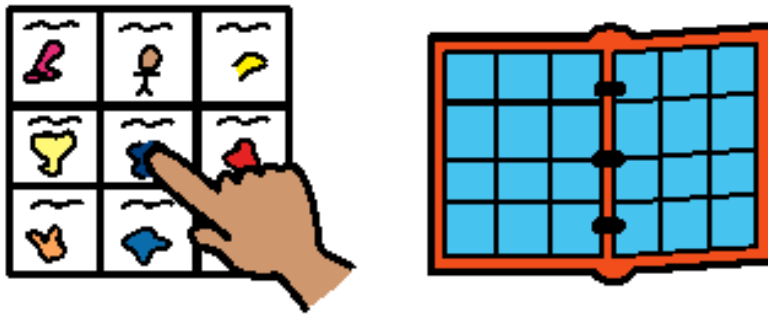


# Making Communication Books



- How to set up a beginning communication Book
- What to include
- Core vocabulary
- How to support it being used
- A set of possible tabbed page dividers

# Communication Books

Communication books are easy to make. They should contain...

- Core language
- Personal core in categories

Before you make the book you will need to know....

- If the student can recognize and use symbols or needs photos
- How many symbols or photos per page they can manage.

Once you have worked this out you are ready to make a book.

You will need to make grids on a page and put the symbols or photos in them.

Possible places to source symbols and photos....

- Your own camera
- Boardmaker software
- ClipArt
- The internet
- Google Image
- There is also a range of symbol software on the market. Talk to the team at Spectronics and DTSL to discuss options.

Once your book is made, the first step is for you to use it to model as much as possible when working with the student. Have the book open beside you whenever you are working with the student. As you talk to them, use the book as you talk.

E.g. 'it's time to go to the library'...point to library

'Look, JoJo is star student today'...point to JoJo's picture

Do lots of 'think out loud' as you navigate too, to help the student start to understand how to navigate the book themselves.

E.g.... 'It's time for play. Let's go to the playground page and see what things we can play outside'

## **CHAT SHEETS**

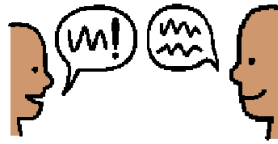
Make up a chat sheet to help you create the opportunities to use the book throughout the school day. See attached info on chat sheets.

Possible categories to begin with....

- People - friends/classmates/family members/other adults eg teachers and therapists
- Feelings
- School activities
- Places - think about all the places the child goes at school/home/community/holiday places
- Home activities - what does the child do after school and on the weekend
- Food
- What I think - I like it, I hate it, etc
- Time- now/later/today/tomorrow
- My things -lunchbox, coat, hat etc
- Choosing- classroom choices/outside play choices/computer choices etc
- Playground activities
- Needs and wants -hungry/thirsty/toilet etc
- Body parts
- School Pages -Colours/numbers/Concepts/Weather

# Chat Sheets

How to get those Communication Books out of the desk and being used!



Chat sheets are designed as a tool for the adult to help them create the opportunities for the student to use their communication book.

Think about all the things you could talk about with your student using their communication book or device throughout the day.

Make a sheet that records all these chats. Print off one for each day and put it on a clipboard in a very noticeable and easily accessible place.

You record things to the sheet throughout the day every time you and the student have a chat. (You write the info on the sheet. These are not designed as a writing activity for the student. You are the scribe and record what you talked about using the book).

## Chat sheets...

- Act as a visual strategy/reminder to you to create the opportunity to use the book to chat about something. An empty sheet often means no opportunities have been presented to the student.
- Are a great way to help you identify and create lots of different opportunities that can be created
- Make a great record of the students day as well as their developing communication skills and can be sent home to share with families at the end of the day

Chat sheets can be as simple or as complex as you want.

Make them to reflect where your student is at with their communication skills development.

# Example Chat Sheet

- Today is
- Last night after school I
- It was
- For dinner I had
- For breakfast I had
- Today I am feeling
- Mum is feeling
- This morning I came to school with
- In my lunchbox today I've got
- At morning tea I'm going to eat
- At lunch I'm going to eat
- I don't like
- My favourite is
- Star student today is
- My teacher is wearing
- She looks
- At school today I am doing
- My favourite is
- Who is working with me today
- Who is visiting me today
- At playtime I played                      with                      it was
- My job today was
- At choosing time I chose
- My book was about
- I thought the story was
- I wrote about
- I played a game of                      with                      it was
- After school I hope I can
- For tea I would like
- My day at school today was
- Polly says her day was
- My special message for mum is

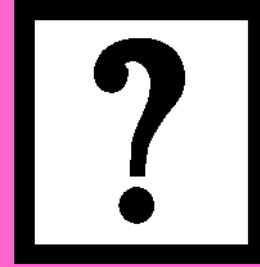
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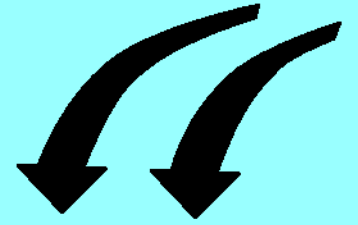
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what



again



help



look see



finish  
all done



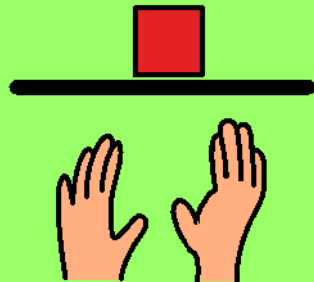
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all gone



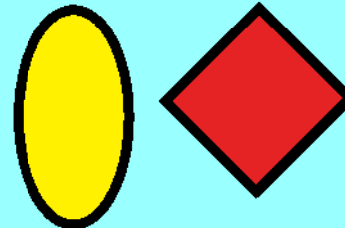
stop



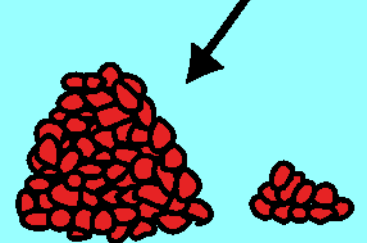
want



different



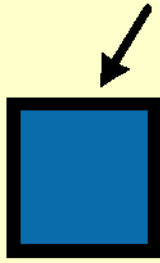
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I me



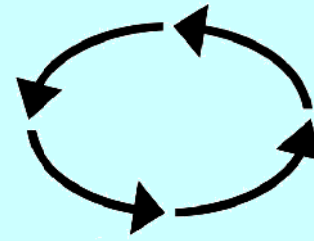
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what



again



ready



you-your



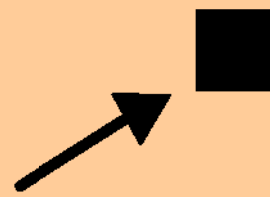
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do-does-did



that



this



help



look



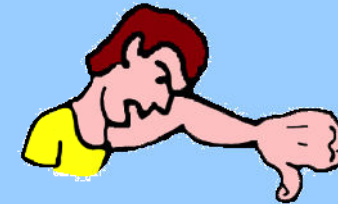
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gone  
all gone



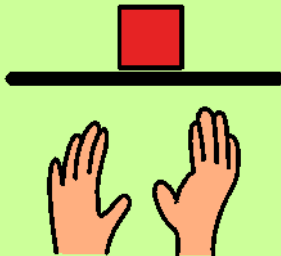
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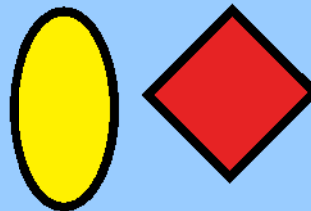
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want



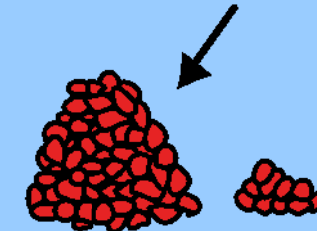
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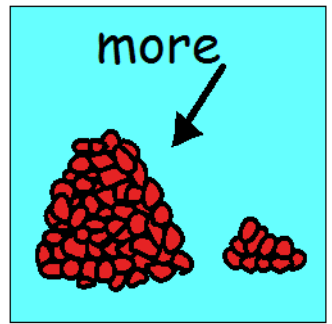
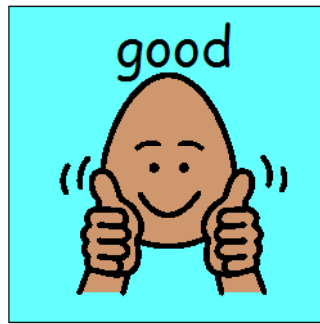
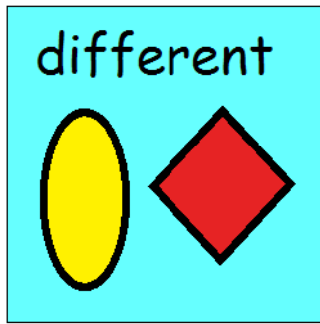
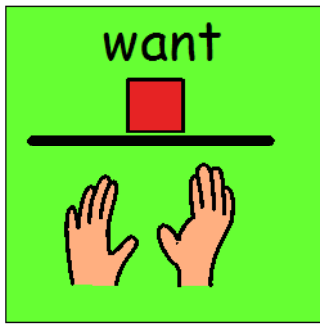
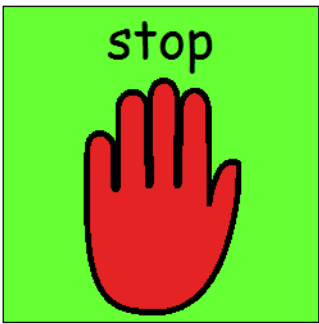
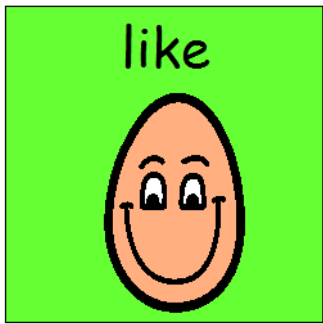
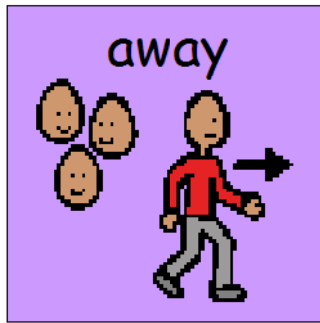
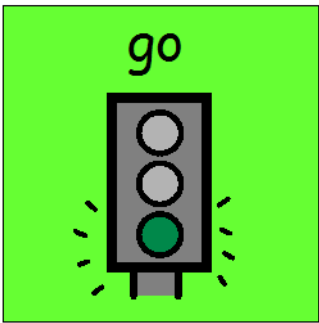
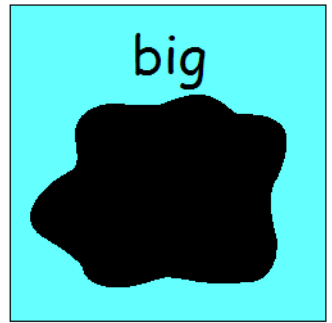
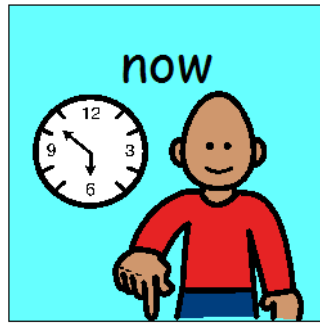
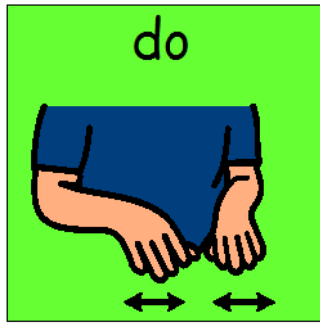
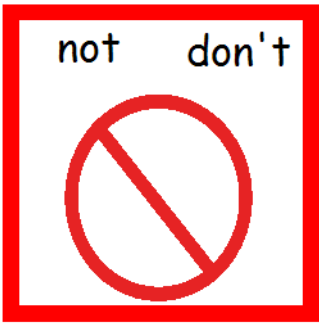
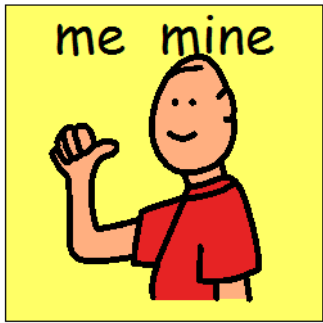
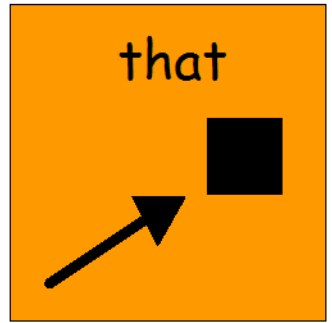
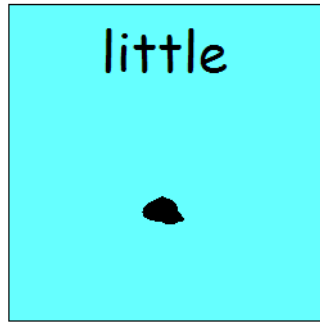
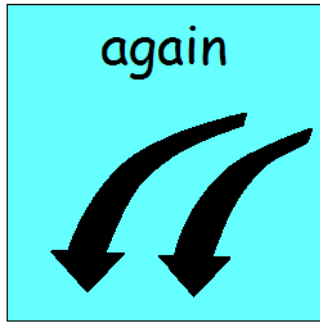
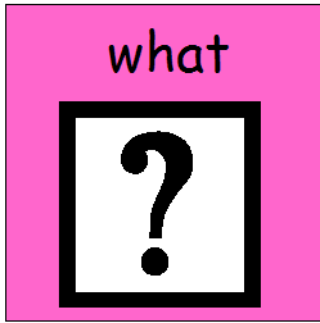
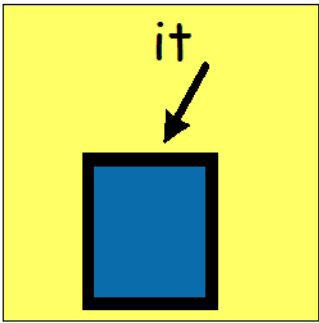
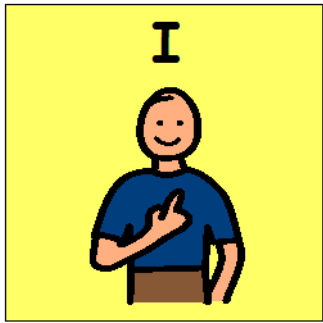


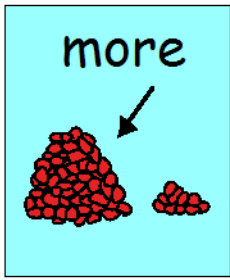
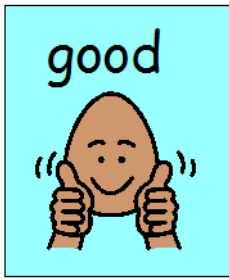
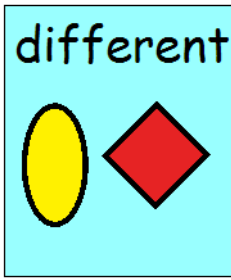
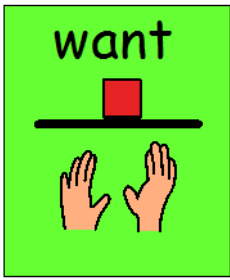
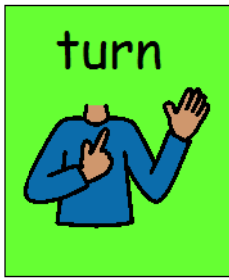
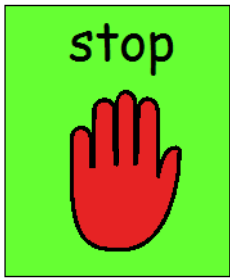
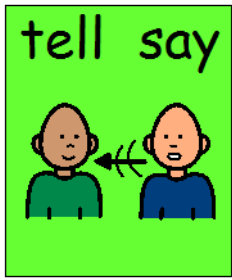
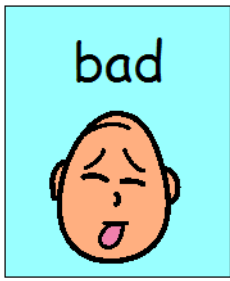
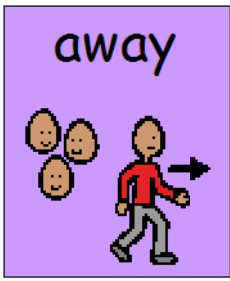
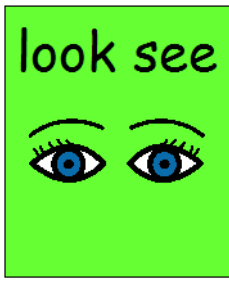
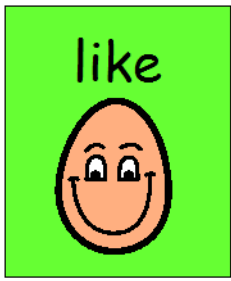
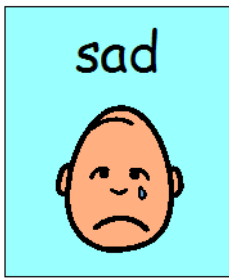
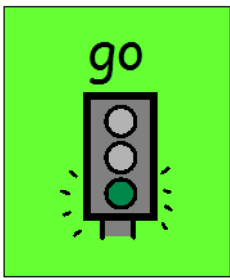
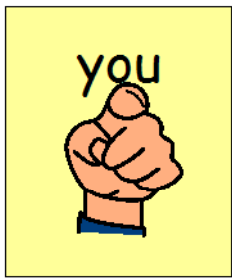
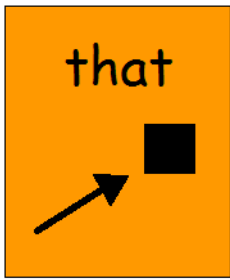
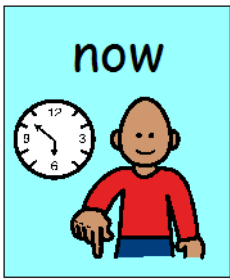
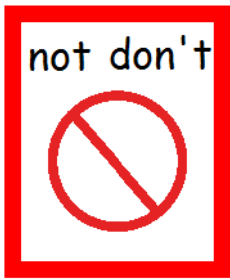
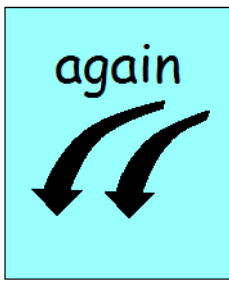
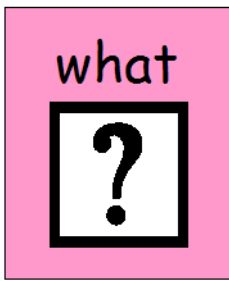
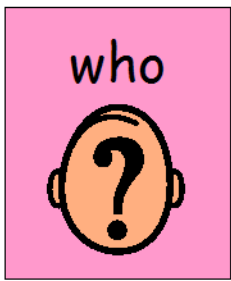
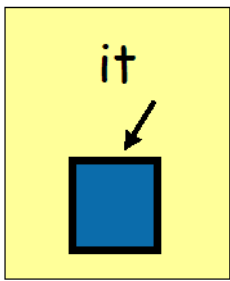
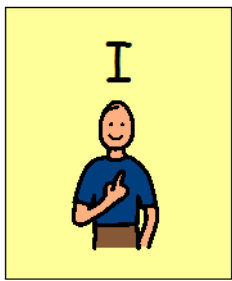
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more







People



# People



# I think



What I think



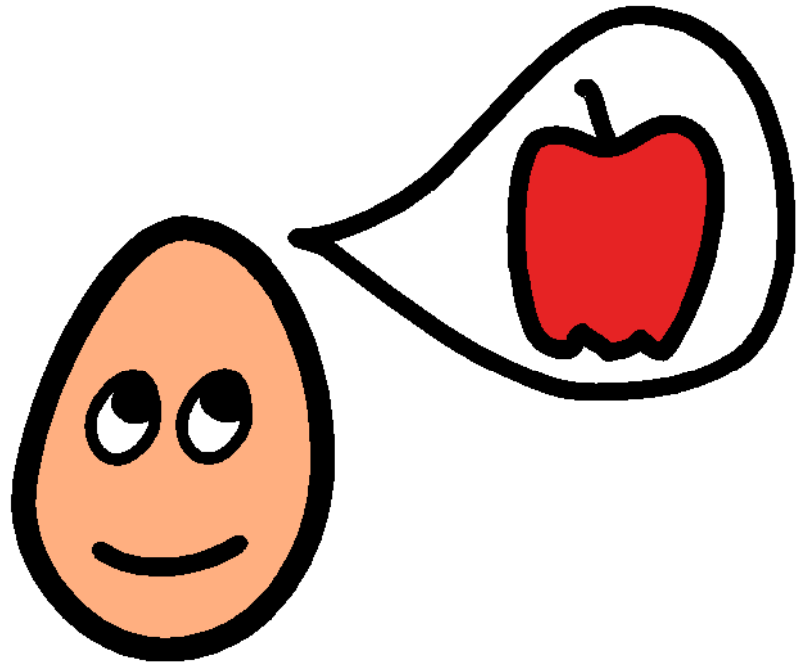
# Places



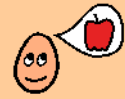
Places



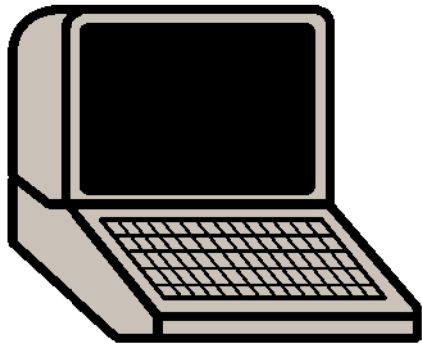
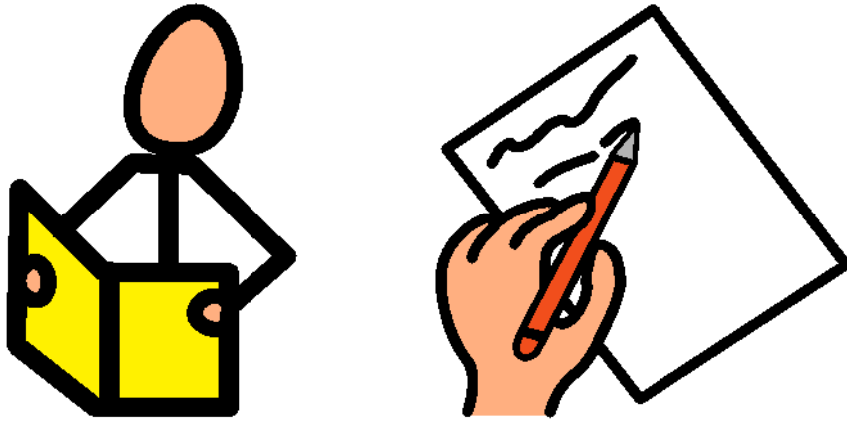
# I need



I need



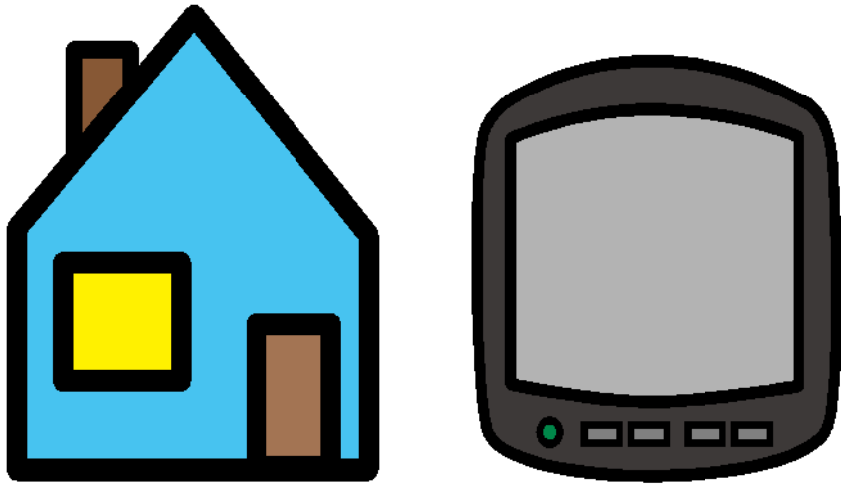
# School Activities



School  
Activities



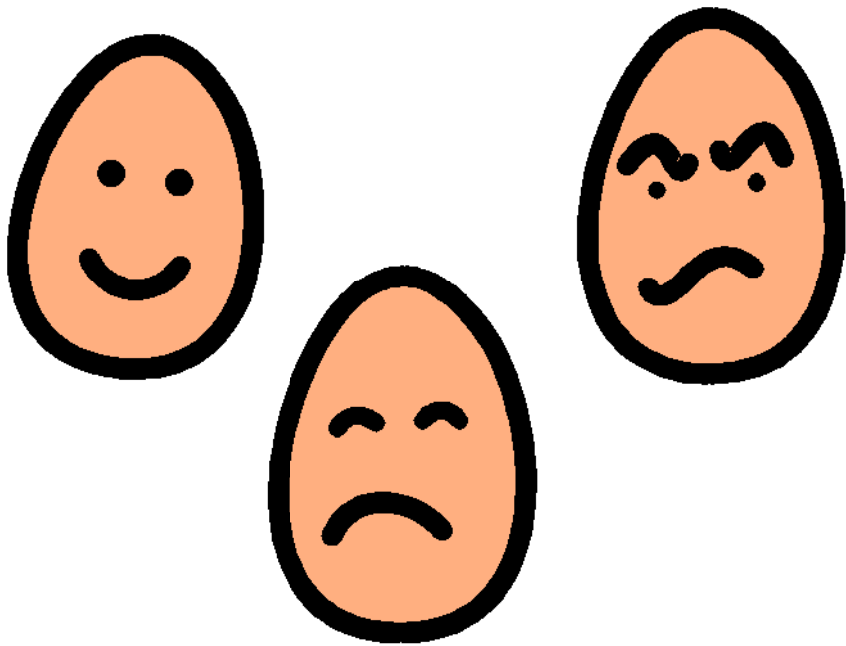
# Home Activities



Home  
Activities



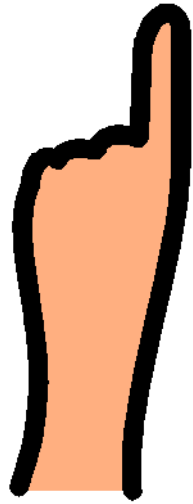
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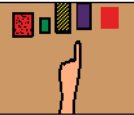
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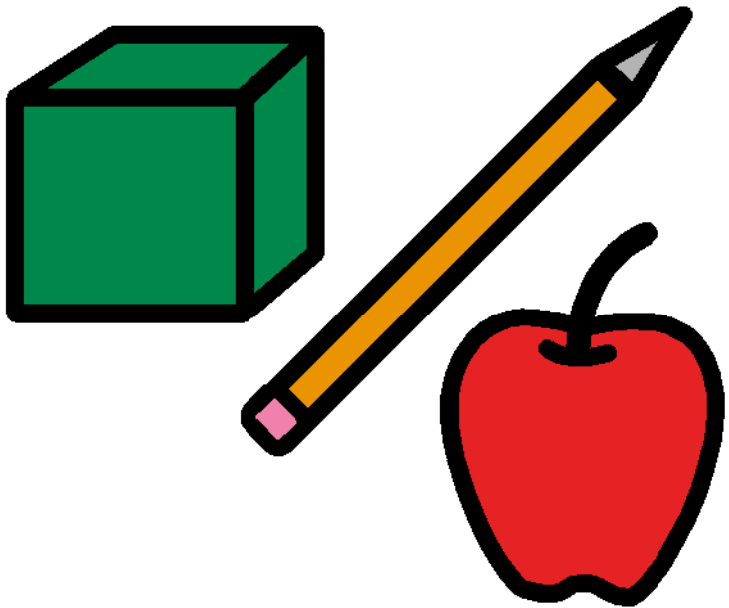
# Choosing




Choosing

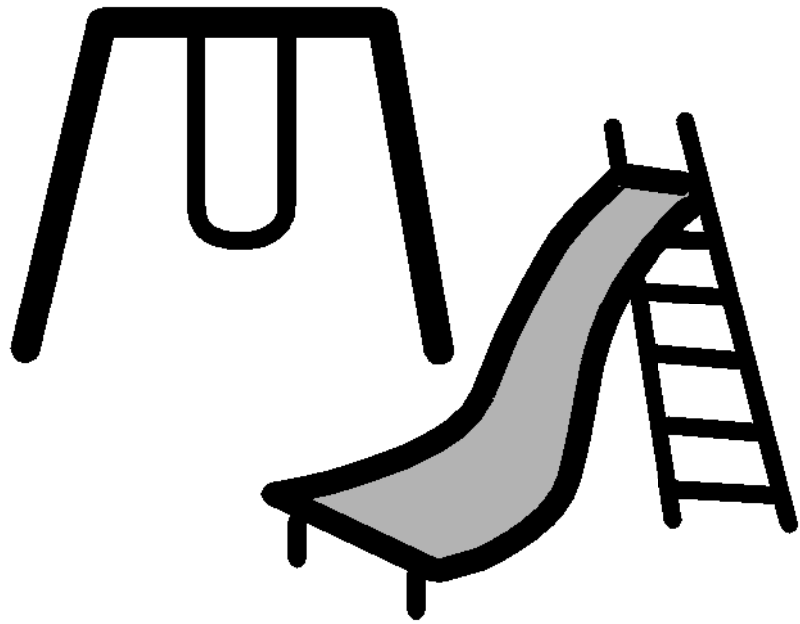


# My things



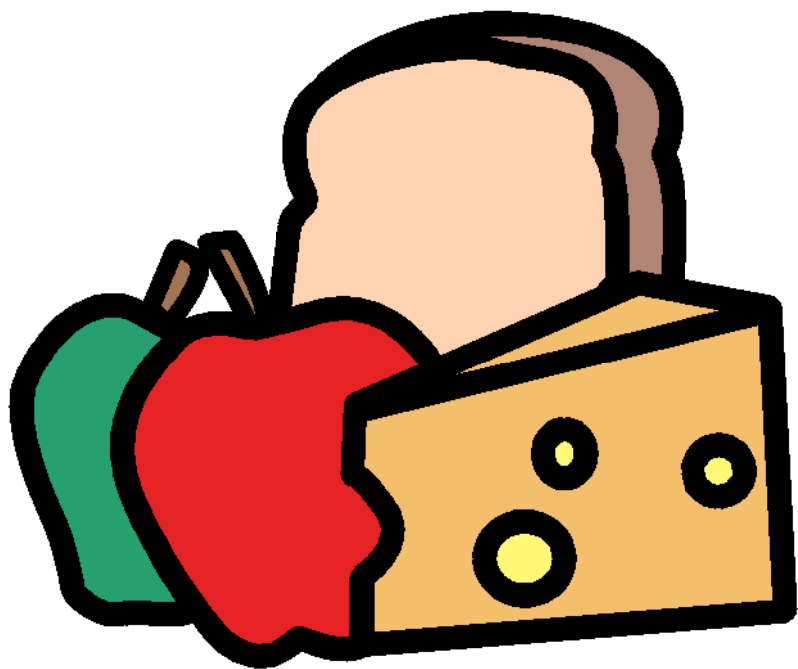
My things 

# Playground



Playground 

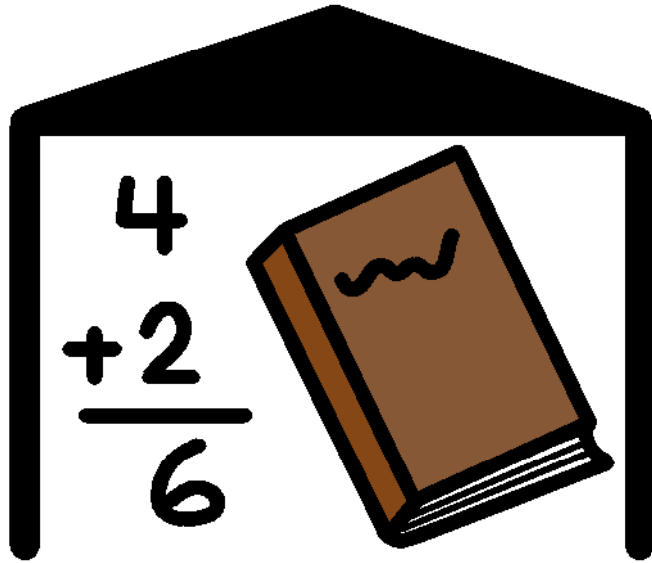
# Food



Food



# School Words



Colours

Numbers

Letters

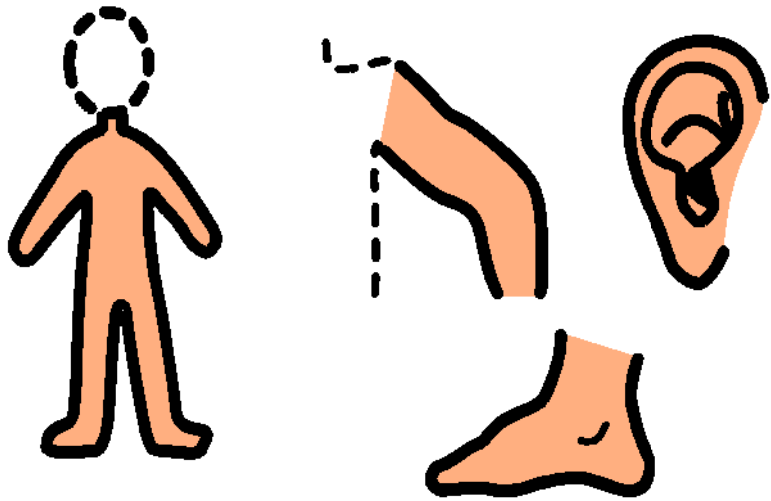
Days of the week

Weather

School Words



# Body



Body

