

Tools Techniques and Tips Talk:

A Communication *Ability Awareness* Presentation

Date: 10/1/13

Student: Job Wiegert

Teacher/Subject: Mrs. L. D.'s 4th grade class

Bridge Staff: Miss Holly, Miss Tike

Grade: 4

Time: 8:45-9:30

Introductions

Hello everyone, let's get started. This is Ms. DeMarco, and she is one of Job's teachers at the Bridge School. She will come up with Job each day to I-lab. My name is Mrs. Peartree and I am a speech teacher at the Bridge School. Does anyone know what a speech teacher is?

- A teacher who helps students with their talking skills.

Today we are here to talk about Job—a member of your class who will join you for *Innovation Lab* class on Wednesdays and Computer Lab class on Friday. He has a **speech disability**—so we want to talk about that today and how you can help Job be a part of this class.

You can ask questions about stuff too.

If you have a question, just raise your hand.

Job, do you want to say anything to your class? Show them how you use your device?

JW: (on Tobii): Will say something of his choice.

HP: What else can you tell kids about yourself?

What kind of things would you like to know about Job? (raise your hand please)

What do you notice about how Job talks?

Is he using his speech, making sounds and saying words with his mouth?

No—he is using something else.

- Job talks using his Tobii device., a talking computer. Sometimes we call it his “talker”.
- Job picks out what he wants to say by choosing words and ideas that are on the screen.
- Then, the computer helps him to add the voice to what he wants to communicate.

- So when he uses the talker, he is choosing what he wants to say, and the computer is helping him with the voice part.

Using the talker is something that Job is working on learning how to do at The Bridge School.

TECHNIQUES

So, Job uses a talking computer which he calls his talker.

Do you think that's the **ONLY** way he can get his message across?

Job, do you have other ways you can tell people things? (Job demonstrates using his yes/ no cards on wheelchair)

Did anyone notice what he just did?

He looked down on his tray, where he has a yes card and a no card pasted on his tray. He can look at yes to answer yes, and no to answer no.

I need 2 volunteers to come up and try this technique out with Job.

Remember, when you are asking Job a yes/no question, stand or sit eye to eye, knee to knee.

What could she ask? (ask the class) What do you want to know about job? Pets? Sisters or brothers? Do you like sports?

(Demo)

Another technique: What about **body language**?

Job, is there a way you can use your eyes to tell people things?

Like for examples if you wanted to go out the door, what would you do.

Let's all look at what his eyes are telling us.

-looking to environment, people, things on the table.

So he can do all that, even without speech. I bet you use your body language to say things too. [high-five, wait, shhhh]

Another technique: Step by step SGD

Another way he communicates is using speech recording device, called a **Step by step**.

What if, Mrs. D or Mr. C asks someone at your table to go around and collect papers. Job could help do this. He can borrow YOUR voice, and say something like, "Hey, I'm collecting the papers. Do you have one?"

(Demo)

Say "I need a volunteer to come up and "loan" Job your voice.

Press down here, and talk into the recorder. Say each sentence as you press the top. Here- I'll show you.

Now you try."

Communication Boards

Job's communication boards are another way he can communicate. He can pick the word he's thinking of when you read down the list of options.

Now we're going to play a **communication** game to get to know Job a little bit better.

These are all going to be things that Job knows about and things that he likes to do. See which ones you like too.

If you like One Direction.....raise your hand.

If you like having sleepovers..... do jumping jacks

If you have ever been to Los Gatos, where Job lives..... Raise both hands

If you know how to ice skate..... touch your nose

Job, are you going to have an ice skating birthday party?

If you **don't** like going to the dentist..... quack your arms like a duck

We know that at North School you are all "bucket fillers". Who can tell me what that means? Raise your hand.

You can practice being a bucket filler when

TIPS

- you can each help Job by:
- giving him extra time to say what he wants to say
- asking him yes/no questions in class
- talk directly to him, not his teacher helper
- helping him raise his hand when he wants to say the answer
- telling him about what you are doing
- partnering up with Job
- helping him get his materials and supplies.
- Asking him to Push him around the classroom if you move from place to place, and using the **brake** when you get somewhere.

Does anyone have any questions for Job, or Mrs. DeMarco, or me?