

A picture paints a thousand words.... Or does it?

*Presentation at Teacher's
Upfront Seminar
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Pictures that communicate

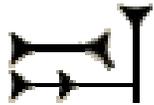
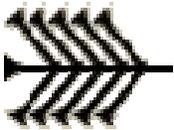
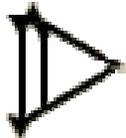


**San rock art from the Cederberg region
of the Western Cape**



Pictographic writing systems

Sumerian writing

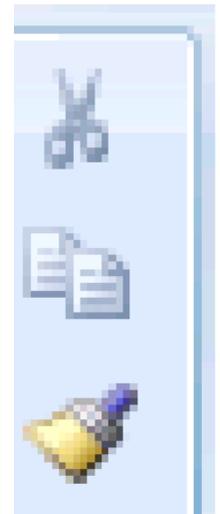
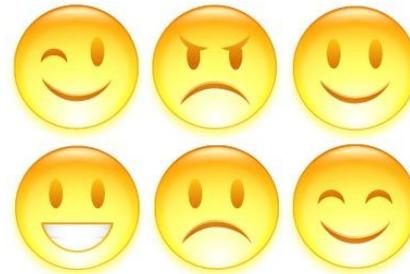
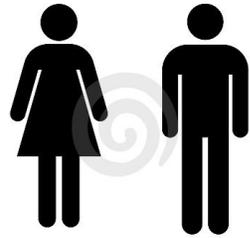
	3200 BCE	3000 BCE	2400 BCE	1000 BCE
sag 'head'				
gin 'to walk'				
šu 'hand'				
še 'barley'				
ninda 'bread'				

Pictographic writing systems

Early Chinese writing

	OBI graph	modern character	modern reading	meaning
1.		象	xiàng	'elephant'
2.		求	qiú	'pelt' (mod. 裘)
3.		口	kǒu	'opening, orifice, mouth'
4.		目	mù	'eye'
5.		月	yuè	'moon, month'
6.		田	tián	'(cultivated) field'
7.		女	nǚ	'(kneeling) woman'
	--	..		

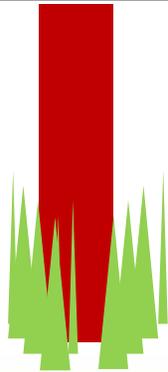
Modern day pictograms



Why pictures?

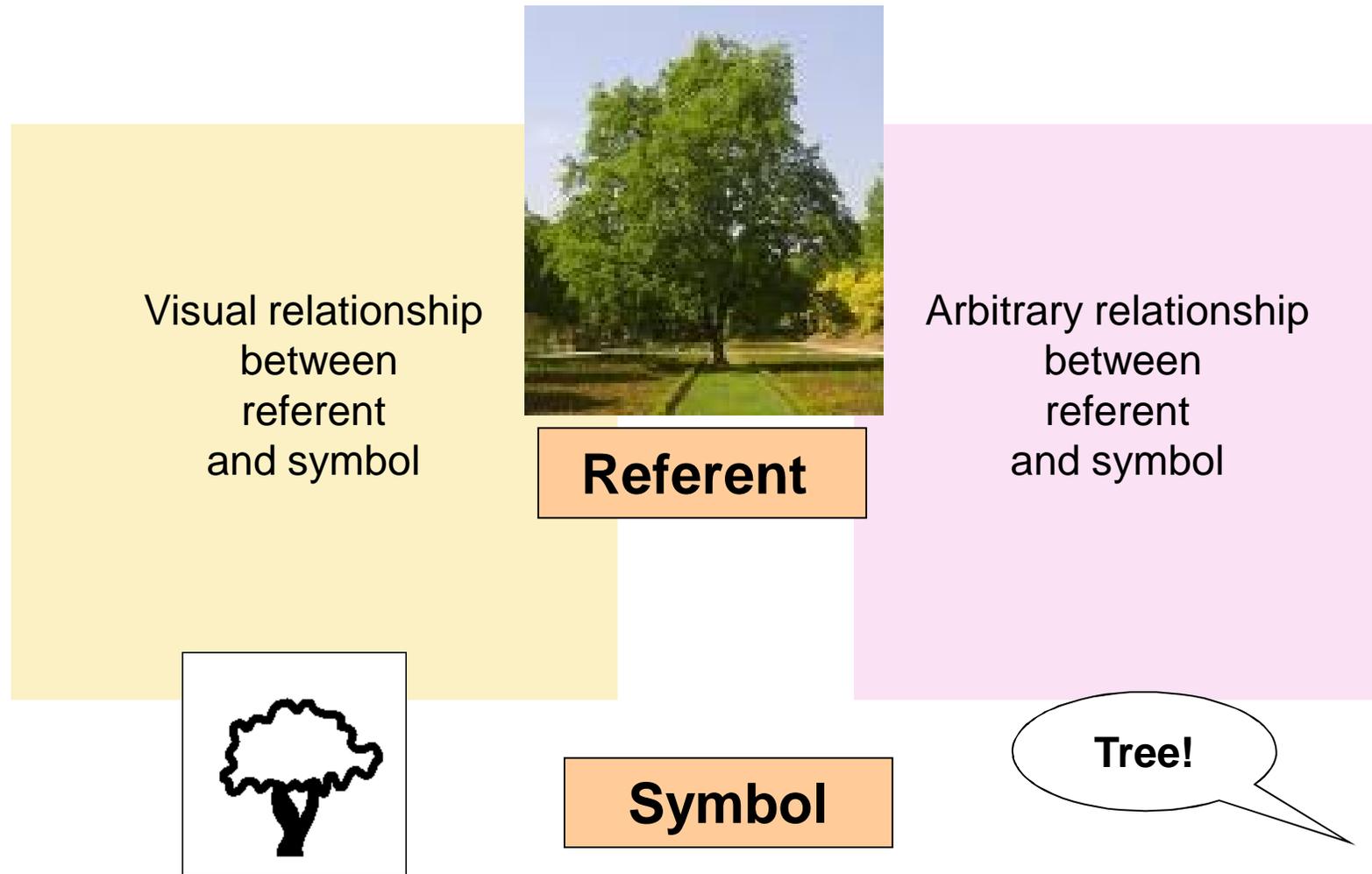
Independent of spoken language

***Auf dem
Strand sind
keine Hunde
zugelassen***



Why pictures?

“Easier”



Why pictures?

Parallel processing (Paivio, 1971)

Drive carefully as rocks may have fallen on the road.

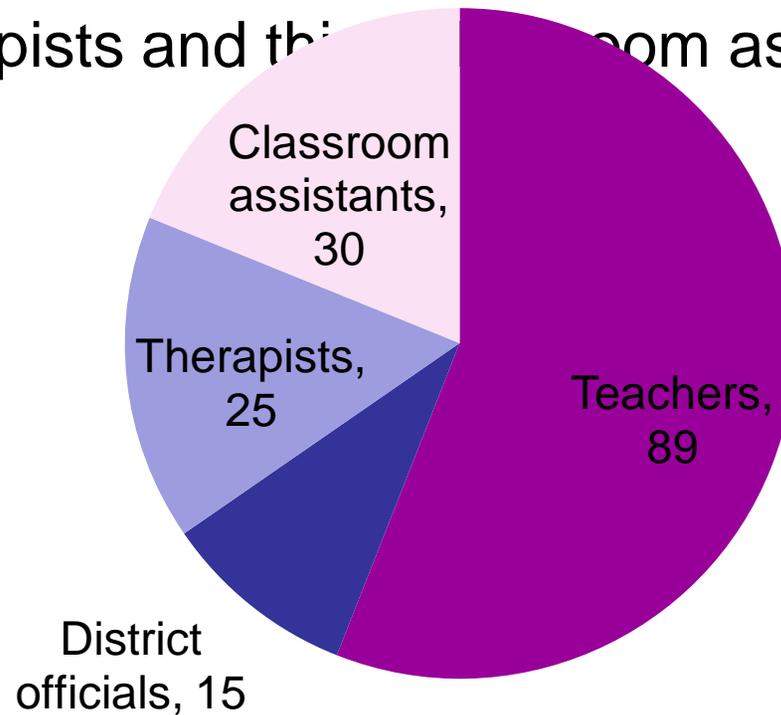


Why pictures?

Parallel processing

Professions

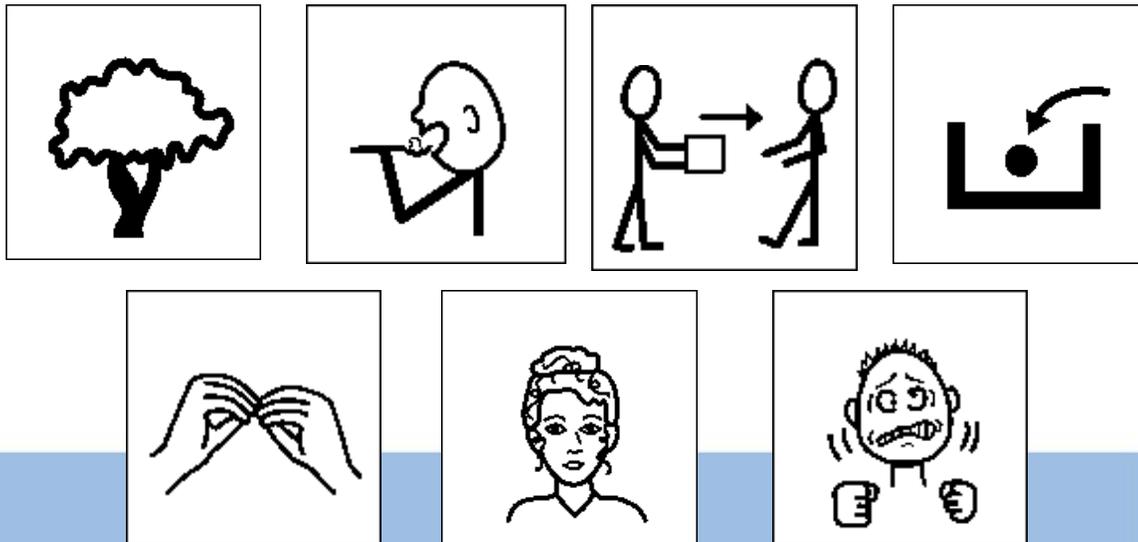
There were eighty-nine teachers, fifteen district officials, twenty-five therapists and thirty classroom assistants in the sample.



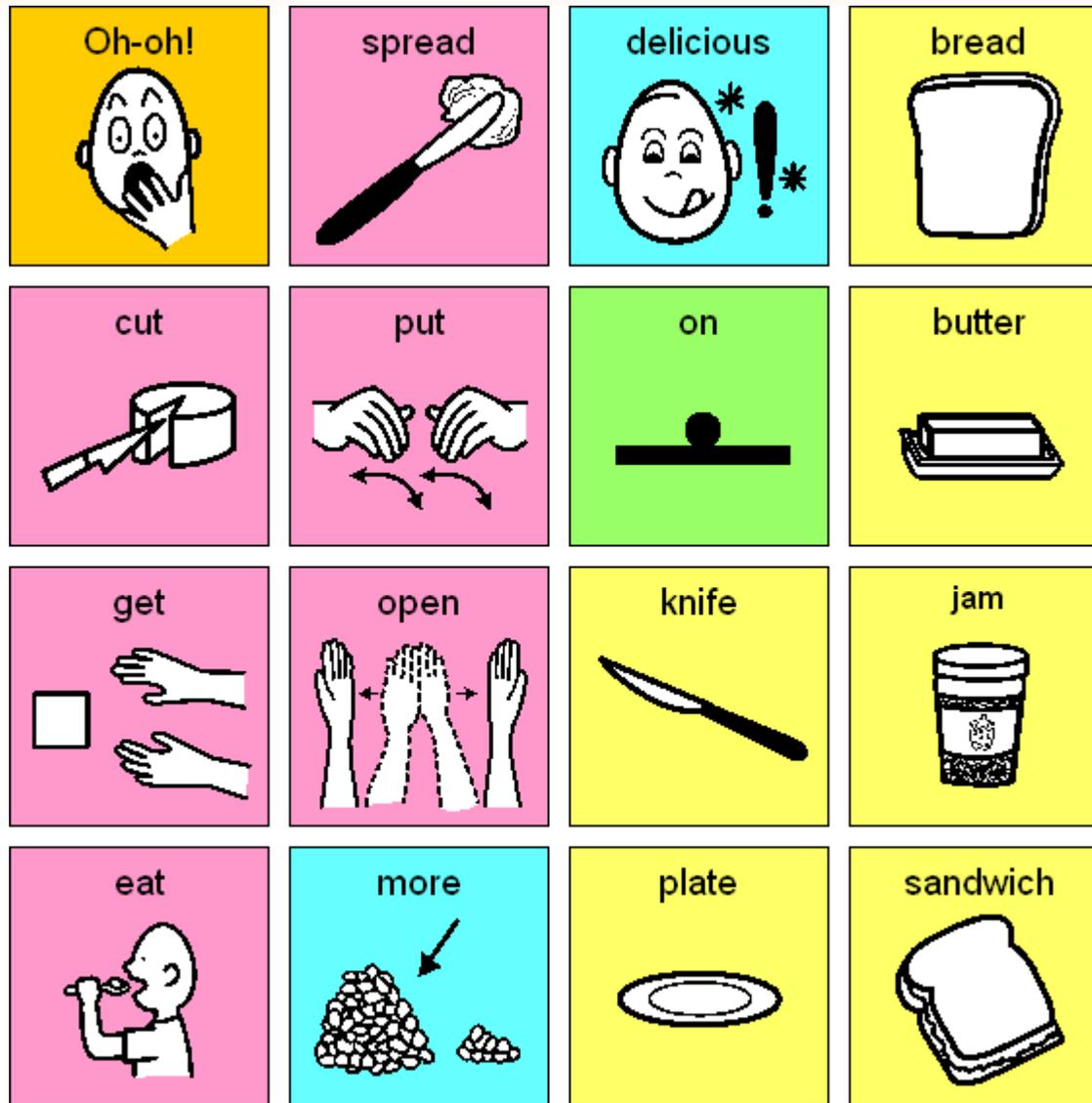
Use of pictures in the field of disability

Augmentative and Alternative Communication

- Photographs, pictures and 'graphic symbols' used as a communication medium for persons with
 - limited speech
 - who are non- or preliterate
- 'Graphic symbols': Collection of line drawings compiled by an individual or company
- Example: Picture Communication Symbols (PCS)



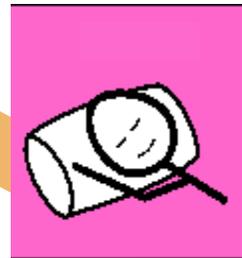
Communication board for sandwich activity



Use of pictures in multilingual classrooms



“Sleeping”

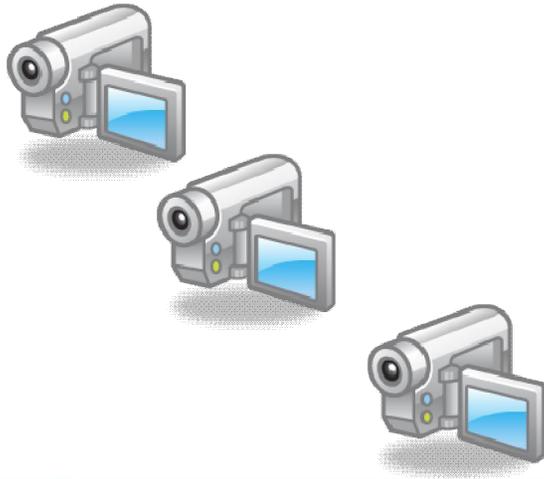


“Lala”

Use of pictures in multilingual classrooms

Project: Aided Language Stimulation in multilingual preschool and Grade 1 classrooms

- Teacher supplements oral language input with graphic symbols during storytelling



Use of pictures: Language and literacy skills

visual symbol paired with written word



dog

Spoken Language

Written Language

Stimulus Equivalence



Use of pictures: Language and literacy skills

'Reading' with pictures

- Words paired with pictures
- Preliterate children experience themselves as 'readers'
- Left-to-right progression
- Awareness of words
- Sight word exposure

Sam did not smile. His parents

were worried. His mother gave him

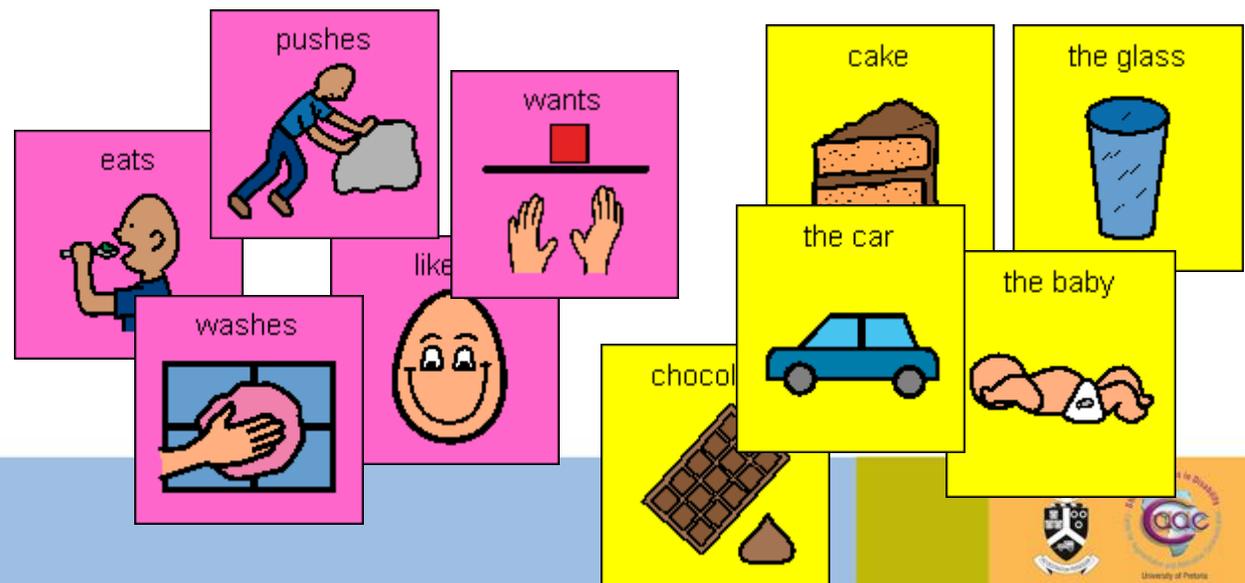
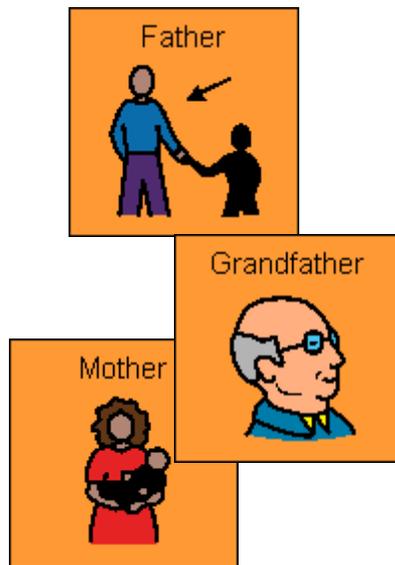
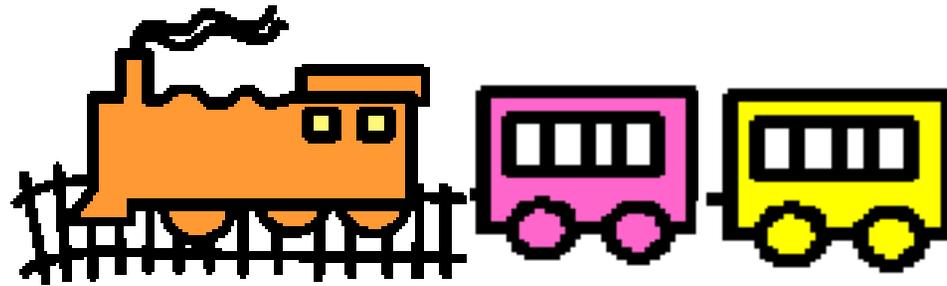
ice cream. But Sam did not smile.

His father gave him toys. But

Sam did not smile.

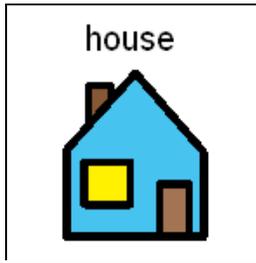
Use of pictures: Language and literacy skills

Sentence building

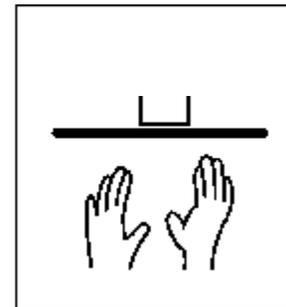
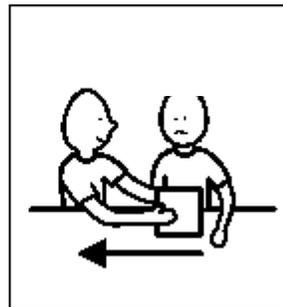
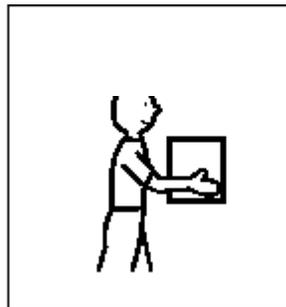
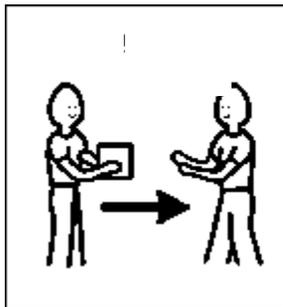


Limitations of pictures as a 'language'

- Interpretation of images is influenced by culture, world knowledge and experience



- Not all words are 'picture producers'



Conclusion

- Pictures and graphic symbols can aid learning in a variety of ways, such as
 - Providing a bridge between home language and language of instruction
 - Providing a bridge between spoken and written language
 - Making abstract aspects of language (e.g. syntax) more visible and concrete



References

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