

Parent Training: Supporting Communication Development in Students

Helping Students
Build Essential
Communication
Skills

Presented by:
Dr. Laurel Keegan
Special Education
Director, Southern
Fulton School
District

Why Communication Skills are Important

- Communication skills are essential for academic success, building relationships, and self-advocacy.

- For students with disabilities, communication can be a challenge, but there are many supports available.

Types of Communication Challenges

- Speech delays: Difficulty articulating sounds or expressing thoughts.

- Non-verbal communication: Using gestures, expressions, or augmentative tools.

- Social communication: Difficulty understanding social cues, conversation norms.

Communication Support Strategies

- Use visuals and picture schedules to support understanding.
- Encourage the use of augmentative and alternative communication (AAC) devices.
- Break down instructions into manageable steps.

Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC)



- AAC tools support students who have difficulty with verbal communication.

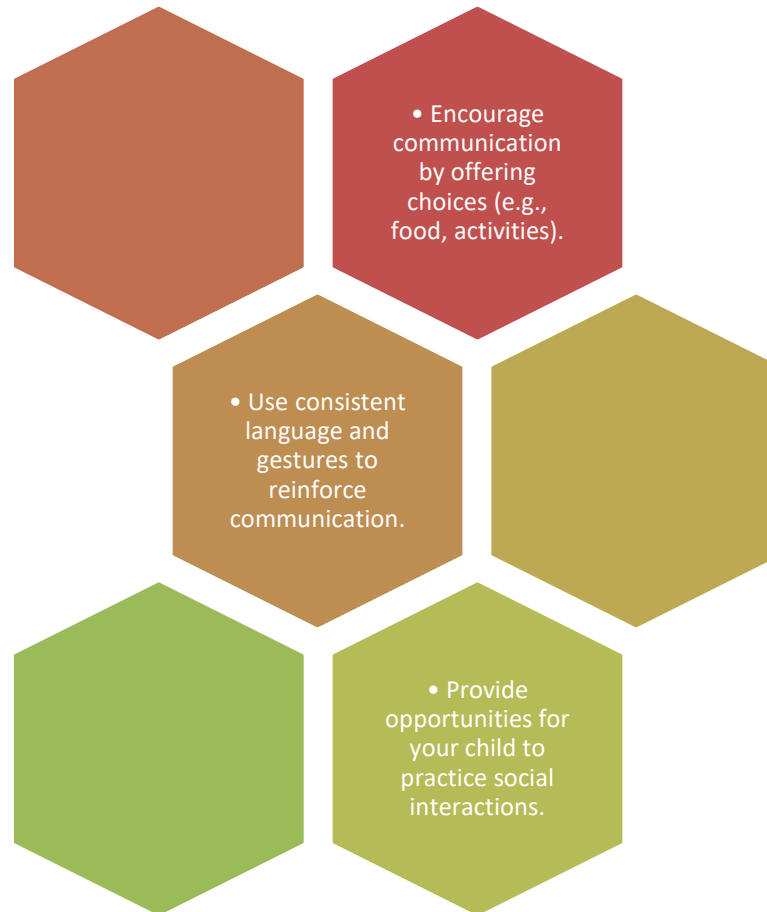


- Examples include speech-generating devices, communication boards, and apps.



- AAC can empower students to express their needs, wants, and ideas.

Supporting Communication at Home



Working with the School Team

- Collaborate with speech therapists, teachers, and specialists to support your child's communication goals.

- Attend IEP meetings to discuss communication strategies and tools.

- Share what works at home to reinforce learning at school.

Encouraging Social Communication Skills

- Model appropriate social interactions and turn-taking.



- Use role-playing to teach greetings, conversations, and problem-solving.



- Provide structured social opportunities with peers in supportive environments.

Resources for Communication Development

- American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA):
www.asha.org

- The Communication Trust:
www.thecommunicationtrust.org

- Local Speech Therapy Services
and AAC Centers

Q&A



Thank You

- Contact for follow-up questions or additional support

lkeegan@sfsd.k12.pa.us

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