



Messages Now

What does the person do now to communicate?



What we know about communication?

- Everyone communicates, but not everyone can speak
- Someone may not speak well enough to meet their needs, but they still communicate
- If we know exactly how someone communicates, they can be understood

What does this person use to communicate?

- Speech?
- Communication device?
- Pictures?
- Signs or gestures?
- Body language or facial expressions?
- Sounds or movements?
- Other ways?

COMMUNICATION INVENTORY (EXAMPLE)

“Thor”
 COMMUNICATION METHOD: Speech
 Y/N : YES
 LEVEL: One word at a time
 WHEN USED:: Naming Marvel characters

Point to picture of “Spiderman”
 COMMUNICATION METHOD: Pictures
 Y/N : Yes
 LEVEL: Single signs
 WHEN USED: Wants to eat

Sign for “eat”, “cookie”, “pizza”
 COMMUNICATION METHOD: Signs or Gestures
 Y/N : Yes
 LEVEL: Waves, Smiles, Frowns
 WHEN USED: Wants to eat

Most people use a combination of different ways to communicate

- We all use multiple ways to communicate, such as: speech, body language, email, gestures, facial expressions.
- Waving a someone across a noisy room may be more effective than talking
- “Successful communication strikes a balance of being: effective, most efficient, and socially appropriate” (Tabi Jones Wohleber).