



**AAC INFORMATION NIGHT
FOR CAREGIVERS**

*Communication
Bill of Rights
(Rights 2 - 4)*

March 8, 2022 at 6pm Pacific
(Zoom meeting)



Welcome to the Parent Information Night

Agenda

Introductions

Margaret Edwards, SLP

Caralee Wirth, SLP

Other attendees

NWACS Introduction

Presentation - Introduction to the Communication Bill of Rights

Questions and Answer Period

About NWACS

- Stands for the Northwest Augmentative Communication Society
- Founded in the late 1970s
- One of the oldest and longest running organizations supporting individuals with complex communication needs in the northwest
- Holds an annual conference
- Is run by volunteers

We are here to serve you, let us know what you need

Learning Outcomes:

- The learner will understand the relationship between communicative functions and the Communication Bill of Rights
- The learner will understand the role making requests plays in teaching/learning AAC
- The learner will understand the role 'refusing' plays in teaching/learning AAC
- The learner will learn about the resources for expressing feelings and preferences

Communication Bill of Rights

- There are 15 fundamental communication rights listed
- There is a [PDF version](#) that can be downloaded
- Kate Ahern developed this [adapted](#) communication bill of rights
- These rights are applicable to both children and adults, across all settings, and are not specific to any one diagnosis

Language Functions

- Requesting
- Refusing
- Commenting
- Explaining
- Questioning
- Joking
- Defending
- Arguing
- Gossiping



NUMBER TWO

The right to request desired
objects, actions, events,
and people

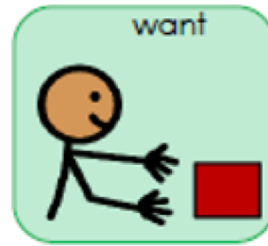
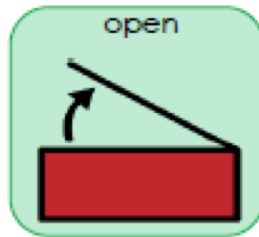
REQUESTING:

Objects: toys, articles of clothing, food, etc.

Actions: push, ride, eat, etc.

Events: recess, lunchtime, library, etc.

People: teacher, parent, sibling, etc.



TEACHING THIS FUNCTION.

- Modeling by communication partner in different settings
- Determine what the student REALLY WANTS
- Modeling more than the word WANT to request
- Assist with navigation of the AAC if the request is in a folder
- Use a prompt hierarchy in teaching this skill * P. 62
- Use therapy materials that target the word

Proceed with caution...

- Does the AAC user really want it? Or do you want them to want it?
- Insisting on use of a complete sentence
- Not honoring a gesture that means "I want"
- Getting stuck on the function of requesting
- Only working on this as it relates to food; requiring the AAC user to ask many times to get good data



NUMBER THREE

The right to refuse or reject
undesired objects, actions,
events, or choices

REFUSE or REJECT:

Vocabulary:

No

Don't

Different

Stop

Not

Yucky

TEACHING THIS FUNCTION!

- Modeling by communication partner in a natural context
 - “No”, “stop”, and “don’t like.”
- Language Lab “Express Negatives”
 - <https://aaclanguagelab.com/activities>
- Saltillo “Let’s Teach Core”
 - Teach Don’t <https://saltillo.com/downloads/chat/lets-teach-core/Let%27s%20teach%20don%27t.pdf>
 - Teach Not
 - <https://saltillo.com/downloads/chat/lets-teach-core/Let%27s%20teach%20not.pdf>
 - Other negatives: bad, different
- Find, introduce, model, encourage, expect

NUMBER FOUR

The right to express
personal preferences and
feelings

Preference and Feelings:

Vocabulary:

Like, love, different, same, fun, want, yes, no

Feelings:

Pos: happy, excited

Neg: angry, sad, mad, frustrated, worried

State of being: tired, hungry, thirsty, sick

TEACHING THIS FUNCTION!

- Modeling by communication partner
 - Don't want, don't like, no thank you, yes, like, fun
- Manual Book "I Feel _____ When"
 - https://saltillo.com/downloads/chat/i-feel-_____-when/I%20Feel%20FunWork.pdf
- Saltillo "Let's Teach Core"
 - Let's Teach Worry <https://saltillo.com/downloads/chat/lets-teach-core/Let%27s%20teach%20worry.pdf>
 - Feelings: bad, nice, worry, cool, love
- Language Lab
 - Lesson Plans - I do... I don't...
 - <https://aaclanguelab.com/lesson-plans/i-do-i-dont>
- Find, introduce, model, encourage, expect

Resources:

<https://www.asha.org/njc/communication-bill-of-rights/>

<https://www.asha.org/njc/>

[Better Than Prompting](#)

<https://saltillo.com/implementation>

<https://aaclanguagelab.com/lesson-plans>

Upcoming Events

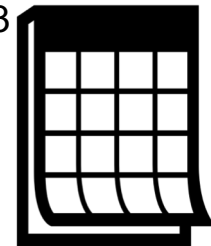
Parent Information Nights*

Tuesday May 10th: Communication Bill of Rights - Fundamental Rights 5-7

Tuesday July 12th: Communication Bill of Rights - Fundamental Rights 8-10

Tuesday September 13th: Communication Bill of Rights - Fundamental Rights 11-13

Tuesday November 8th: Communication Bill of Rights - Fundamental Rights 14-15



*Dates are tentative

Get Connected with NWACS

<https://www.nwacs.info/get-involved>

Here is where you can find NWACS on social media:

[Facebook](#) | [Pinterest](#) | [Twitter](#) | [YouTube](#)

[Northwest Augmentative Communication Caregiver Society \(NWACCS\)](#) - This group is for families in Washington State. It is for parents and family members of children who are unable to meet all their communication needs with mouth words.