

aac devices for communication

AAC Devices for Communication: Revolutionizing Assistive Technology and its Industry Implications

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Introduction:

The field of augmentative and alternative communication (AAC) is experiencing a period of unprecedented growth and innovation. AAC devices for communication are no longer niche tools; they are becoming increasingly vital for individuals across the lifespan who experience difficulties with spoken language, including those with autism spectrum disorder, cerebral palsy, aphasia, intellectual disabilities, and other communication challenges. This article will delve into the transformative impact

of AAC devices for communication, exploring the technological advancements, their implications for users and their families, and the significant changes they are driving within the assistive technology industry.

H1: The Expanding Landscape of AAC Devices for Communication

The range of AAC devices for communication has expanded dramatically in recent years. We've moved beyond simple picture exchange systems to sophisticated devices incorporating advanced technologies such as:

Speech-generating devices (SGDs): These devices offer synthesized speech, allowing users to communicate complex ideas and sentences. Technological advancements have led to more natural-sounding voices and improved user interfaces.

Eye-gaze systems: Individuals with limited motor skills can control AAC devices through eye tracking technology, opening up communication possibilities previously unimaginable.

Touchscreen devices: Familiar to many through smartphones and tablets, touchscreen AAC devices offer intuitive interfaces and readily available apps.

Hybrid systems: Many individuals utilize a combination of methods, incorporating SGDs, picture cards, sign language, and other strategies for optimal communication.

H2: Impact on Users and Families

The use of AAC devices for communication has profound effects on the lives of individuals and their families. These devices:

Enhance communication: They provide a means for individuals to express their needs, wants, and ideas, leading to increased independence and participation in daily life.

Improve social interaction: Effective communication fosters stronger relationships with family, friends, and peers.

Boost self-esteem and confidence: The ability to communicate effectively significantly impacts an individual's sense of self-worth.

Reduce frustration and stress: Overcoming communication barriers alleviates the frustration often experienced by individuals with communication difficulties, leading to improved emotional well-being.

Empower families: Families are empowered to better support their loved ones, leading to improved family dynamics and overall well-being.

H3: Industry Implications: Growth and Innovation

The burgeoning market for AAC devices for communication is driving significant changes within the assistive technology industry:

Increased competition: The market is attracting new players, resulting in greater innovation and more affordable options.

Technological advancements: Constant innovation is leading to smaller, lighter, more intuitive, and more powerful devices.

Software development: Investment in user-friendly software and apps is crucial for maximizing the effectiveness of AAC devices.

Accessibility and affordability: Efforts are underway to make AAC devices more accessible and affordable for a wider range of users.

Training and support: The industry is recognizing the importance of providing comprehensive training and ongoing support for users and families.

H4: Challenges and Future Directions

Despite significant progress, challenges remain in the field of AAC devices for communication:

Accessibility and affordability: Cost remains a significant barrier for many individuals and families.

Training and support: Adequate training and ongoing support are crucial for successful AAC

implementation.

Social acceptance: Reducing stigma surrounding AAC use is essential for fostering inclusive environments.

Integration with other technologies: Further integration with other assistive technologies and communication platforms is needed.

Personalized solutions: Developing personalized AAC systems tailored to individual needs and preferences remains a crucial area for future development.

Conclusion:

AAC devices for communication represent a transformative technology, profoundly impacting the lives of individuals with communication difficulties and the assistive technology industry itself. Ongoing innovation, coupled with increased accessibility and affordability, will further expand the reach and effectiveness of AAC, ultimately empowering individuals to communicate effectively and participate fully in society. The future of AAC is bright, promising even more sophisticated and personalized communication solutions.

FAQs:

1. What are the different types of AAC devices? AAC devices range from low-tech options like picture exchange systems to high-tech speech-generating devices (SGDs), eye-gaze systems, and touchscreen devices.
2. How much do AAC devices cost? The cost of AAC devices varies widely depending on the type of device and its features. Some devices can be quite expensive, while others are more affordable.
3. Who benefits from using AAC devices? Individuals with a wide range of communication

challenges, including autism spectrum disorder, cerebral palsy, aphasia, and intellectual disabilities, can benefit from using AAC devices.

4. How are AAC devices chosen? The selection of an AAC device involves a thorough assessment of the individual's communication needs, skills, and preferences. A speech-language pathologist typically plays a key role in this process.
5. What kind of training is involved? Comprehensive training is required for both the individual using the device and their caregivers or family members. This training typically covers how to use the device's features and how to integrate it into daily life.
6. How long does it take to learn to use an AAC device? The learning curve varies depending on the individual's cognitive abilities and the complexity of the device. Some individuals may learn quickly, while others may require more time and support.
7. Are there any limitations to AAC devices? While AAC devices are incredibly beneficial, they do have limitations. Factors like technological glitches, battery life, and the need for ongoing training and support should be considered.
8. How can I find an AAC specialist? You can find an AAC specialist by contacting your local speech-language pathology association or searching online for certified specialists in your area.
9. What is the future of AAC technology? The future of AAC is likely to see even more sophisticated devices with improved natural language processing, artificial intelligence integration, and increased accessibility and affordability.

Related Articles:

1. "The Role of Speech-Language Pathologists in AAC Assessment and Intervention": This article will discuss the crucial role SLPs play in selecting and implementing AAC systems.
2. "Low-Tech AAC Strategies for Early Intervention": This piece focuses on simple, cost-effective AAC methods for young children.
3. "High-Tech AAC Devices: A Comprehensive Overview": A detailed exploration of the features and functionalities of advanced AAC devices.
4. "Overcoming Barriers to AAC Adoption: A Family Perspective": This article highlights the challenges faced by families in adopting AAC and strategies to overcome them.
5. "The Impact of AAC on Social Participation and Inclusion": This article focuses on the social benefits of AAC and strategies for fostering inclusive environments.
6. "Assistive Technology Funding and Resources for AAC Devices": A guide to navigating the process of obtaining funding for AAC devices.
7. "Ethical Considerations in AAC Assessment and Implementation": This article addresses ethical issues related to AAC use and decision-making.
8. "Augmentative and Alternative Communication for Individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder": This article focuses on AAC use specifically within the ASD population.
9. "The Future of AAC: Trends and Predictions": This article explores emerging technologies and trends shaping the future of AAC.

aac devices for communication: Augmentative and Alternative Communication David R. Beukelman, Pat Mirenda, 2012 The fourth edition of the foundational, widely adopted AAC textbook

Augmentative and Alternative Communication is the definitive introduction to AAC processes, interventions, and technologies that help people best meet their daily communication needs. Future teachers, SLPs, OTs, PTs, and other professionals will prepare for their work in the field with critical new information on advancing literacy skills; conducting effective, culturally appropriate assessment and intervention; selecting AAC vocabulary tailored to individual needs; using new consumer technologies as affordable, nonstigmatizing communication devices; promoting social competence supporting language learning and development; providing effective support to beginning communicators; planning inclusive education services for students with complex communication needs; and improving the communication of people with specific developmental disabilities and acquired disabilities. An essential core text for tomorrow's professionals--and a key reference for in-service practitioners--this fourth edition prepares readers to support the communicative competence of children and adults with a wide range of complex needs.

aac devices for communication: The Management of Motor Neurone Disease George M. Cochrane, 1987

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aac devices for communication: *Self-Reg* Dr. Stuart Shanker, 2017-07-04 There's no such thing as a bad kid. That's what a lifetime of experience has taught internationally celebrated research professor Dr. Stuart Shanker. No matter how difficult, out of control, distracted, or exhausted a child might seem, there's a way forward: self-regulation. Overturning decades of conventional wisdom, this radical new technique allows children and the adults who care for them to regain their composure and peace of mind. *Self-Reg* is a groundbreaking book that presents an entirely new understanding of your child's emotions and behavior and a practical guide for parents to help their kids engage calmly and successfully in learning and life. Grounded in decades of research and working with children and parents by Dr. Shanker, *Self-Reg* realigns the power of the parent-child relationship for positive change. Self-regulation is the nervous system's way of responding to stress. We are seeing a generation of children and teens with excessively high levels of stress, and, as a result, an explosion of emotional, social, learning, behavior, and physical health problems. But few parents recognize the "hidden stressors" that their children are struggling with: physiological as well as social and emotional. An entrenched view of child rearing sees our children as lacking self-control or willpower, but the real basis for these problems lies in excessive stress. Self-regulation can dramatically improve a child's mood, attention, and concentration. It can help children to feel empathy, and to cultivate the sorts of virtues that most parents know are vital for their child's long-term wellbeing. Self-regulation brings about profound and lasting transformation that continues throughout life. Dr. Shanker translates decades of his findings from working with children into practical, prescriptive advice for parents, giving them concrete ways to develop their self-regulation skills and teach their children to do the same and engage successfully with life for optimal learning, social, and emotional growth.

aac devices for communication: *Language Steps* Amanda Armstrong, 2000-02-01

aac devices for communication: *Augmentative and Alternative Communication* Filip Loncke, 2020-10-09 *Augmentative and Alternative Communication: Models and Applications, Second Edition* describes augmentative and alternative communication (AAC) comprehensively and offers a framework for understanding how AAC intervention can be used in the process of communication. This textbook is intended to serve as the primary text for graduate-level courses in augmentative and alternative communication in speech-language pathology programs. It also serves as an essential resource for practicing clinicians. AAC is used by an ever-growing group of individuals of all ages,

each with their own personal and communication needs. The book presents the various AAC interventions and teaches the prospective clinician which intervention may be effective depending on the needs, condition, and prognosis of the client. The text details how communication is shaped by internal and external factors and how communication affects social functioning. New to the Second Edition: * A revised introductory chapter reflecting recent changes in the field * Thoroughly updated chapters on technology, vocabulary, and assessment * Reorganization of the chapters for a more natural flow of information * New and revised artwork throughout including images, tables, and charts * New and expanded case studies covering different types of communicators, their needs, and AAC solutions Expanded coverage on the following topics: * The debate on core vocabulary and discussion of best practices * Perspectives and views from AAC users * Ethics in AAC service delivery * Research issues

aac devices for communication: Who's Afraid of AAC? Alison Battye, 2017-08-04 Who's Afraid of AAC? is a clear and concise guide to Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC) in the UK and will be an essential resource for all Speech and Language Therapists, educators, parents and carers supporting children with non-verbal communication. This book sets out to demystify AAC by demonstrating that you already have the skills necessary to use AAC successfully. Key features include: an overview of the different types of AAC analysis of the best available approaches tools to give you the context you need to make specific recommendations and choices thorough sections on different settings including Home, Early Years, Primary, Secondary and Special Schools so that guidance is relevant to individual needs numerous practical examples, templates and activities to help you implement AAC in all settings summaries of recent research and hot topics including eye-gaze technology, using AAC in exams, and internet safety so that you have the most up-to-date guidance at your fingertips. Created by a Speech and Language Therapist who specialises in AAC training for therapists, educators, and individuals with communication needs, as well as parents and carers, this is the only book of its kind written for a UK audience.

aac devices for communication: Amer-Ind Gestural Code Based on Universal American Indian Hand Talk Madge Skelly, Lorraine Schinsky, 1979

aac devices for communication: Underestimated J. B. Handley, Jamison Handley, 2021-03-23 The incredibly moving and inspiring story about a quest to finally be heard. In Underestimated: An Autism Miracle, Generation Rescue's cofounder J.B. Handley and his teenage son Jamison tell the remarkable story of Jamison's journey to find a method of communication that allowed him to show the world that he was a brilliant, wise, generous, and complex individual who had been misunderstood and underestimated by everyone in his life. Jamison's emergence at the age of seventeen from his self-described "prison of silence" took place over a profoundly emotional and dramatic twelve-month period that is retold from his father's perspective. The book reads like a spy thriller while allowing the reader to share in the complex emotions of both exhilaration and anguish that accompany Jamison's journey for him and his family. Once Jamison's extraordinary story has been told, Jamison takes over the narrative to share the story from his perspective, allowing the world to hear from someone who many had dismissed and cast aside as incapable. Jamison's remarkable transformation challenges the conventional wisdom surrounding autism, a disability impacting 1 in 36 Americans. Many scientists still consider nonspeakers with autism—a full 40 percent of those on the autism spectrum—to be "mentally retarded." Is it possible that the experts are wrong about several million people? Are all the nonspeakers like Jamison? Underestimated: An Autism Miracle will touch your heart, inspire you, remind you of the power of love, and ultimately leave you asking tough questions about how many more Jamisons might be waiting for their chance to be freed from their prison of silence, too. And, for the millions of parents of children with autism, the book offers a detailed description of a communication method that may give millions of people with autism back their voice.

aac devices for communication: The Promise of Assistive Technology to Enhance Activity and Work Participation National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine, Health and Medicine Division, Board on Health Care Services, Committee on the Use of Selected Assistive

Products and Technologies in Eliminating or Reducing the Effects of Impairments, 2017-09-01 The U.S. Census Bureau has reported that 56.7 million Americans had some type of disability in 2010, which represents 18.7 percent of the civilian noninstitutionalized population included in the 2010 Survey of Income and Program Participation. The U.S. Social Security Administration (SSA) provides disability benefits through the Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) program and the Supplemental Security Income (SSI) program. As of December 2015, approximately 11 million individuals were SSDI beneficiaries, and about 8 million were SSI beneficiaries. SSA currently considers assistive devices in the nonmedical and medical areas of its program guidelines. During determinations of substantial gainful activity and income eligibility for SSI benefits, the reasonable cost of items, devices, or services applicants need to enable them to work with their impairment is subtracted from eligible earnings, even if those items or services are used for activities of daily living in addition to work. In addition, SSA considers assistive devices in its medical disability determination process and assessment of work capacity. The Promise of Assistive Technology to Enhance Activity and Work Participation provides an analysis of selected assistive products and technologies, including wheeled and seated mobility devices, upper-extremity prostheses, and products and technologies selected by the committee that pertain to hearing and to communication and speech in adults.

aac devices for communication: The Pyramid Approach to Education Andy Bondy, 2002

aac devices for communication: Aided Augmentative Communication for Individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorders Jennifer B. Ganz, 2016-09-03 Just as autism is a continuum of disorders, it is associated with a broad range of neurodevelopmental, social, and communication deficits. For individuals with autism spectrum disorders (ASD), augmentative and alternative communication (AAC) has a major impact on their daily lives, often reducing the occurrence of challenging behaviors. Aided Augmentative Communication for Individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorders is a practical guide to the field, offering readers a solid grounding in ASD, related complex communication needs (CCN), and AAC, especially visual and computer-based technologies. Widely used interventions and tools in AAC are reviewed—not just how they work, but why they work—to aid practitioners in choosing those most suited to individual clients or students. Issues in evaluation for aided AAC and debates concerning its usability round out the coverage. Readers come away with a deeper understanding of the centrality of communication for clients with ASD and the many possibilities for intervention. Key areas of coverage include: AAC and assessment of people with ASD and CCN. Interdisciplinary issues and collaboration in assessment and treatment. AAC intervention mediated by natural communication partners. Functional communication training with AAC. The controversy surrounding facilitated communication. Sign language versus AAC. Aided Augmentative Communication for Individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorders is an essential resource for clinicians/practitioners, researchers, and graduate students in such fields as child and school psychology, speech pathology, language education, developmental psychology, behavior therapy, and educational technology.

aac devices for communication: Augmentative and Assistive Communication with Children

Lesley Mayne, Sharon Rogers, 2020-05-21 This practical resource is designed to help the families and professionals who support children who use augmentative and assistive communication (AAC) to interact with the world around them. The research-based Hear Me into Voice protocol, presented at the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association Annual Convention in 2018, the California Speech-Language Hearing Association Annual Convention in 2017, and the International Society for Augmentative and Alternative Communication Conference in 2016, provides communication partners with a functional knowledge of the child's communication skills and provides a practical intervention plan to carry forward. Through this protocol and intervention plan, communication partners can engage with the child's personal voice, through their varying multimodal forms of communication; the child is given the space to grow into a competent and confident communicator. Key features include: Photocopiable and downloadable resources, including the Hear Me into Voice protocol, an AAC report shell template, an AAC report teaching template, and tools including how to

make a communication wallet, and a Let's Chat communication partner tip card template. Guidance for offering AAC intervention sessions, including an intervention plan supported by case studies Practical activities that can be used to engage children with complex communication profiles Engaging and easy to follow, this resource is not only essential for professionals and students looking to support children with complex language needs, but also families looking to understand their child's unique communication style.

aac devices for communication: *Something to Say about My Speech* Eden Molineux, 2017-11-03 Macey is a lively little girl who loves adventure and taking the stage! She also has difficulty with her speech. Macey shares her experiences with communication as she enjoys her childhood in the same way her friends do.

aac devices for communication: *Tele-AAC* Nerissa Hall, Jenifer Juengling-Sudkamp, Michelle L. Gutmann, Ellen R. Cohn, 2019-06-28 Tele-AAC: Augmentative and Alternative Communication Through Telepractice is the first comprehensive resource guide to Tele-AAC. Tele-AAC is the use of telepractice specifically for providing services to individuals using augmentative and alternative communication (AAC). This text establishes Tele-AAC as a new service delivery model and promotes safe, efficacious, evidence-based, and ethical telepractice for individuals who need AAC systems. The goal is to provide readers with fundamental information about policy and service delivery of AAC services via telepractice to enable clinical practice. The text details the specific technical components unique to Tele-AAC service delivery, and how the technology, personnel, and service delivery practices may vary across settings and populations. It offers didactic and case-based content for speech-language pathologists across all levels, from introductory to advanced. Chapters are included that clarify and define the term Tele-AAC, highlight the procedures used while providing assessment and intervention via Tele-AAC, identify ethical and cultural considerations while providing Tele-AAC, and demonstrate its application in a variety of settings. The content has been enriched by the input and knowledge offered by leaders from both telepractice and AAC disciplines, and offers readers the right combination of foundational information and principles to help form a base of understanding for practitioners engaging in Tele-AAC. The field of Tele-AAC is evolving and will transform as the technology changes and advances. This text provides a threshold of understanding from which the field and practitioners can grow.

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aac devices for communication: *Gaze Interaction and Applications of Eye Tracking: Advances in Assistive Technologies* Majaranta, Päivi, 2011-10-31 Recent advances in eye tracking technology will allow for a proliferation of new applications. Improvements in interactive methods using eye movement and gaze control could result in faster and more efficient human computer interfaces, benefitting users with and without disabilities. *Gaze Interaction and Applications of Eye Tracking: Advances in Assistive Technologies* focuses on interactive communication and control tools based on gaze tracking, including eye typing, computer control, and gaming, with special attention to assistive technologies. For researchers and practitioners interested in the applied use of gaze tracking, the book offers instructions for building a basic eye tracker from off-the-shelf components, gives practical hints on building interactive applications, presents smooth and efficient interaction techniques, and summarizes the results of effective research on cutting edge gaze interaction applications.

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Reichle, David R. Beukelman, Janice Catherine Light, 2002 US, Canadian, and Irish specialists in augmentative and alternative communications (AAC) in a number of fields offer advice to practitioners on developing communication with people suffering from congenital disabilities for whom normal vocal speech is impossible or difficult. They emphasize the impo

aac devices for communication: How Stella Learned to Talk Christina Hunger, 2021-06-24 'A wonderful book.' - Temple Grandin, author of *Animals in Translation* Understand what your canine best friend is thinking with this New York Times bestselling handbook. An incredible, revolutionary true story and surprisingly simple guide to teaching your dog to 'talk' from speech-language pathologist Christina Hunger, who has taught her dog, Stella, to communicate using simple paw-sized buttons associated with different words. *How Stella Learned to Talk* is part memoir and part how-to guide. It chronicles the journey Christina and Stella have taken together, from the day they met, to the day Stella 'spoke' her first word, and the other breakthroughs they've had since. It also reveals the techniques Christina used to teach Stella, broken down into simple stages and actionable steps any dog owner can use to start communicating with their best four-legged friend. Filled with conversations that Stella and Christina have had, as well as the attention to developmental detail that only a speech-language pathologist could know, *How Stella Learned to Talk* is the indispensable dog book for you and your puppy pal.

aac devices for communication: Dementia Ellen Hickey, Michelle S. Bourgeois, 2011-02-14 *Dementia: From Diagnosis to Management - A Functional Approach* is a comprehensive description of a functional and behavioral approach to assessing and treating persons with dementia. While very practical, the information is embedded in a scientific context of the causes, neuropsychological manifestations, and complications of dementia. The management of the impairments of dementia is centered on its functional consequences and impact on daily living. The chapters describe behavioral interventions and environmental strategies that aim to improve daily activities and quality of life from a proactive communication and memory basis. Specific suggestions are provided to enhance family involvement and staff relationships, interdisciplinary cooperation, reimbursement, and documentation across various home and institutional settings. The book is written in a straightforward style and is evenhanded in its critical analyses of the evidence available to inform practice. The extensive clinical backgrounds of the authors allow them to use 'real world' case studies to illustrate common challenges of persons with dementia and potential solutions for caregivers. Further resources and clinical materials are included in comprehensive appendices. The volume provides essential reading for clinicians and administrators who seek to improve the lives of people with dementia and those who care for them. It is also an invaluable reference for beginning students in adult language disorders and gerontology.

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aac devices for communication: Augmentative and Alternative Communication: Engagement and Participation Erna Alant, 2016-12-30 *Augmentative and Alternative Communication: Engagement and Participation* reexamines the basic components of human communication based on

the development of meaning between two people and provides a new theoretical framework for integrating the use of Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC) strategies into interpersonal interactions. As such, it is an indispensable resource for speech-language pathologists, special education practitioners, and researchers in AAC, as well as for instructors and graduate students in the fields of speech and hearing sciences and special education. The book employs a creative synthesis of engagement (personal involvement) and participation (exchanges) to describe meaning-making and social closeness between partners. This process allows for the acknowledgment of different levels of shared meaning and outlines a novel approach to assessment and intervention. The book also describes the importance of integrating relational (interaction-oriented) as well as instrumental (goal-oriented) communication functions as essential in maintaining on-going relationships. Most resources in AAC tend to emphasize strategies for enhancing participation, rather than strategies associated with the development of engagement (being with) to enhance communication between communication partners. In contrast, this text uses interactions between users of AAC and their communication partners as a basis to explore the creative synthesis between engagement and participation to provide clinical guidelines for assessment and intervention in both interpersonal and classroom contexts. Key features: A novel theoretical approach focused on engagement and participation as core components in AAC intervention Emphasis on empathic listening skills of both communication partner and user of AAC strategies to facilitate engagement (emotional resonance) between them Guidance for teachers on the benefits of a meaning-based approach to communication in the classroom Application of empathic listening strategies to people with dementia to address an increasing need for care of patients with Alzheimer disease by caregivers and family members Integration of social media and face-to-face interactions as central to developing relationships in AAC interactions

aac devices for communication: *The Handbook of Augmentative and Alternative Communication* Sharon Glennen, Denise C. DeCoste, 1997 Augmentative and alternative communication (AAC) is a field which crosses many disciplinary boundaries. It is a rapidly changing field that uses the latest innovations and technologies to aid the language-disabled, and requires fluency not only in the hands-on technological aspect, but the service-delivery side as well. This well-written handbook addresses that need and is filled with practical information and extensive referencing. Some of its unique features include overview of development of assistive technology and its links with AAC, and present service delivery models in a variety of settings; discussions of available technology systems, strategies, and access, and issues of literacy development, funding and legal responsibility, and program effectiveness; examines special populations and special environments; includes case studies throughout; and extensive appendixes of devices, manufacturers, associations. A valuable text for graduate students studying communication disorders and special education, the book would be a useful addition to the professional library of anyone working with AAC users, most especially for those working with children.

aac devices for communication: Schuyler's Monster Robert Rummel-Hudson, 2008-02-19 Schuyler's Monster is an honest, funny, and heart-wrenching story of a family, and particularly a little girl, who won't give up when faced with a monster that steals her voice but can't crush her spirit. When Schuyler was 18 months old, a question about her lack of speech by her pediatrician set in motion a journey that continues today. When she was diagnosed with Bilateral perisylvian polymicrogyria (an extremely rare neurological disorder caused by a malformation of the brain.), her parents were given a name for the monster that had been stalking them from doctor visit to doctor visit and throughout the search for the correct answer to Schuyler's mystery. Once they knew why she couldn't speak, they needed to determine how to help her learn. They didn't know that Schuyler was going to teach them a thing or two about fearlessness, tenacity, and joy. Schuyler's Monster is more than the memoir of a parent dealing with a child's disability. It is the story of the relationship between a unique and ethereal little girl floating through the world without words, and her earthbound father who struggles with whether or not he is the right dad for the job. It is the story of a family seeking answers to a child's dilemma, but it is also a chronicle of their unique relationships,

formed without traditional language against the expectations of a doubting world. It is a story that has equal measure of laughter and tears. Ultimately, it is the tale of a little girl who silently teaches a man filled with self-doubt how to be the father she needs. Schuyler can now communicate through assistive technology, and continues to be the source of her father's inspiration, literary and otherwise.

aac devices for communication: Functional Assessment of Communication Skills for Adults (ASHA FACS) Carol Frattali, 1995 The ASHA FACS is a measure of basic functional skills that are common to individuals regardless of age, gender, socioeconomic status, education/vocational status, or cultural diversity. The measures provide helpful information in assisting both clinicians and payers.

aac devices for communication: AAC Strategies for Individuals with Moderate to Severe Disabilities Susan S. Johnston, 2012

aac devices for communication: Interventions for Individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder and Complex Communication Needs Jennifer B. Ganz, Richard L. Simpson, 2018-09 This eighth volume in the AAC series brings together the disciplines of AAC and ABA, both of which are needed to address the challenges of individuals with autism spectrum disorders and complex communication needs.

aac devices for communication: Worlds of Autism Joyce Davidson, Michael Orsini, 2013-11-01 Since first being identified as a distinct psychiatric disorder in 1943, autism has been steeped in contestation and controversy. Present-day skirmishes over the potential causes of autism, how or even if it should be treated, and the place of Asperger's syndrome on the autism spectrum are the subjects of intense debate in the research community, in the media, and among those with autism and their families. Bringing together innovative work on autism by international scholars in the social sciences and humanities, *Worlds of Autism* boldly challenges the deficit narrative prevalent in both popular and scientific accounts of autism spectrum disorders, instead situating autism within an abilities framework that respects the complex personhood of individuals with autism. A major contribution to the emerging, interdisciplinary field of critical autism studies, this book is methodologically and conceptually broad. Its authors explore the philosophical questions raised by autism, such as how it complicates neurotypical understandings of personhood; grapple with the politics that inform autism research, treatment, and care; investigate the diagnosis of autism and the recognition of difference; and assess representations of autism and stories told by and about those with autism. From empathy, social circles, and Internet communities to biopolitics, genetics, and diagnoses, *Worlds of Autism* features a range of perspectives on autistic subjectivities and the politics of cognitive difference, confronting society's assumptions about those with autism and the characterization of autism as a disability. Contributors: Dana Lee Baker, Washington State U; Beatrice Bonniau, Paris Descartes U; Charlotte Brownlow, U of Southern Queensland, Australia; Kristin Bumiller, Amherst College; Brigitte Chamak, Paris Descartes U; Kristina Chew, Saint Peter's U, New Jersey; Patrick McDonagh, Concordia U, Montreal; Stuart Murray, U of Leeds; Majia Holmer Nadesan, Arizona State U; Christina Nicolaidis, Portland State U; Lindsay O'Dell, Open U, London; Francisco Ortega, State U of Rio de Janeiro; Mark Osteen, Loyola U, Maryland; Dawn Eddings Prince; Dora Raymaker; Sara Ryan, U of Oxford; Lila Walsh.

aac devices for communication: Augmentative and Alternative Communication David R. Beukelman, Pat Mirenda, 1998 This definitive textbook incorporates critical information on implementing augmentative and alternative communication (AAC). It explains the principles and procedures of AAC assessment and offers intervention techniques that are appropriate throughout the life span of children and adults with congenital or acquired communication disorders.

aac devices for communication: Language Disorders from Infancy Through Adolescence Rhea Paul, 2007-01-01 This text provides students with the information needed to properly assess childhood language disorders and decide appropriate treatments. The book covers language development from birth to adolescence.

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Erickson, David Koppenhaver, 2019-12-17 An essential resource for educators, speech-language pathologists, and parents--and an ideal text for courses that cover literacy and significant disabilities--this book will help you ensure that all students have the reading and writing skills they need to unlock new opportunities and reach their potential.

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