Communication System	Benefits	Drawbacks	
Objects	 Tangible Concrete (can be directly related to the activity) Less chance of technical difficulties 	 Not portable Not robust Difficult to manage Difficult to represent abstract concepts 	
Partial Object Symbols/Tactile Symbols	 Tangible Can be concrete (part of the object) or abstract (material representing a core word) Can build sentences 	 Less portable Meaning of symbol may be different for different people 	
Photos/Pictures fidgets sad continued to the sad of	 More portable More robust Can be embedded in high tech or low tech Can be used in different environments Can use a combination of photos and picture symbols 	 No tactile component (relying on vision) Can be complex visually 	
Mid-Tech (switches, GoTalk9)	TangibleVoice output	 Can be hard to manage (multiple pages of symbols) Not robust/limiting vocabulary 	
High-Tech (speech generating device, iPad)	Voice outputMost robust linguisticallyOften portable	 May rely on visual and auditory skills Leisure vs dedicated Requires frequent charging 	