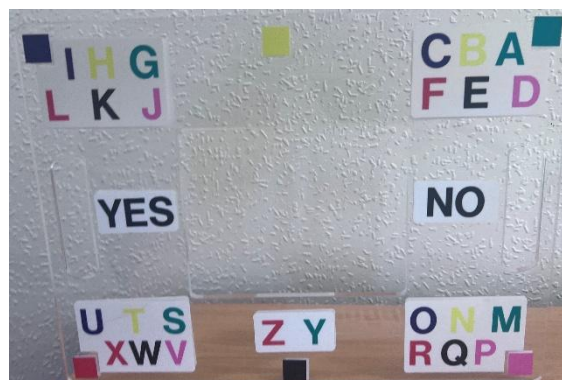
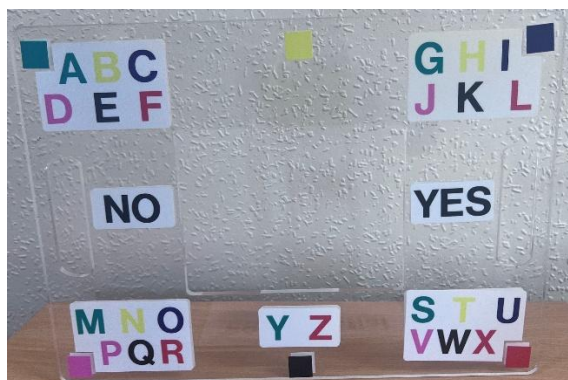


Using an E Tran Frame

What is an E Tran Frame?

An E Tran frame is a communication system or AAC (alternative and augmentative communication). It helps people who use eye pointing to communicate.

An E Tran frame is a piece of clear Perspex. You can make your own using an acetate or laminating pouch. You can use it to spell words and messages, or have symbols and words attached to give messages.



How to use it

A child using an E Tran Frame needs a person or 'communication partner' to help them use it.

The communication partner holds up the E Tran frame. The child uses their eye pointing to point the symbol they want to choose or say. The communication partner looks at where the child is looking and says the symbol they have chosen.

Ideas for using an E Tran frame

Try to use as much as you can throughout your day to help your child practice giving messages. Some ideas to introduce an E-tran are:

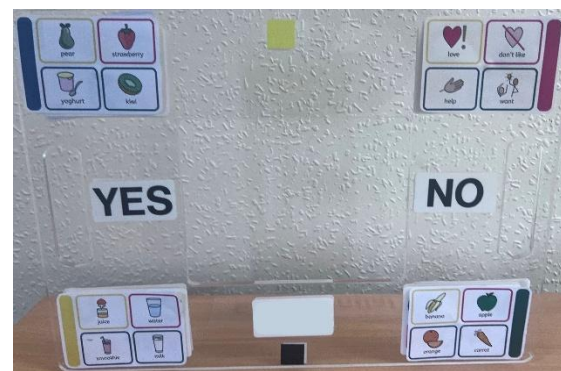
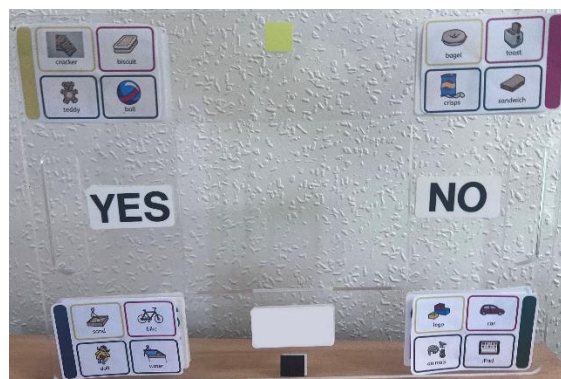
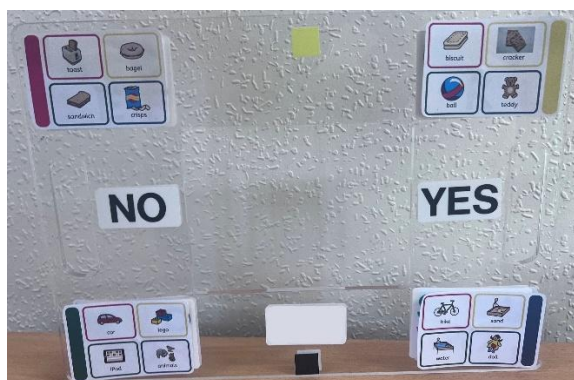
- Book reading – Use symbols like 'turn the page, stop, again, new book'
- Fun activities – blowing bubbles, listening to music, a favourite toy. Introduce words like 'more, stop, my turn'
- Choice making – have 2 symbols e.g. book/ teddy, shop/grandma, walk/car and stop' to make a choice.
- Getting dressed – symbols with clothes and what to put on next
- School activities – have an E Tran board made up to choose colours for painting, different actions etc.
- Playing games – games like 'Simon says.' Have actions on the board 'dance, blow raspberries, sing, hop.' The child can tell others what to do.
- Pretend play - Use teddies or dolls. Ask the child what they want to play with first and then choose what to do 'have a drink, bath, go to bed'. You can do the same with cars or other toys too.

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- Messages – you can use an E Tran frame for your child to give messages e.g. 'I'm cold, I'm hot, something hurts, I am thirsty'
- Literacy/spelling messages – if your child has literacy you can use an E Tran frame for them to spell quick messages or in their literacy activities.



Things to remember

- Even if your child is starting to use a power based device like a communication aid, they need a low-tech way of communicating too.
- Your child is still learning to use what the symbols mean – you can point to the board as you take a turn to show them e.g. 'I want a new book'
- Your child might need a small prompt sometimes. With new symbols make sure you point and show the child where they are as you name them. You may need to try a small prompt e.g. 'which colour' but try not to do this too much

You can also find videos with advice on AAC tips and strategies on the [Barnsley speech and language therapy](https://www.barnsley.gov.uk/speech-and-language-therapy/) YouTube channel.

Here is our [Using an E-tran frame](#) to communicate video on our channel.

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