

Home Literacy Kit: Materials and Tips

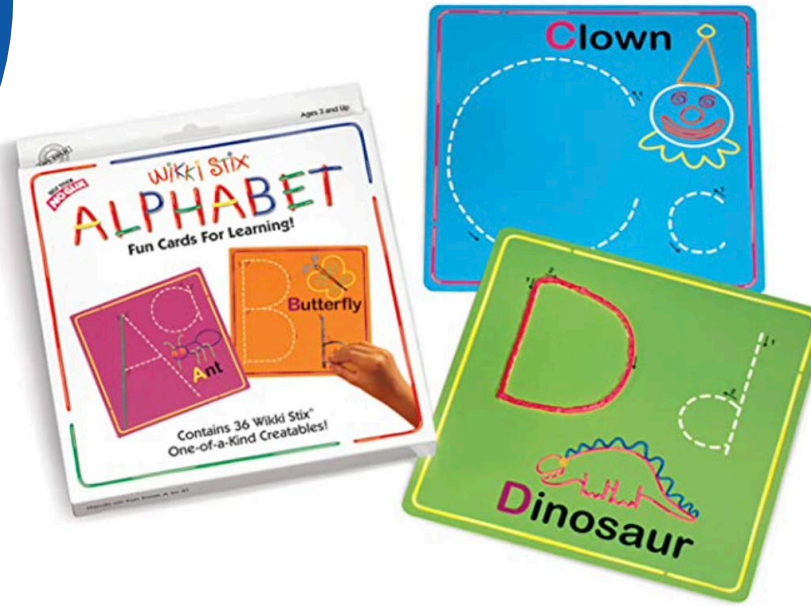


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Wikki Stix and Letter Cards



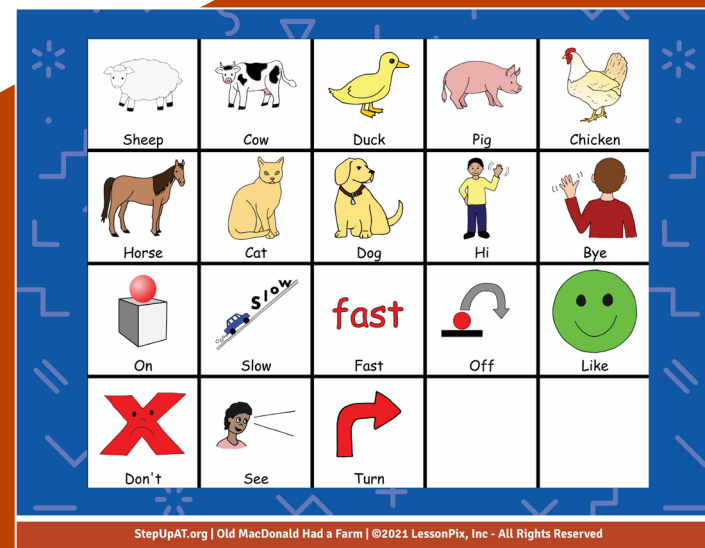
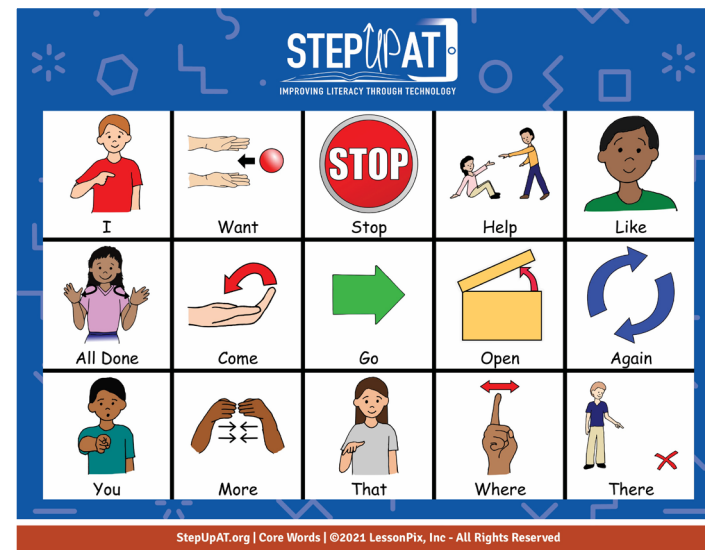
Wikki Stix can be used in countless ways! Here are some ways we like to use them:

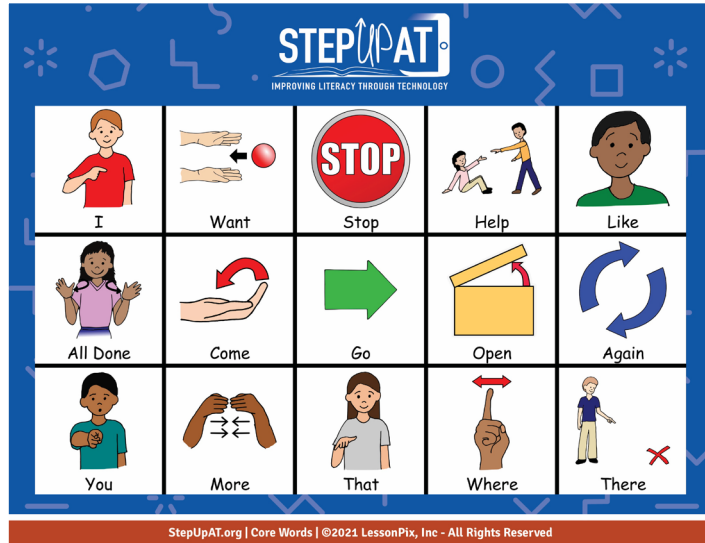
- Let your child mold letters or shapes.
- Mold the shape for your child and let your child trace the shape with his or her finger.
- Use one of the Wikki Stix on a sheet of paper to create a line to guide your child when writing.
- Use the letter cards to have your child create the letters

Communication Boards

Communication Boards: Pairing vocabulary with visuals allows children to make connections between spoken language and symbols. Use communication boards to teach your child new vocabulary or to encourage making choices, protesting, asking questions, and directing actions. You can use the blank spaces to add symbols and expand your child's vocabulary.

Character Boards: Pairing a storybook with visuals allows children to increase their comprehension. Use character boards to allow your child to retell a story and identify characters. It also allows the child to answer Wh questions (i.e. Who, What, Where, When, Why, How).





Using Communication Boards

Use communication boards to encourage making choices, protesting, asking questions, and directing actions.

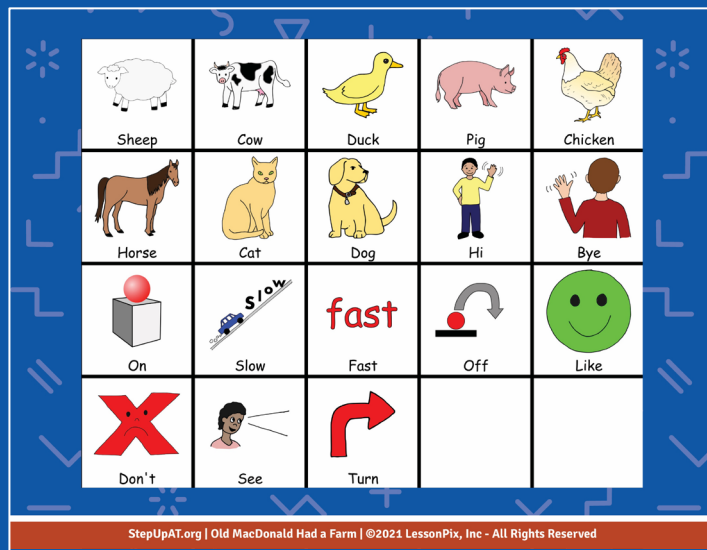
- Your child can point to the symbol for “again” if he/she wants to hear a storybook one more time.
- When playing a song or reading a book, your child can use the symbols for “I” and “like” to show you that he/she is enjoying it.

Remember to model how to use the communication board as you introduce it to your child. Specifically, you can read the words as you point to each symbol. You can point to the specific symbol as you speak to your child using the communication board. In this way, the connection between language and symbol is more concrete.





Using Character Boards



Use character boards to allow your child to retell a story and identify characters. It also allows the child to answer questions and help with comprehension.

- As you read to your child, you can help him/her point to the characters on the board.
- Check your child's understanding by asking, "What is the story about?" and see if they point to the picture that answers the question.
- You can ask your child which animal comes next as they point to the characters on the board.
- Use the board to see if your child can point to his favorite animal or part of the story.
- At the end of the story, your child can point to all the animals in sequencing order as he remembers them appearing in the story.





Adapted Books And Puppets:

Books do not always have to be read page- by-page and front-to-back. Sometimes books can be interactive. Use the book in your home literacy kit to talk about farm animals, point at the pictures, act out the story with the puppets. Follow your child's lead!



Popsicle Sticks:

Popsicle sticks provided in this kit can be used in one of two ways:



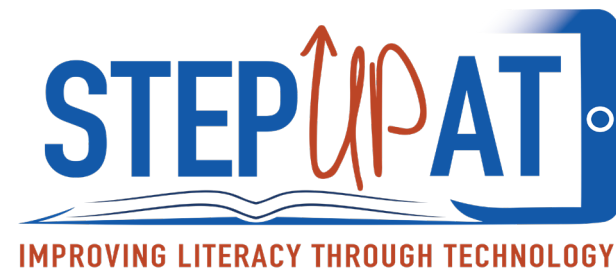
1. Hot glue the popsicle sticks to a board book to help your child turn the pages in the book.
2. Copy and cut out characters from the book to create character puppets as an interactive way to read the book with your child.





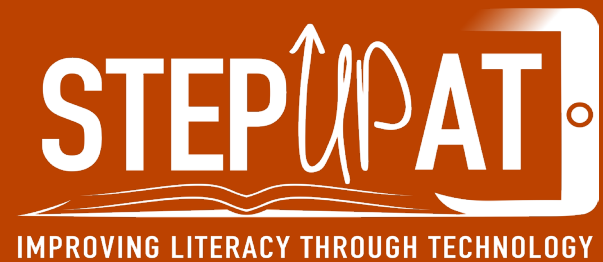
Mini Communication Device

It is an Augmentative and Alternative Communication device (AAC) that can help your child express himself/herself. Simple messages can be recorded quickly. Remember to model how to use the communication device as you introduce it to your child.



- Record greetings like “Good morning”, “Hello,” and phrases of a book. Many storybooks have repetitive lines in them. For example, “Old Mac Donald had a farm, ee-i-ee-i-oh” can be recorded in the device, allowing a child to participate by pressing the button each time the line comes up in the book.
- Record messages using everyday words (core words) to help your child use language for different purposes. You can record a message like “turn the page ” or “your turn” to allow your child to direct an action.
- During snack time, the child can also make comments. For example, he/she can say “I like it,” “I don’t like it,” or “all done.”
- You can add the picture symbol on top of the device to reinforce the connection between spoken language and symbols.





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how to promote
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