

## Inclusive Education

# Core Word Focus: Don't

Our next core word communication focus is the word **don't**. We use **don't** to express refusal, negation, or that something is unwanted. It is a powerful and important word for self-advocacy, allowing individuals to set boundaries and express preferences. However, **don't** can be challenging to teach in a way that remains positive and respectful. *It's important not to use **don't** to correct or restrict the child directly; instead, we want to keep the learning experience neutral or positive.*

The best ways to teach the meaning and use of **don't** are through interactions with another communication partner or by narrating books or videos. Modeling a real-time interaction between two adults, with the student observing but not personally involved, is very effective. Similarly, reading, or narrating stories or videos provides a natural and low-pressure way to model the word. When narrating to model the verb form **don't**, remember to preface each statement with phrases like "he says..." or "she says..." to clearly demonstrate its use.

### Examples:

I **don't** know

We **don't** want to have snack

**Don't** forget your backpack

I **don't** want that book

I **don't** feel good

**Don't** help me!

### Books

I **don't** want to be a frog by Devorah Petty

Blue hat, green hat

Pigeon series by Mo Willems

**Don't** Say That Word

Rock Stars **Don't** Nap

The Monster at the End of This Book

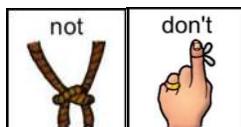
**Don't** Push the Button

Don't put your finger in the Jelly, Nelly

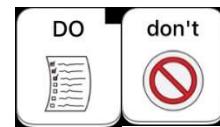
### TOUCH CHAT



### LAMP



### SFY



## BOOK CREATOR RESOURCES

## Links to Online Resources



Links to Core Word resources. Don't  
forget to click on the links!



 BOOK REVIEW

## Simple LAMP Book

## Sentence Examples for LAMP Users:

I don't want to go there



Don't leave me here



I don't know



We don't understand this



I don't feel good

