

Embedding robust vocabulary instruction into classroom routines

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Short Abstract

We know that vocabulary instruction for AAC learners is essential. AAC users need a rich vocabulary to organize their thinking, express their ideas, and understand others. Reading and writing are fueled by knowledge of words, yet AAC learners are high-risk for impoverished experience with language. Vocabulary instruction is essential to help these students learn about the world through all the subjects taught in the curriculum.

But where do we start with AAC learners? Which words to prioritize? How do we teach core versus fringe words? How do we ignite a student's curiosity and engagement with the magic of language? And, perhaps most daunting, how do we support teachers to incorporate daily vocabulary instructional routines in busy classrooms with lots of competing priorities?

This workshop will give you a practical toolkit to enrich your own vocabulary instruction. Better yet, it will help you build capacity and lighten the load for colleagues or educators you support. We will dive into the instructional routines, strategies and technologies that best help our students expand their receptive and expressive vocabularies and explore language in new ways. You will leave with new ideas and quality prepared resources, ready to implement in classrooms or therapy rooms.

Long Abstract

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