

# Why We Communicate

## Expression of needs and wants

- Indication of interrupted activity - Actions by the student directed towards the partner, which indicate the student's awareness that the partner interrupted a shared activity (e.g. "Do it again.")
- Acceptance - Acts or utterances which indicate intention to receive an object from another or to accept the partner's offer.
- Protest/Rejection - Acts or utterances which indicate objection to the action or lack of action of another. Acts or utterances which indicate refusal of the partner's offer.
- Communication of choices - Indication of preference between two concrete objects, concepts, etc. presented by the partner.
- Request for assistance - Acts or utterances which attempt to direct the partner to provide physical assistance.
- Request for object/action - Attempts to direct the partner to provide an object or activity within or outside the immediate environment.

## Social Interaction

- Attention to partner - Physical and/or visual orientation to partner and/or partner's action(s).
- Reciprocal action - Acts or utterances directed towards a partner which suggest turn taking.
- Greeting/Closing - Acts or utterances which acknowledge the partner's arrival or departure.
- Request for attention of self - Attempts by the student to gain the partner's attention to him/herself. These acts serve to gain the partner's attention but do not direct the partner to a specific object, concept, etc..
- Comment - Acts or utterances which label, describe, or provide information about a person, event, or object.