

ARTICLE AT A GLANCE (Snap Scene)

Citation: Binger, C. & Light, J. (2007). The Effect of Aided AAC Modeling on the Expression of Multi-Symbol Messages by Preschoolers who use AAC. *Augmentative and Alternative Communication*, 23:1, 30 – 43.

<p>What question were they trying to answer and why?</p>	<p>In order to help young AAC users learn to produce multi-word messages with symbols (words represented by line drawings, photographs, words), the researchers studied how adults modeling (touching and using) the targets for the children would increase their use of multi-symbol messages.</p> <p>The question asked is: What is the effect of using adults providing aided language input (touching and using AAC) on the use of multi-symbol messages by preschoolers who use AAC? They also wanted to know if the children would start using symbol combinations that weren't targeted during the research and if it the skills would stay long-term.</p>
<p>How did they do it?</p>	<p>Five preschoolers (three who used voice output AAC systems, two who used paper-based communication boards) participated in the study. Model were provided by pointing to two symbols on the child's AAC system and then providing a grammatically complete spoken model while engaging in play activities.</p>
<p>What were the results?</p>	<p>Four of the five preschoolers learned to consistently produce multi-symbol messages; the fifth did not demonstrate consistent gains. The four preschoolers all showed long-term use of symbol combinations and even generalized use of symbol combinations to new play routines.</p>
<p>How did we apply this?</p>	<p>Modeling use of Snap Scene is encouraged from the start in Pathways in the examples in Step 1. In Step 3, the tU in PoWR tU stands for "touch and use" the child's device. Also, within the Change Checklist (Step 4), we encourage use of Aided Language Modeling to teach skills like</p>

	navigation, concept use and combining words into sentences. In both of these situations, use of both Snap Scene and speech is suggested just as it is in this research.
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