

Make & Take

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A great way to communicate with your child/client is through the use of visual supports. Even if the child can communicate with words, there may be anxiety-provoking situations where the use of pictures can help them express their wants and needs appropriately. Visual supports may also be used to assist individuals in completing multi-step tasks and making transitions. We strongly encourage you to try these strategies in the home, classroom, therapy sessions, and community!

The pictures used in today's session are from **Silver Lining Multimedia**. Other visual support programs are listed below, however you can make your own visual supports by taking pictures with a camera. Some children respond better to familiar pictures, as they may not have the skills to generalize objects and concepts (i.e. they may need a picture of their own car instead of the picture of the van that we have on our cards).

Visual Support Programs

Boardmaker Software Family©: The Boardmaker Software Family consists of three software products that cover a broad range of communication and special education needs. They are the premier tools among special educators and speech-language pathologists. Products can be found at the following website: <http://www.mayer-johnson.com/MainBoardmaker.aspx?MainCategoryID=5419>

Silver Lining Multimedia©: Silver Lining Multimedia's Picture This...CDs contain thousands of photos that you can use to create photo flash cards, living skills strips, choice boards, token boards, and educational materials to help your child or student learn to communicate, behave and understand the world. <http://www.silverliningmm.com/>

Pics for PECS 2009©: Pyramidal Educational Products, Inc. provides products that will enable students to continue communication throughout their lives. Lori Frost, M.S. CCC/SLP, President of Pyramid Educational Products, Inc. continues to design functional communication products that will enhance the lives of educators, students and their families. <http://www.pyramidproducts.com/>

Other Supplies

All items used in the Make & Take session were purchased at local office supply stores (i.e. Office Depot, Office Max) and/or super shopping centers (i.e. Wal-Mart, Target). Take these examples and customize them to each individual's needs. Be creative!

Comments

The concept is simple, but the results can be life changing. Again, we strongly recommend this for your child or client if these strategies haven't already been implemented.