




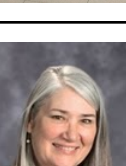
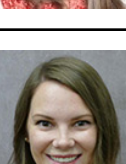




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Autumn 2022

Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC) Agenda

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It's a Marathon, Not a Sprint!

- Quality AAC implementation takes a long time!
- Have a long term vision for your AAC learner.
- Consensus of a team helps, but one dedicated stakeholder can still do a lot.
- Focus on immersion (i.e., aided language) over expression in any one moment.
- Pick a strong language system that your learner can access (e.g., vision, motor) and stick with it. Changing systems means starting over with a whole new language.
- Focus on problem solving barriers.
Hint: With a robust system, it's probably not the system and it's definitely not the kid!
- It's normal to have periods of growth and periods that feel like plateau.

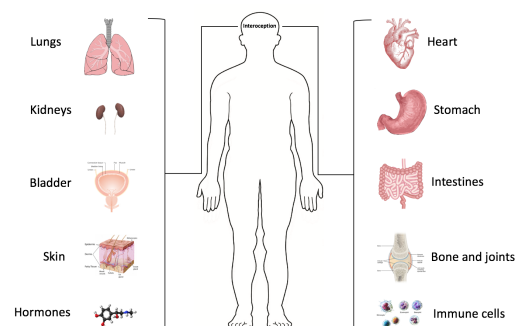


@the.aac.coach

Interoception and AAC: How they can work together

WHAT IS INTEROCEPTION?

Muscles and joints have receptors that tell you where your body parts are. Interoception works much the same way, but the receptors are in your organs including your skin. These receptors send messages about the body to the brain, helping to regulate vital functions such as hunger, thirst, digestion, or heart rate. Understanding these bodily feelings can help with interpretation of what's going on inside the body. If your bladder is full, you need to urinate. If your heart is beating fast, you may need to take a few deep breaths to slow it down.

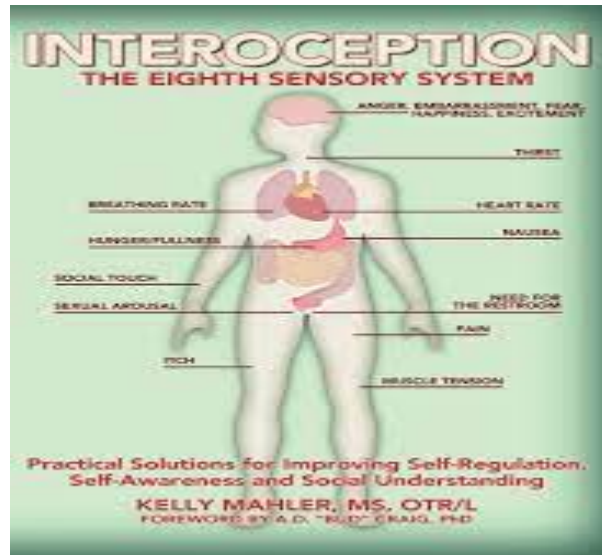


Our AAC team will be working with our Occupational Therapists to help provide the use of visuals to promote the use and understanding of the feeling concepts and vocabulary used in the Interoception program, for our students using AAC systems.

Below are visuals for vocabulary from the Interoception program for lessons 1-4.

<u>Lesson 1: Hands</u>	<u>Lesson 2: Feet</u>	<u>Lesson 3: Mouth</u>	<u>Lesson 4: Eyes</u>
<u>*Symbolstix visuals</u>	<u>Symbolstix visuals</u>	<u>Symbolstix visuals</u>	<u>Symbolstix visuals</u>
<u>LAMP visuals</u>	<u>LAMP visuals</u>	<u>LAMP visuals</u>	<u>LAMP visuals</u>
<u>**Boardmaker Visuals</u>	<u>Boardmaker Visuals</u>	<u>Boardmaker Visuals</u>	<u>Boardmaker Visuals</u>

*Symbolstix icons work for Touch Chat and ProLoQuo2Go. ** Boardmaker symbols work for students utilizing Tobii-Dynavox systems



Interoception enables us to experience essential feelings such as hunger, fullness, thirst, itch, pain, body temperature, nausea, need for the bathroom, tickle, physical exertion and sexual arousal. Additionally, interoception allows us to feel our emotions.

The Eighth Sensory System provides a detailed connection between interoception and common experiences of individuals with autism and similar conditions. “Mahler provides research and practical strategies that can be easily implemented across the lifespan to help individuals manage their bodies, emotions and self-regulation” (Brenda Myles, PhD).

AAC AWARENESS MONTH

October is World AAC Awareness Month! The goal is to raise AAC awareness and inform the community about all of the ways we can support communication. Help spread the word!

AAC and Literacy: The Road Trip to Literacy

This year your AAC team will be providing you with strategies, materials, and support for using AAC to promote student literacy in the classroom. Keep an eye out for our AAC Awareness Month packets, coming to your classroom soon!

Core and Fringe word resources and activities:

Weekly core words for October:

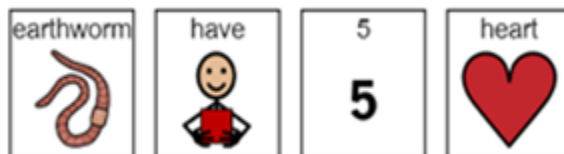
Week # word	Picture Symbols	Activities
Week 1: WANT	Want	Activity for Want
Week 2: More	more	Activity for More
Week 3: Stop	stop	Activity for stop
Week 4: Help	Help	Activity for Help

[October Language Activity Calendar Link](#)

Small Talk



Did you know that worms have 5 hearts?



Weekly core words for November:

Week # word	Picture Symbols	Activities
Week 1: All done	All Done	Activity for all done
Week 2: like	like	Activity for like
Week 3: play	play	Activity for play
Week 4: different	different	Activity for different

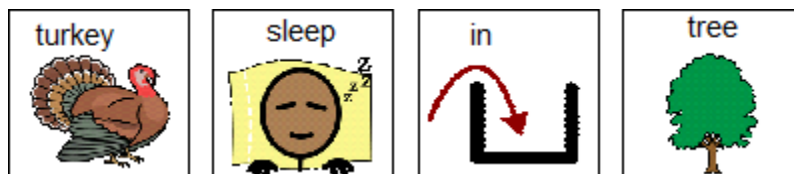
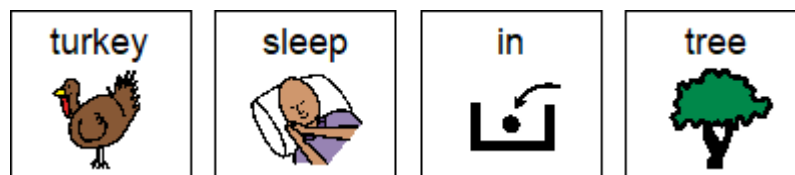
[November language activity Calendar link](#)

Small Talk




























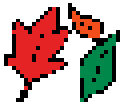
Turkeys are on the ground during the day. They do not see very well in the dark so they sleep in the trees at night. They are safe in the trees from predators that hunt in the night. Source: In.gov

PCS symbols



Symbolstix symbols

Fun with Fall Fringe words:

Fringe WORD	ProLoQuo2Go	LAMP	Boardmaker
School		<div>go </div> <div>school </div>	
carve		<div>color </div> <div>CUT </div> <div>cut </div>	
Pumpkins		<div>eat </div> <div>FRUIT </div> <div>pumpkin </div>	
Turkey		<div>eat </div> <div>ME/SEA </div> <div>turkey </div>	
Leaves		<div>right </div> <div>leaves </div> <div>OR</div> <div>get </div> <div>TREES </div> <div>leaf </div>	

Brown		<div>color </div> <div>brown </div>	
Orange		<div>color </div> <div>orange </div>	

Resources:

[Autism Agenda-LBLESD-February 2022](#)

<https://www.kelly-mahler.com/what-is-interoception/>

Carrie Clark, CCC-SLP www.SpeechAndLanguageKids.com

<https://isaac-online.org/english/aac-awareness/>

<https://praacticalaac.org/>

Lia Kurtin M.S., CCC-SLP | www.SpeechandLanguageatHome.com | signs by:
35-Corks-Art-Studio

<https://www.elsforautism.org/>

Kate McLaughlin, M.S., CCC-SLP <https://www.theaacoach.com/>

<https://www.assistiveware.com/blog/assistiveware-core-word-classroom>

The LBL ESD AAC Agenda Newsletter is a compilation of national and regional resources designed to support families and school teams. Every effort is made to provide accurate and complete information in the newsletter; however, LBL ESD cannot guarantee that there will be no errors. Some resources from across the nation may not apply to Oregon. Again, we apologize for the inaccuracy and thank you for your understanding. If you have questions, please feel free to contact Cascade Regional.