set: _____
- Review the vocabulary before beginning the activity.



Materials

- Communication device or communication board.
- Any videos, magazine articles, or photos to support a motivating conversation.



Tips for Success

- Remember to model. [Modeling AAC Activity](#)
- If you are using TD Snap Core First, review the communicative intents. You may want to point out the color-coding system as well.
 - As a reminder:
 - blue outline = question
 - orange outline = comment
 - green outline = positive statement
 - red outline = negative statement
 - purple outline = personal messages
- For assistance in selecting a motivating activity or topic, try our Interest Inventory here: TD Interest Inventory
- At this linguistic level, we do not expect the individual to independently locate (navigate to) the targeted page.
- You may have to repeat this activity multiple times. You can use a different topic each time.
- Make sure to wait even longer than you expect to let the individual respond.



Modeling AAC
Example

Scan QR code



Activity with Steps

- 1 Introduce the conversation (e.g., “Did you see the basketball game last night?”) and review what vocabulary or Topic Page the individual can use to locate appropriate responses.
- 2 Begin the conversation by modeling on their device using questions, comments, and more.
- 3 React to their communication attempts throughout the interaction, even when they are irrelevant or seem accidental.
- 4 Set up situations in which a response is expected from the individual (e.g., “I think your favorite team is going to lose tonight!”).



Supplemental Activities

Repetition with variety is very important in teaching AAC. Create practice opportunities that are not boring by keeping the skill constant and varying the activity. Use the following scenarios during the day to work on this goal using the same steps in the activity above.

- Use the same topic you practiced with to try the following activities:
 - Begin a group discussion with others about the topic.
 - Help the individual talk to a new person, get their opinions, and answer their questions.
 - Send information home about the conversation you had and see if the family can discuss it as well.



Measuring Success

Here are some other ways to look at progress for this goal:

- Increased attention to the interaction.
- Increased turn-taking in an interaction.
- Reduced number of cues needed to perform tasks.
- Increased length of conversation.
- Improved diversity in communicative intents (e.g., Asks a question, not only makes comments).
- Initiation of communication.



Note

The individual does not have to ‘master’ this goal at 80% accuracy before you can move on to the next one. Even if they don’t meet the goal consistently, or without cueing, the individual may still be ready to move forward to the next goal.

Parent/Caregiver Letter

Date: _____

Dear: _____

This week, we are learning how to use various communication intents on the communication system. Communication intents are things like questions, comments, and requests. Here are some things you can do to provide more opportunities for practice.

- During daily activities, touch a variety of words and messages on the communication device or board as you talk to the individual. This is called modeling. Pick a few keywords as your focus. The more you model, the more natural it will feel.
- Use the activities written below to practice new skills.

Please get in touch with me with any questions. The more you practice, the better! I am looking forward to hearing more about the fun you have while working on this skill.

Sincerely,

Activities for carryover

1 _____

2 _____

3 _____