# AACISN'T GIVING UP ON SPEECH



Its Opening A New Door To Communication

#### What Is AAC?

AAC stands for Augmentative and Alternative Communication. It includes any method of communication other than speech used to express thoughts, wants, needs, and ideas.

### **AAC Can Be:**

- Low-tech: Picture cards, communication books, signs, gestures
- Mid-tech: Devices with recorded messages (e.g., Big Mack button)
- High-tech: Speechgenerating devices or tablet apps like Proloquo2Go or LAMP

"Using AAC means we're giving up on speech." Is a Myth:

Introducing AAC might delay or stop speech development.

# AAC can actually encourage speech:

- AAC provides a model for language, just like spoken words.
- It builds understanding and connection between ideas and language.
- AAC reduces pressure to speak and frustration from not being understood





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#### **Research Shows:**

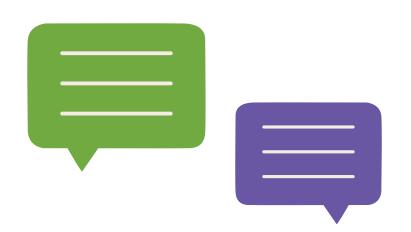
That Children using AAC often make faster gains in spoken language than those who don't.

## Why AAC Matters:

Every child has the right to communicate, and AAC gives them a way to

- Make choices
- Say no
- Ask questions
- Connect with others
- Express emotions

Even a few symbols or buttons can open doors to real conversations with family, friends, teachers, and therapists.



# Speech + AAC = Powerful Together:

"Using AAC is like giving your child a bridge to words. They may walk across to speech, or they may keep using the bridge, either way, they're not stuck anymore."



