

Augmentative Communication Apps for Autism

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AAC has changed

- Affordable
- Accessible to everyone - on mobile devices
- Includes many different modalities - use a picture to TELL a story, SHARE an EVENT
- Using common tools that students are already familiar with
- Parents and other family members are using these tools as well

Strategies to use mobile devices

- Put in different case - doesn't look like an iPad
- Possibly use one iPad for communication - another for academic activities
- Guided Access - "lock in the app"
- iPad is a motivating tool - use it communicatively to request other activities!
- Create a REASON to communicate to others
- Keep in a consistent place - the communication area

Emerging Communication - Providing a Voice, Learning how to Communicate

- **TapSpeak** (\$25)
- Record sequenced verbal activities - songs, counting, automatic speech
- Tell a story or event
- Include video, photos, icons

Context Dependent Communication - Topic boards and Created Vocabulary

- **GoTalk NOW** (\$80)
- Recordable or Text to Speech
- Quickly adapt to number and placement of choices
- Video/Audio support
- "Hot Spots" on Pictures

Independent Communication - User selects vocabulary independently

- **Proloquo2Go** (\$215)
- Core Vocabulary - most commonly used words for creating language)
- Categorization of fringe vocabulary (people, places, things)
- Syntax - creating sentences (a great writing activity)
- Morphology (verb tense, plurals, possessives)
- Text to Speech used - not verbal recording
- Bilingual support - currently English, Spanish and French but growing
- Expressions can be emailed, texted or used in any format

Teach Language - Allow individuals to grow in language skills

- **Free Speech** (\$10)
- Provides visual cues to create sentences and build language
- Automatically adjusts sentences to be grammatically correct