

Inclusive Education

Core Word Focus: When

Core words are the powerful, flexible words we use every day for most of our communication. A core word approach gives the AAC learner focused practice with these important words that will help them communicate effectively in many different situations for many different reasons. Our next core word focus is **WHEN**.

When is a word that has two uses, it can be used to as an adverb to refer to a time or circumstance, and it can also be used as a word that joins two thoughts together (e.g. I was dreaming **when** I heard the doorbell ring). We will be focusing on using this word as a way to source out information; many of our students are needing information but they don't know how to get it. They ask again and again for a favourite activity or a snack, and we are stuck saying "no, you can't have that" or "no, it's not time for gym." What the kids really need to be able to say is "**when** is snack?" or "**when** is gym?" Kids need their schedule information so they can relax into the bigger plan. Teaching **when** means we are understanding that they are communicating for more than access to items or activities—they communicate for more than wants and needs! We are helping them to develop communication skills beyond requesting.

Teaching the use of **when** is important because it gives the individual the ability to understand where they are in time relative to things that are important to them. It is therefore very grounding and contributes to their ability to plan and manage themselves. The answer to any question of **when** should include a reference to some kind of time tool - a clock, a watch, a visual schedule or even a timer. It is ok if they are not yet telling time, we are orienting them to where the answer to **when** can be found.

Examples:

When is snack?

When are we going?

When will they stop yelling?

When can we go to the gym?

When is home time?

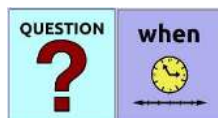
Tell me **when** you're ready

Books & Activities

Things to do by Elaine Magliaro
What happens on Wednesdays

Holiday by Natalie Nelson
A Second is a Hiccup

TOUCH CHAT



LAMP



SFY



BOOK CREATOR RESOURCES

Links to Online Resources



Simple LAMP Book



Sentence Examples for LAMP Users:

When is it snack?



When is it gym time?



When can I go home?



When do we go to the pool?



When is it my birthday?



When is it break time?

