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## HOW-TO: Visual Scenes (“Photo Stories”)

A “Visual Scene” is a photo story. Visual scenes are a powerful and fabulous tool for kids to interact with others about meaningful events or interests of theirs. It can also be an excellent tool to increase their use of the talker with family, while giving family more information about what is happening for their child at school. Whenever possible, involve the child in making the visual scene. Take photos when they are having fun/success. Later, ask them if they want a story made about \_\_ and get their input on which picture to use. Help them decide on messages by giving them choices. Let them review the finished message/page and ask them what they think. Read the story together as if you haven’t heard it before, and reflect on it as others likely will so the child gets practice with the process and the responses people may have. Once the visual scene has been created, practice reading the story together. Help the child to share their story with another child and/or a school adult. This practice will help them be able to share their story independently with a family member at home.

Here are the instructions on how to build a Visual Scene.

1. Get Out of Guided Access: triple click the home button; enter the passcode (usually the school year, i.e. 202122); select END to get out of guided access
2. Navigate to the page where *Visual Scenes* is located (usually in *Groups*); select Visual Scenes.
3. Make Story Button: select “Menu” from the right hand side; select “Edit page”; select an available button; select “Edit This Button”; add photo (the same one that will be used on the visual scene page); create a story name in the “label” but leave the “message” blank; select “Save”; select “Done” to exit edit mode.
4. Make Story Page: Select photo button; select “Menu” from the right hand side; select “Edit page”; select main button; select “Edit This Button”; add photo (same as was used on the button); leave both the “label” and “message” blank; select “Save”. Select and modify the message buttons according to the attached template (general message, specific message about the picture, a feeling message and a conversation-continuing question for the listener), each with a simple message from the child’s point of view, a 1-2 word label and a related symbol; “Save” each one.
5. Get Back Into Guided Access: triple click the home button; select RESUME.