PACE Speech-Language Pathology Team “Core Word of the Week” Series

Week 1: “Turn”

Welcome! The PACE Speech-Pathology Team created a new video learning series: “Core Word of the Week.” The goal is to help you practice and integrate core vocabulary into your everyday routine at home.

What exactly is “core vocabulary”? Core vocabulary describes the words we use throughout 80% of our everyday language -- think verbs, prepositions, and adjectives. “Fringe” vocabulary makes up the remaining 20%, which are mostly nouns specific to an activity (example: Doritos, apples). While fringe vocabulary is important, we want to focus on addressing core words that are applicable throughout different activities. When our students learn core vocabulary, we see an increase in communication throughout various tasks and activities!

This week, let’s focus on the core word, “turn”. For example, you can use the word “turn” to:

- “turn on/off the lights”
- “turn the page”
- “turn on/off the tv”
- “turn an Easter egg a different color”
- “turn on the stove when cooking”
- “turn on the water for a bath”
- “turn down the sheets on the bed”

These models can be provided verbally and/or on your child’s AAC device. Focus on using the word at the language level your child is at. For example:

- At the word level: “turn”
- At the phrase level: “turn the page”
- Or at the sentence level: “I need to turn the page”

We hope this series will help you see how easy it can be to focus on one core word a week throughout the activities you already do at home.

Video Examples:

Using “Turn” in the Kitchen: Click here
Using “Turn” in the Living Room: Click here

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