

Inclusive Education

Core Word Focus: STOP

Core words are the essential building blocks of everyday communication that are versatile, high-frequency words like *go*, *want*, *more*, and *stop*. For AAC (Augmentative and Alternative Communication) users, focusing on core words helps build meaningful, functional language that supports authentic interaction. Our next core word focus is “**stop**,” a powerful word that allows children to set **boundaries**, **express discomfort**, and **advocate for themselves**. Communication isn’t just about requesting; it’s also about protesting, sharing, and connecting. Teaching “stop” gives children the language to express their needs and experiences in a clear, effective way.

While some may worry that children will overuse words like “stop” or “no,” it’s important to remember that the feelings behind those words already exist. Providing the language doesn’t create the need but it does give children a better way to express it. Without access to these words on their talker, they may resort to less effective or disruptive behaviors. By teaching “stop,” we’re equipping students with tools to regulate emotions, feel heard, and advocate for themselves. Yes, they may test the word at first, and yes, it may be used at inconvenient times but consider these as teachable moments where you can practice and model to the student. Supporting self-advocacy through language lays the foundation for long-term independence, emotional growth, and functional communication skills.

Examples:

Stop!

Why did it **stop**?

Stop! Wait for me!

Stop making noise.

Stop singing please.

Go, go, go, **stop!**

Make it **stop**.

Let’s **stop** here to look

Stop touching that.

Stop—you’re breaking it.

Stop—that’s not right!

Stop, I’m not ready.

Please **stop**.

Stop pushing me.

Stop—I want to do it myself!

Books:

Stop That Dinosaur

Stop Train Stop

Nothing Can Stop Me

Wind, Stop Blowing

Last Stop on Market Street

Bus Stops

Last Stop on the Reindeer Express

Stop That Yawn

Go Dog Go

Red Light Green Light

The Bridge is Up

Go Go Go Stop

Activities:

Any machine (bubble, blender, hair dryer) with an on-off switch

bouncing a ball

Riding on a skateboard or scooter board

“Boss of the World” game (directing others’ movements or actions)

narrating while driving together in a vehicle

playing music

TOUCH CHAT



LAMP



SFY



BOOK CREATOR RESOURCES

Links to Online Resources

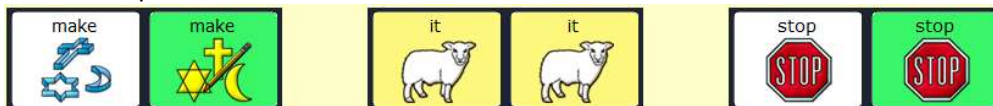


Simple LAMP Book



Sentence Examples for LAMP users:

Make it stop



Stop the noise



Why did it stop



Stop touching me



Stop please

