AAC is a last resort.  
**Myths**

They need to be able to [INSERT PREREQUISITE] before learning AAC.

**Realities**

It's never too early or too late to start.

AAC is a primary means of communication or to augment speech.

AAC can also be used intermittently or temporarily.

AAC can support speech development and provides a means for language development. Learners need to be able to receive and express language to develop their skills.

There are many ways to access AAC (e.g., direct selections, scanning, eye tracking). Access to AAC can be primarily visual, auditory, based on a motor plan, or all of the above.

AAC can be primary means of communication (e.g., requesting, protesting, commenting, asking questions, sharing information).

AAC systems that offer consistent motor plans for access minimize visual discrimination and scanning demands.

AAC only for people who can’t speak.

**Myths**

**Realities**

AAC can be primary means of communication or to augment speech.

AAC can also be used intermittently or temporarily.

AAC can provide a way to express many communication functions (e.g., requesting, protesting, commenting, asking questions, sharing information).

There are many ways to access AAC (e.g., direct selections, scanning, eye tracking). Access to AAC can be primarily visual, auditory, based on a motor plan, or all of the above.

AAC is for expressing basic wants and needs (e.g., food/drink, toileting).

**Myths**

**Realities**

AAC provides a way to express many communication functions (e.g., requesting, protesting, commenting, asking questions, sharing information).

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AAC is only for people who can’t speak.

**Myths**

**Realities**

AAC can be primary means of communication or to augment speech.

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AAC can provide a way to express many communication functions (e.g., requesting, protesting, commenting, asking questions, sharing information).

There are many ways to access AAC (e.g., direct selections, scanning, eye tracking). Access to AAC can be primarily visual, auditory, based on a motor plan, or all of the above.

AAC requires good visual scanning and discrimination.

**Myths**

**Realities**

AAC systems that offer consistent motor plans for access minimize visual discrimination and scanning demands.

There are many ways to access AAC (e.g., direct selections, scanning, eye tracking). Access to AAC can be primarily visual, auditory, based on a motor plan, or all of the above.

AAC is for expressing basic wants and needs (e.g., food/drink, toileting).

**Myths**

**Realities**

AAC provides a way to express many communication functions (e.g., requesting, protesting, commenting, asking questions, sharing information).

There are many ways to access AAC (e.g., direct selections, scanning, eye tracking). Access to AAC can be primarily visual, auditory, based on a motor plan, or all of the above.

AAC is a quick fix.

**Myths**

**Realities**

AAC is a lot of work, but it is worth it!

There are many ways to access AAC (e.g., direct selections, scanning, eye tracking). Access to AAC can be primarily visual, auditory, based on a motor plan, or all of the above.

If someone uses AAC, that’s the only way they communicate.

**Myths**

**Realities**

All people are multi-modal communicators. We all use a combination of strategies to communicate!

Technology is everywhere these days; just possessing an AAC system isn’t necessarily identifying. Even if it is, not having AAC to fit in someone’s right to communicate. Acceptance and inclusion are critical.

Learners need to be able to select by pointing to a screen.

**Myths**

**Realities**

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Learn more about this: 

- Practical AAC: AAC Myth Buster Wrap Up  
  https://practicalaac.org/practical/aac-myth-buster-wrap-up/  
- Common AAC myths by Rebecca Eisenburg, SLP  
  https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Sui7ZPOfPsw

References: 


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Thank you to:  

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