



Games for Practicing Clarification

Playing some of the games below can provide natural opportunities for a child to practice using their AAC tool to clarify when their speech is not understood. Sometimes even familiar adults or children won't understand the child when they can't see what the child is talking about.

1. Barrier Game

What you need:

- Pairs of identical items (e.g., 2 red cars, 2 blue cars, 2 red blocks, 2 chairs, etc.),
- A barrier such as pillow so you can't see each other when you play

How to play:

- Adult gives a verbal direction to the child with the barrier up
 - E.g., "Pick up the blue block and put it on the car"
- Child follows the direction
- Remove the barrier to see if you both did the same thing
- Switch roles
- When the child gives the direction and is not understood, say "I don't understand you" and -then prompt the child to use their AAC tool to clarify
 - Talk about how the use of the AAC tool helped (e.g., "When you used your iPad, it helped me understand you were saying...")

2. Hide and Seek

What you need:

- Items to hide

How to play:

- Child covers their eyes and counts to 10 while adult hides the item
- Adult then gives the verbal direction to find the item
 - E.g., "Look under the pillow"
- Switch roles
- When the child gives the direction (you may need to remind the child not to point to the location) and is not understood, say "I don't understand you" and- then prompt the child to use their AAC tool to clarify
 - Talk about how the use of the AAC tool helped (e.g., "When you used your iPad, it helped me understand you were saying...")

3. Book

What you need:

- A book with pictures with multiple items per page

How to play:

- Adult gives the verbal direction to find something- on the page without showing the book to the child



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○ E.g., "Find the cow"

- Show book and have child follow the direction
- Switch roles
- When the child gives the direction and is not understood, say "I don't understand you" and then prompt the child to use their AAC tool to clarify
 - Talk about how the use of the AAC tool helped (e.g., "When you used your iPad, it helped me understand you were saying...")