

How Can I Create a **F**unctional **A**ge-Appropriate **A**ccessible **B**ook? **(FAAB)**

Lily Makes Lunch



Books can be used to facilitate our student's comprehension of language, reading, and speech. For example, a teacher could

- ask Wh-Questions about the content of the book, when attempting to teach comprehension of Wh-Questions, e.g. "Where is Susie's lunch?"
- pause when reading a book to show a student what a functional/useful word looks like, e.g. "Stop"
- pause to allow a student to fill in the blank with speech, when trying to teach a student how to say new words, e.g. "Mmmmm, making mom's _____ (target word is "lunch")"

Using a Switch Interface, students with physical challenges can be active participants when reading books, by pressing a switch to turn the page. (Books that are switch operated are known as 'Accessible Books'.)

However, functional age-appropriate accessible books that are highly motivating are difficult to find. It is a challenge to provide our students with books that contain simple functional vocabulary, but are of high interest to our students and are age-appropriate.

By simply using a Power Point program on a computer, and photos of students participating in routines, we can quickly create **Functional Age-Appropriate Accessible Books (FAAB's)**. Instructions:

1. Take a series of digital photos of your student carrying out a routine.
2. Load the photos onto your computer.
3. Open up your Power Point program.
4. Each slide on the Power Point Program will become a 'page' in the book you're about to create.
5. To create a page, add text in the text boxes and import photos of your student into appropriate locations for each page.
6. Remember to use simple but age-appropriate vocabulary and language when creating your story.
7. Remember to repeat key words often in the text.
8. Remember a snappy ending ☺

For an example of a **FAAB** written for a PISP student, please see the Power Point example called "Lily Makes Lunch" within this section.