

# Movement, Motivation and Mastery of AAC: A Co-Treat Approach

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# WHO ARE WE?



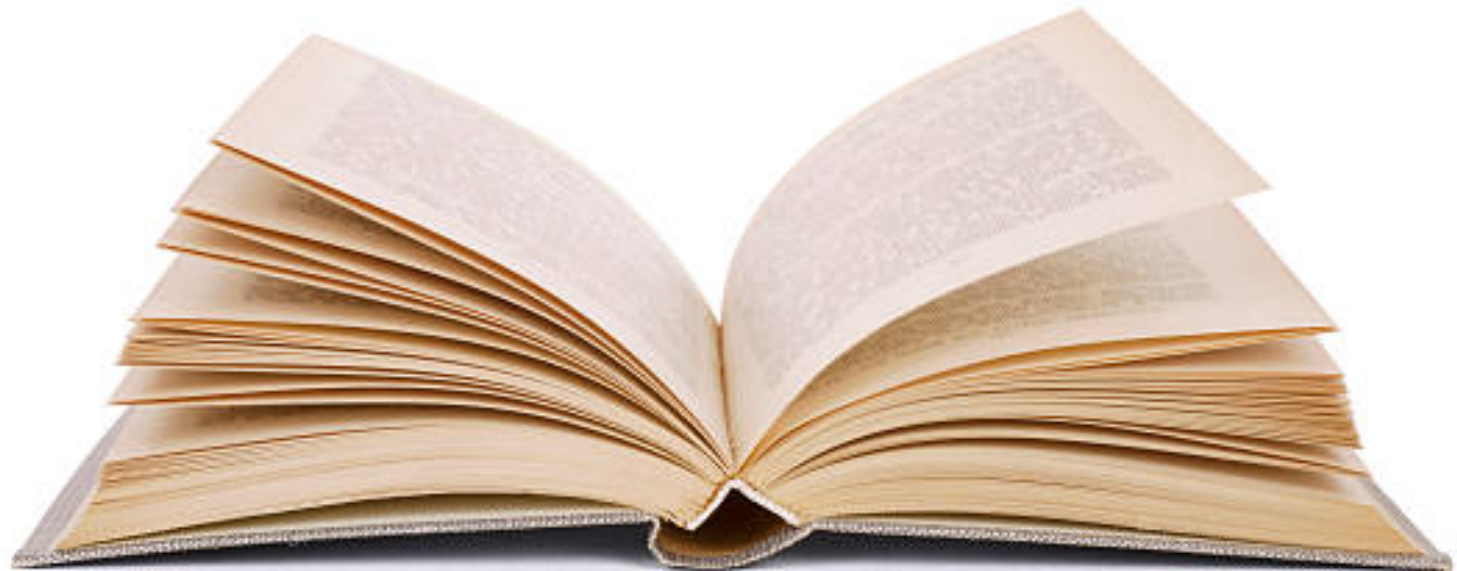
Therapists who have a Non-Profit

We BELIEVE....

intelligent minds  
and passionate hearts  
can thrive  
in complicated bodies

**YOU CAN'T WRITE A  
STORY TOGETHER IF  
YOU'RE NOT ON THE  
SAME PAGE**

*PictureQuotes.com*



# SLP vs Motor



Just for today....drop your domain.



# Video Disclaimer

A special “thank you” to all the children and their families for letting us show these beautiful children for educational purposes.

The videos don't lie. They show children doing amazing things...sometimes because of the therapist facilitation and sometimes in spite of the therapist. Nobody is perfect but we are willing to show the do's and the don'ts. 😊

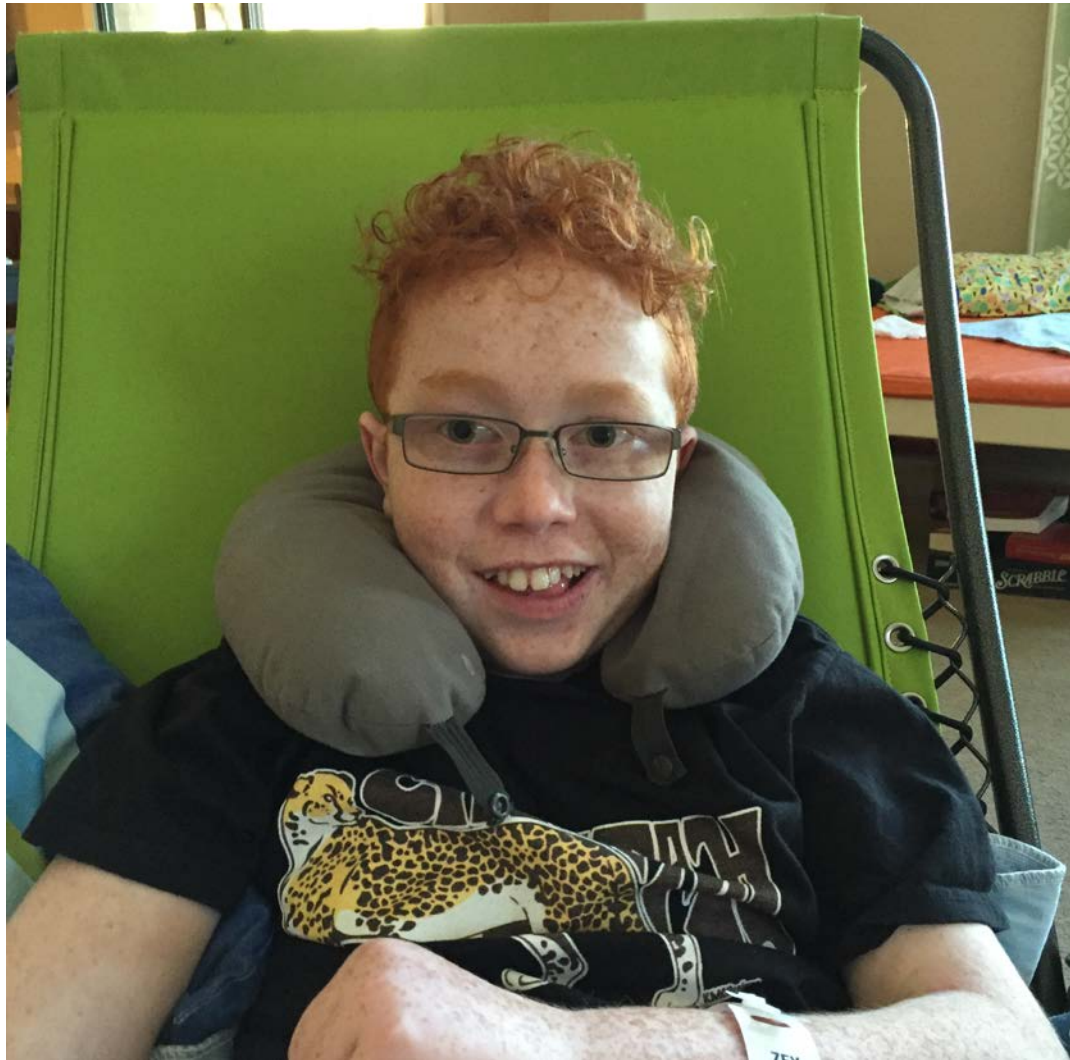
# A question for you.....

- What is your most challenging kiddo?
- What skills do you need to address the needs of that kiddo?
- One word to describe how you feel?





# Meet Aidan



# OBSERVE



Now that we have motivation –  
what is his body doing to move?

**TAKE A DEEP BREATH**

# Talk Points

- Watch his body to see voluntary or even reflexive movement that happens with motivating stimuli
- Understand the difference between voluntary and reflexive movement
- Cue accordingly “take a breath”
- Movement was motivating and motivation created movement.

# Meet Natalie



When you change the way  
you look at things,

The things you look at

**CHANGE.**

~Wayne Dyer

# Meet Camden



The body language says it all...



# Talk Points

- Using “knock it down” in a variety of ways
- Out of the chair is better for his body
- Eye gaze is still viable even with spasticity
- No tech yes and no
- Switch access is never off the table because there are limitations to eye gaze
- Always have low tech eye gaze available



# Meet Nani



# Talk Points

- Variety of positions within one session maintains learning level of alertness, decreases fatigue and sustains interest
- Any physically challenging activity could be painful
- Model, Model, Model
- Total Communication
- No tech yes/no

# Meet Zidaan



# Talk Points

- Blahhhhhh!
- High Cognition, Ambulatory, Pointer – but not really
- Rocking is our enemy
- Movement is his motivation
- Recorded speech is preferred during active choices

# Meet Bella



# Talk Points

- Apraxia – hand over hand required to break the motor plan to select bottom left button and even to complete the selection
- Movement and engagement with parents is essential!
- Control over movement and positioning
- All of the above was required for AAC buy in for her and her parents

# Children Approach Life From A Different Angle Than Adults

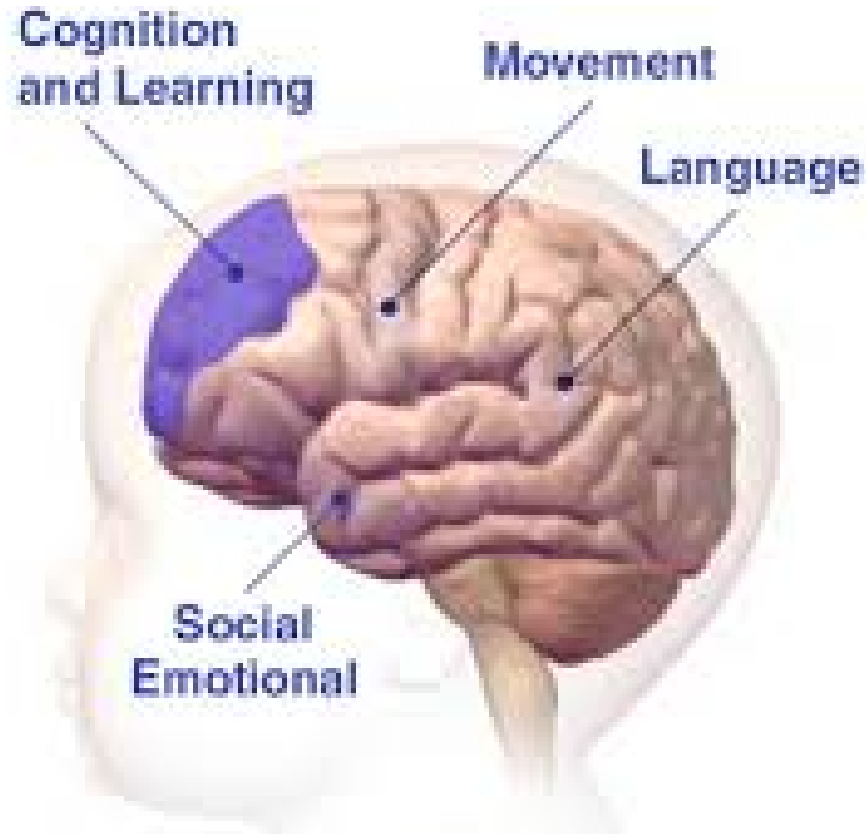
**What We See:**



**What Kids See:**



Movement increases arousal level and primes the “brain-pump” for communication.



Movement also promotes self-initiated activities.



# Why Powered Mobility?

- Looking for a switch site and so we are going to do that with a “CAR”? -NO
- NOT “looking for a switch site” – establishing access through something that is essential (mobility), motivating and that creates inherent cause and effect that is meaningful
- Arlene James – “Mobility and Movement is the easiest way to find interest, intent and allow for self initiated, self driven and thus, an engaging activity for the person.”



# Meet Seth



# Talk Points

- Low vision
- Only motivated by the iPad
- Powered Mobility with textures
- Device behind him prevented impulse to reach toward the screen light
- Choices lead to a variety of positions
- Interest level guided language goals

# What are we measuring?

## What we see

Junior will perform a task  
**8 out of 10 opportunities**  
independently

## What the kids see



We BELIEVE...

In the human right to  
ACCESS LIFE –  
access education,  
access literacy,  
access independent mobility,  
access entertainment.