



Book adaptations for AAC users

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Reading is the way to grow!

- All children (even those who use AAC) need to **interact repeatedly with print** from as early stage as possible.
- They should interact with different sources of printed material which should be:
 - Simple;
 - Bright and colourful;
 - Age-appropriate;
 - Motivating, and
 - Interesting.





Reading is the way to grow!

- Reading forms the **basis** upon which formal education is built.
- **Reading enriches:**
 - Language development;
 - Literacy development;
 - Listening skills;
 - Comprehension, and
 - Expansion of vocabulary .





Reading is the way to grow!

- Reading stories can **open up different worlds** to children who do not have the opportunity or cannot access different environments due to their physical impairments.

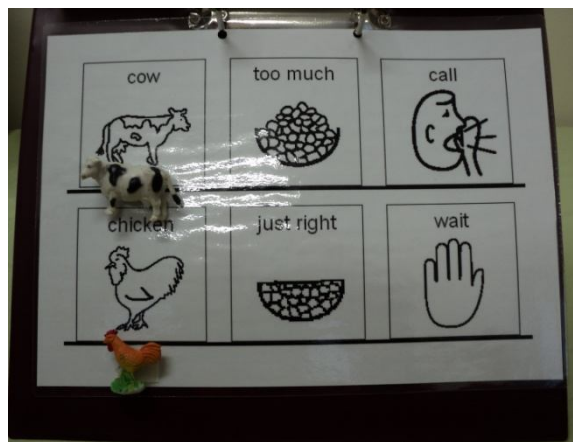
We should assist to create these opportunities!

How can we do this?



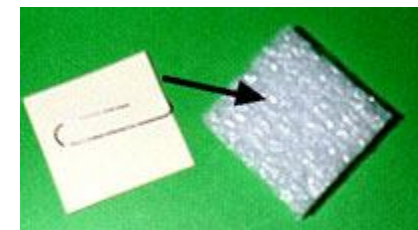
Book adaptations

- **Books adaptations should be presented in many different formats to meet individual needs.**

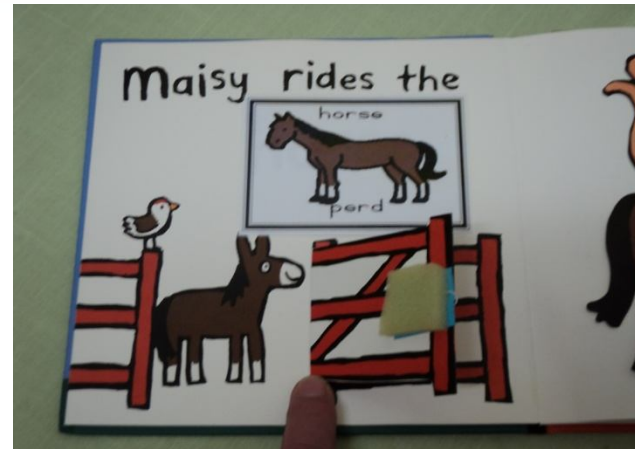
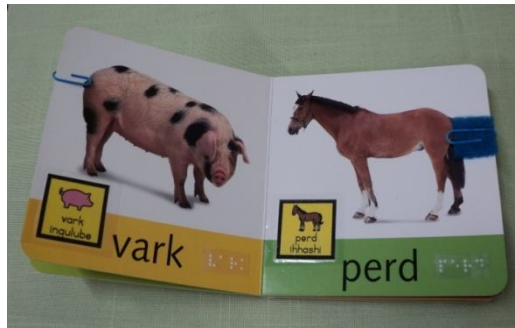


Page fluffers

- Page Fluffers can be used to add spaces between each page for easy page turning.
- Page fluffers can be made by using foam, cloth pegs, ice cream sticks, hot glue dots, etc.



Add symbols



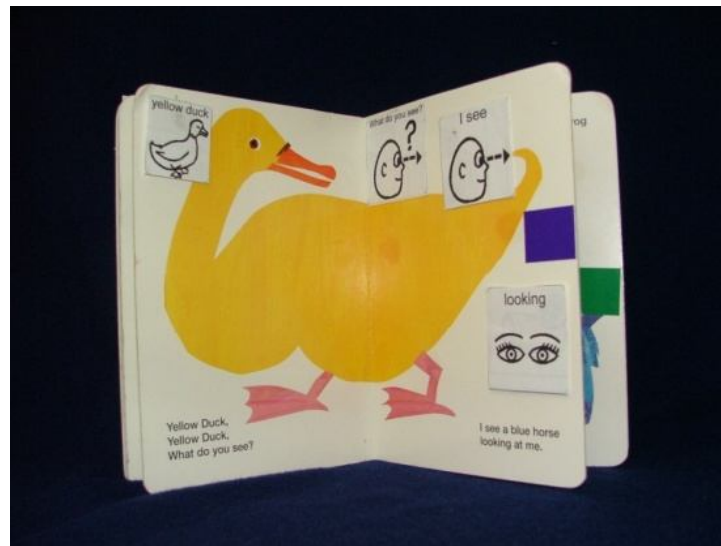
Use books:

- With simple backgrounds;
- Lots of repetitive text, or rhymes;
- And the correct vocabulary level for the learners.



Add symbols

The example here repeats the phrases “...What do you see? ... I see an *“animal”* looking at me”.



Add sounds

- Record repeated phrases so that the child can participate actively during the book reading activity.



Pull off symbols

- The symbols are duplicates used in the story.
- Add it to the bottom of each story page.
- First point to the symbol
- Then pull off the extra symbol and show it to the child.



Pull off symbols

- **Lastly, the child can pull the symbol off to **manipulate and explore.****





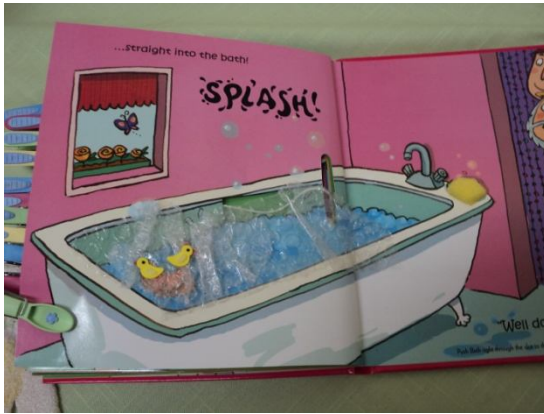
Symbol strips

- Add a piece of laminated cardboard at the bottom of the book.
- Paste Velcro to the cardboard.
- Make copies of the pictures in the book.
- Laminate pictures and add Velcro to back.
- While reading, indicate to picture and add extra picture to velcro strip.



Multi-sensory

- Add as many **textures** to the pictures to make it a sensory experience.



- This will **keep** the children's **attention** when the story is read.



Multi-sensory

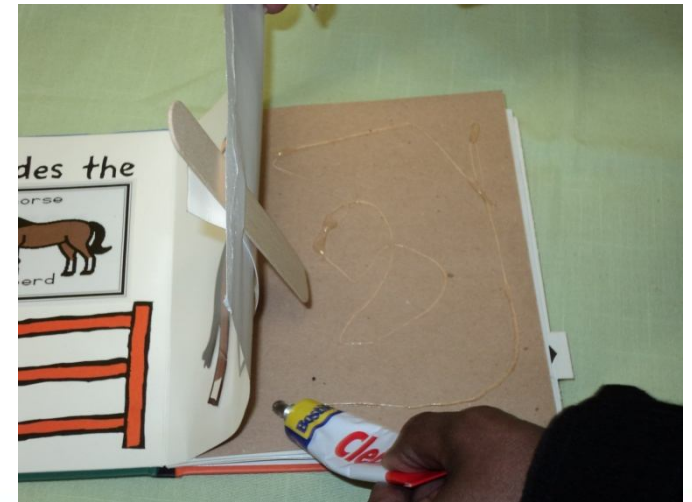
- Children can participate in **feeling the textures** on each page, making the **story more concrete** to the learner.
- Add textures like: sandpaper, cotton wool, cloth, seeds, feathers, glitter, beads, etc.





Durability

- Books can be adapted by placing each page of the storybook in page protectors.
- A piece of cardboard cut to size can be placed in between each story page.





Durability

- Put all the pages into a ring binder. The pages will stay open as you are telling the story.



- All of the pages can be placed in a plastic folder or in a baggy book.





Props

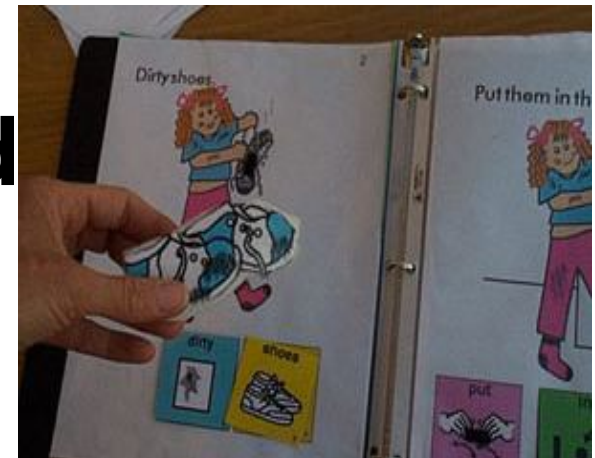
- Props can be used to enhance the stories.
- Real objects can be used that match key concepts in the stories or you can make your own props with foam materials that are secured with Velcro to the stories.





Props

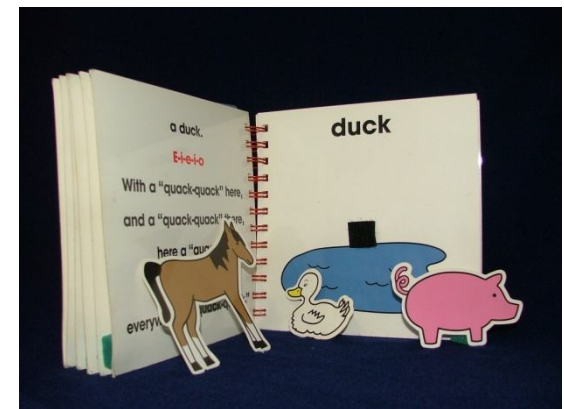
- **Props keep little hands busy.**
- **Children can pull props from a choice board to reinforce matching or identification skills during readings and place in the book.**
- **They can pull a selected prop from the book and place it in an external prop (e.g. on TalkingMat)**





Enlarge

- Enlarge pictures in the book.
- Use the pictures as props.
- Laminate the picture.
- Add a piece of Velcro to the back and stick the pictures in the book.



Enlarge

- It also gives the child the opportunity to manipulate the pictures and participate in the story by taking it off or putting it back again.





Ideas to make your own books

- **Decide upon a story or let the children write a story.**
- **Let the children draw the pictures or look for pictures in magazines (or on the internet).**
- **Add symbols or symbol strips.**





Ideas to make your own books

- Create or write your own story.
- Use symbols or symbol sentences.
- Print out the pages and laminate.



- File in a ring bind file.
- Add extra symbols or small objects if necessary.





Ideas to make your own books

Make a Baggy Book

Material you will need:

- Zip lock bags
- Cardboard “pages”
- Duct tape / Sellotape
- Pictures for your story
- Stapler
- Glue



Make big and small books!





Re-make a paper book

- **Cut the book apart.**
- **Laminate each page or slid it into a page protector.**
- **Put the pages into a photo-album or ring bind the pages.**
- **Add page fluffers and/or props as needed.**



Create a story (without a book)!

- Collect objects, pictures or photos and prepare symbols to match the pictures.
- Laminate and add Velcro.
- Use TalkingMat or felt board.



Create a story (without a book)!

- Use TalkingMat or felt board or and add symbols while telling the story.



Books that talk!



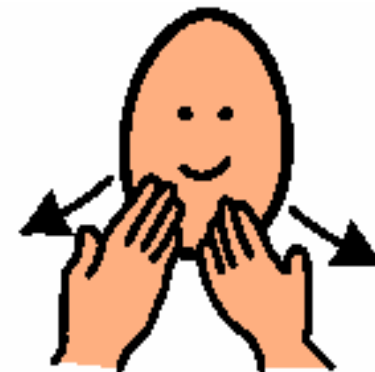


Remember

Remember: Follow ©Copyright laws!

- **A single copy of a book that has been purchased may be copied to adapt for people with disabilities.**





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