

AAC Modeling Companion Guide for Every Day's a Holiday Calendar

January 2022

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
						¹ IN
² HERE	³ THAT	⁴ WHAT	⁵ LOOK	⁶ LIKE	⁷ SOME	⁸ MAKE
⁹ HELP	¹⁰ DIFFERENT	¹¹ GOOD	¹² NOT	¹³ ON	¹⁴ IT	¹⁵ YOU
¹⁶ I	¹⁷ UP	¹⁸ PUT	¹⁹ WHEN	²⁰ TURN	²¹ WANT	²² WHY
²³ ALL	²⁴ OPEN	²⁵ GO/STOP	²⁶ FINISHED	²⁷ MORE	²⁸ GET	²⁹ CAN
³⁰ WHO	³¹ DO					

Daily Activity Ideas and Suggested Phrases to Model

Remember to model one word more than the number of words that the AAC user is spontaneously putting together when they talk. Information in parentheses offers additional words to say verbally or something to demonstrate to add context to minimal word modeling. Sentence structure and grammar gets more advanced as the number of words in the modeled phrase increases.

January 1 Polar Bear Swim Day

AAC Word of the Day: IN

Activity: Talk or read online about the Polar Bear Plunge. Fill a bowl with ice water. Put your hand in the cold water.

Possible phrases to Model:

- 1 word - in (as you or the AAC user puts a hand in)
- 2 words - put in
- 3 words - hand goes in
- 4 words - I put it in
- 5 words - putting hand in is cold

January 2 Swiss Cheese Day

AAC Word of the Day: HERE

Activity: Using a slice of swiss cheese, point out the holes.

Possible phrases to Model:

- 1 word - here (point out hole in cheese)
- 2 words - and here
- 3 words - it is here
- 4 words - here is another one
- 5 words - I see a hole here

January 3 Chocolate Covered Cherry Day

AAC Word of the Day: THAT

Activity: Watch this YouTube video about making chocolate covered cherries. Point out various points in the video that interest you and the AAC user. [Homemade Chocolate Covered Cherries ~ Valentine's Day](#)

Possible phrases to Model:

- 1 word - that (point to screen to something you like)
- 2 words - need that (point to ingredients as added)
- 3 words - that looks good
- 4 words - I want that now
- 5 words - I can make that later

January 4 Trivia Day

AAC Word of the Day: WHAT

Activity: If necessary explain that trivia is typically a list of questions about useless information. With the AAC user, write some trivia questions and answers to ask another family member. Play trivia by using the AAC device to ask the questions.

Possible phrases to Model:

- 1 word - what? (possibly point at something silly when modeling this word)
- 2 words - what jumps?
- 3 words - what goes up?
- 4 words - what can ____ (animal) do?
- 5 words - what do you turn over?

January 5 Bird Day

AAC Word of the Day: LOOK

Activity: Bird watch at a window or outdoors.

Possible phrases to Model:

- 1 word - look (point to bird)
- 2 words - look that
- 3 words - I look there
- 4 words - look! bird on ____ (location)
- 5 words - can you look for it?

January 6 Cuddle Up Day

AAC Word of the Day: LIKE

Activity: Cuddle together with some blankets and pillows.

Possible phrases to Model:

- 1 word - like
- 2 words - like this
- 3 words - not like this
- 4 words - do you like it?
- 5 words - I not like doing this

January 7 Old Rock Day

AAC Word of the Day: SOME

Activity: Gather a rock and art supplies like paint, markers, or crayons. Decorate the rock.

Possible phrases to Model:

1 word - some (as you place rocks, crayons, markers, etc nearby)

2 words - get some (rock, paint, more)

3 words - I need some

4 words - can I have some (point to items)

5 words - you made some nice rocks

January 8 Argyle Sweater Day

AAC Word of the Day: MAKE

Activity: Make a vest out of a paper grocery bag and decorate it to be an argyle sweater. Tutorial to make a paper bag vest can be found here: [Simple Paper Bag Vest](#)

Possible phrases to Model:

1 word - make

2 words - we make

3 words - I can make

4 words - make it with triangles

5 words - Do you want to make?

January 9 Law Enforcement Appreciation Day

AAC Word of the Day: HELP

Activity: Discuss the role of law enforcement in a community. Make a card of appreciation and deliver it to the police station.

Possible phrases to Model:

1 word - (they) help (us)

2 words - need help (police come)

3 words - I do that (when I grow up)

4 words - Police can help us.

5 words - They help us every day.

January 10 Peculiar People Day

AAC Word of the Day: DIFFERENT

Activity: Make a drum out of something you have around the house or school like a pot, oatmeal container, or lunch box. Create a parade. Play your drums. Celebrate all the ways we march to our own beat.

Possible phrases to Model:

1 word - (I am) different

2 words - like different

3 words - everyone is different

4 words - different can be good

5 words - I am different because _____

January 11 Milk Day**AAC Word of the Day:** GOOD**Activity:** Serve hot chocolate. Here's a [5 star recipe!](#)**Possible phrases to Model:**

- 1 word - (this is) good (as you drink the hot chocolate)
- 2 words - good drink
- 3 words - good hot drink
- 4 words - I like good drink
- 5 words - Hot chocolate is very good.

January 12 Pharmacist Day**AAC Word of the Day:** NOT**Activity:** Explain what a pharmacist does. Did you know Coke-a-Cola, Pespi, Dr. Pepper, and Ginger Ale were each invented by a pharmacist. Sample them. Which do you like better?**Possible phrases to Model:**

- 1 word - not (point to the drink you do not like)
- 2 words - not good
- 3 words - I not like
- 4 words - do not get more
- 5 words - I not want that one.

January 13 Sticker Day**AAC Word of the Day:** ON**Activity:** Put stickers on something!**Possible phrases to Model:**

- 1 word - on (as you put stickers on)
- 2 words - put on
- 3 words - on it goes
- 4 words - it not go on
- 5 words - We stick it on here.

January 14 Dress Up Your Pet Day**AAC Word of the Day:** IT**Activity:** Search social media for hashtag #dressupyourpetday in advance. Print or save some funny photos. Use them to start a conversation.**Possible phrases to Model:**

- 1 word - it (point to a dressed up pet and laugh)
- 2 words - it crazy
- 3 words - I like it

4 words - (animal) not like it
 5 words - would your (animal) like it

January 15 Hat Day

AAC Word of the Day: YOU

Activity: Have everyone wear a hat today!

Possible phrases to Model:

1 word - you (point to hat, give thumbs up)
 2 words - you wear (point to hat)
 3 words - Do you like (point to your own hat)
 4 words - You can wear it.
 5 words - Hat looks good on you.

January 16 International Hot and Spicy Food Day

AAC Word of the Day: I

Activity: Taste hot or spicy foods. Red Hot candy is a simple option.

Possible phrases to Model:

1 word - I (shake head for yes or no depending on if you like the hot food)
 2 words - I like
 3 words - I want more
 4 words - I need drink now
 5 words - I think that not hot.

January 17 Cable Car Day

AAC Word of the Day: UP

Activity: Watch a video of the Tianmen Mountain Cableway [Tianmen Mountain Cableway in Zhangjiajie China 天門山](#) Comment on the video while watching.

Possible phrases to Model:

1 word - up (point to screen when cable car is going up)
 2 words - go up
 3 words - not go up (point to self first to indicate you would not like to ride on car)
 4 words - Going up is fun
 5 words - I want to ride up.

January 18 Gourmet Coffee Day

AAC Word of the Day: PUT

Activity: Use the AAC device to ask people how they like their coffee. Make a bar graph of the answers if you have time.

Possible phrases to Model:

1 word - (what do you) put (in your coffee?)

- 2 words - (what) put in (coffee?)
- 3 words - Do you put (something in your coffee?)
- 4 words - I put milk in.
- 5 words - I not put anything in.

January 19 Popcorn Day

AAC Word of the Day: WHEN

Activity: Make a popcorn bucket craft. Print the bucket on cardstock. Glue popcorn on the bucket while you have a conversation about eating popcorn. [Popcorn Craft Page](#)

Possible phrases to Model:

- 1 word - when (do you like to eat popcorn?)
- 2 words - (I eat it) when watching (movies)
- 3 words - when (do) you eat?
- 4 words - when can I eat (popcorn)?
- 5 words - You can eat when finished (with glue)

January 20 DJ Day

AAC Word of the Day: TURN

Activity: [Watch a video of a DJ at work](#). Model and point out different things of interest in the video.

Possible phrases to Model:

- 1 word - turn (when he turns a knob)
- 2 words - he turn (it)
- 3 words - it turn(s) now
- 4 words - I see it turn
- 5 words - I want a turn (with) that

January 21 National Hugging Day

AAC Word of the Day: WANT

Activity: Give and get as many hugs as you can today. Remember to be respectful of personal preferences regarding touching. Hugging a pillow or stuffed animal could take the place of direct hugs if preferred. This is a good chance to review the core word NOT.

Possible phrases to Model:

- 1 word - want (while hugging)
- 2 words - I want
- 3 words - do you want
- 4 words - I want more that
- 5 words - He not want that now

January 22 Answer Your Cat's Questions Day

AAC Word of the Day: WHY

Activity: Watch funny cat videos. Make up questions that the cat might be thinking.

Possible phrases to Model:

- 1 word - why?
- 2 words - why that? (when a cat seems annoyed with a human)
- 3 words - why dog here? (when a cat gets the best of a dog)
- 4 words - why I fall down?
- 5 words - why you do that (to) me?

January 23 Pie Day

AAC Word of the Day: ALL

Activity: [Cut out circle \(pie\) templates](#) to use as manipulatives. If desired, decorate them with crayons or markers to resemble pies. Model on the AAC device as you work with the pieces.

Possible phrases to Model:

- 1 word - all (take all the pieces of one pie)
- 2 words - want all (take all the pieces of a pie)
- 3 words - you want all (give a pie to a friend)
- 4 words - I not get all (divide pieces of a pie between two people)
- 5 words - who want(s) all this now (hold up the pies and then divide)

January 24 Peanut Butter Day

AAC Word of the Day: OPEN

Activity: Model while opening a container of single serve peanut butter or other nut butter. Make a sandwich or dip pretzels and have a snack! Consider something like [Jiff single serve](#) or [Justin's Almond Butter](#). Both are available at local grocery stores.

Possible phrases to Model:

- 1 word - open
- 2 words - open it
- 3 words - can you open
- 4 words - opening this is fun
- 5 words - I want it opened now

January 25 Opposites Day

AAC Word of the Day: GO and STOP

Activity: Play in water at a facet. Turn the water on and off as you model. Use your low tech AAC option near water.

Possible phrases to Model:

- 1 word - go/stop (as water goes and stops)

2 words - it go/stop

3 words - make it go/stop

4 words - it is going/stopping now

5 words - how do you make go/stop?

January 26 Green Juice Day

AAC Word of the Day: FINISHED (or ALL DONE)

Activity: Make and drink your favorite green juice recipe! Or buy some! Or buy Hawaiian Punch Green Berry Rush! Or add green food coloring to your milk! Or buy apple juice boxes that are green! Drink something green.

Possible phrases to Model:

1 word - finished (as you finish drinking your green juice)

2 words - want finish

3 words - I not finish

4 words - we are finishing this

5 words - When did you finish that?

January 27 Chocolate Cake Day

AAC Word of the Day: More

Activity: Eat chocolate cake together.

Possible phrases to Model:

1 word - more (point to cake)

2 words - want more

3 words - can get more?

4 words - more is not good

5 words - I like more than yesterday (green juice)

January 28 Blueberry Pancake Day

AAC Word of the Day: Get

Activity: Read the book *Pancakes for Breakfast* by Tomie DePaola. It is a wordless book, so you can make up the story and model the core word GET throughout. For an extra special time - make pancakes and add blueberries on top.

Possible phrases to Model:

1 word - get (apron, book, flour, eggs....)

2 words - get it

3 words - now she gets

4 words - cat is getting milk

5 words - she gets the neighbor's pancakes

January 29 Curmudgeons Day

AAC Word of the Day: CAN

Activity: Curmudgeons Day celebrates grumpiness and cantankerous personalities. Let's have Oscar the Grouch help us celebrate! [Make an Oscar paper plate face](#). Pretend Oscar is talking using the AAC device and say some of the phrases below. Since Oscar lives in a trash can, this is a great opportunity to teach or review the two meanings of CAN. Talk with students about having a space that they can retreat to when they feel grumpy and need quiet time.

Possible phrases to Model:

- 1 word - (I) can (be grumpy)
- 2 words - my can
- 3 words - you can leave
- 4 words - I can not smile
- 5 words - do not touch my can

January 30 Yodel for Your Neighbors Day

AAC Word of the Day: WHO

Activity: Listen to [Taylor Ware yodel](#) on America's Got Talent. There are more videos available of her later performances if you enjoy yodeling!

Possible phrases to Model:

- 1 word - who? (can do that)
- 2 words - who sings?
- 3 words - who makes noise?
- 4 words - who taught that girl?
- 5 words - who likes to hear that?

January 31 Eat Brussel Sprouts Day

AAC Word of the Day: DO

Activity: Explore brussel sprouts together using a [Kids Food Critic Activity](#) page.

Possible phrases to Model:

- 1 word - do (look, touch, taste, smell, etc)
- 2 words - I do (as you look, touch, taste, smell, etc)
- 3 words - do you like?
- 4 words - what can it do? (roll a brussel sprout!)
- 5 words - I like that vegetable now!

Supplies Needed for Modeling with Every Day's a Holiday Calendar - January

- January 1: bowl, ice, water
- January 2: slice of deli swiss cheese
- January 3: YouTube link in guide
- January 4: paper and writing tool or alternative pencil if used
- January 5: location to birdwatch outdoors or through a window
- January 6: blanket and pillows
- January 7: a rock and art supplies to decorate the rock
- January 8: brown paper grocery sack, art supplies
- January 9: optional: card making supplies
- January 10: items to make a homemade drum - could be as simple as an overturned bowl
- January 11: hot chocolate packets or ingredients to make recipe listed in activity
- January 12: Coke-a-Cola, Pespi, Dr. Pepper, and Ginger Ale
- January 13: stickers and paper or something to decorate with stickers
- January 14: pictures from social media of dressed up pets
- January 15: hats
- January 16: something hot or spicy to eat (Red Hot candy would be easy)
- January 17: YouTube link in guide
- January 18: optional: paper and writing tool or alternative pencil to make graph
- January 19: printed popcorn bucket on cardstock, popcorn, glue
- January 20: YouTube link in guide
- January 21: optional: pillow or stuffed animal if individual resists hugs
- January 22: funny cat videos
- January 23: circle templates from link, art supplies
- January 24: single serve peanut butter or nut butter
- January 25: water faucet, low tech resource for words go/stop
- January 26: something green to drink (ideas listed in plans)
- January 27: chocolate cake

January 28: copy of the book *Pancakes for Breakfast* by Tomie DePaola. Optional: ingredients and kitchen tools to make blueberry pancakes

January 29: paper plate, green paint, paint brush, white, black and brown construction paper

January 30: YouTube link in guide

January 31: printed Kids Food Critic PDF, fresh brussel sprouts to explore