



# CAPTAIN X

Evidence-Based Practice of the Month:

## Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC)

Interventions that use and/or teach the use of a system of communication that is not verbal/vocal including aided and unaided communication systems.  
(National Clearinghouse on Autism Evidence and Practice Review Team, 2020)

- Aided: no-tech systems (e.g., objects, pictures), high-tech systems (e.g., phones, tablets, speech generating devices)
  - Unaided: e.g., manual signs, gestures

Free module to learn more about AAC:

<https://afirm.fpg.unc.edu/augmentative-alternative-communication>



### IN THE CLASSROOM:

“Symbolize” the classroom: Place core boards and vocabulary around the room, provide easy access to symbols, select appropriate vocabulary, model AAC, support a variety of communication modes.

Place symbols where students are (e.g., play area, break or sensory area, restroom, academic centers, vocational work area)

### AT HOME:

“Symbolize” your home: place communication symbols where the child commonly goes (e.g., kitchen table, toy box, bookshelf, refrigerator, bedroom, doors around the home).

Wear the communication symbols on lanyards, wristbands, and aprons and use the symbols yourself to talk to your child.