



AAC Language & Conversations: Make It Fun And Interactive!

Presented by Dr. Caroline Musselwhite:

How often do you observe AAC users who perform beautifully in therapy, only to sit passively in classrooms and social situations? This quick-paced, interactive session will support students in using core vocabulary for authentic purposes, with peers, and using repetition with variation. Strategies include: RPM-GO (rehearse, practice, model – GO), combining core vocabulary and literacy, and scaffolding communication with engaging apps. Social Scripts ensure that augmented communicators - even those with limited access skills - can achieve interactions that are frequent, motivating, self-initiated, varied, ongoing, with multiple turns, and with a range of partners, including peers. Strategies will be provided for creating, programming, and teaching the use of social scripts to support accessing skills as well as conversation. Participants will engage in multiple 'try-it' activities to help learning generalize, just as we hope to make core vocabulary generalize for people who use AAC! Participants will receive a CD with sample activities and forms.

Learning Outcomes:

- 1) Summarize the RPM-GO approach (Rehearse, Practice, Model – GO)
- 2) Review the components of a social script and work as a team to create a social script for a student who is a beginning communicator
- 3) Describe apps and ways to use apps interactively to support target strategies (combining language and literacy, interactive communication games)

ASHA CEUs are available at no additional charge

About the Presenter:

Dr. Caroline Musselwhite is an assistive technology specialist with more than 30 years of experience working with children and adolescents with severe disabilities, in a variety of settings, including Head Start, developmental day programs, and the public schools. She has also taught courses at several universities, including West Virginia University, and Western Carolina University.

Dr. Musselwhite has authored a number of textbooks and "how-to" books on a range of topics, including Emergent Literacy Success, Communication Programming for Persons with Severe Handicaps, and Reading Activities Project for Older Students (R.A.P.S.). She has also authored a number of software programs (Write to Talk, Social Scripts) and books (Learning to Work) for youth with disabilities. She has presented thousands of workshops throughout the world, and is a founding member of the Board of Directors for the International Society for Augmentative and Alternative Communication (ISAAC).

Disclosures: Financial: Caroline receives a royalty as an independent contractor for Attainment Company and an honorarium for speaking. Non-financial: Caroline has provided material used on the websites for AbleNet Company and Prentke Romich Company as a volunteer consultant.

AT Workshop Registration

**Date: April 26, 2014
9:00am-3:00pm**

**Location: Merrimack College
(Sakowich Conference Center/Murray Lounge)
315 Turnpike St
North Andover, MA 01845
www.merrimack.edu**

**Fee: Full scholarship for Merrimack College education students
pre-registered by April 1, 2014.**

Requires signature of Merrimack College education faculty.

Approved

Approved by:

Signature:

**Questions: please call Kim Livingston at 508-751-6328 or
klivingston@eastersealsma.org**

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Please charge \$ _____ to my VISA MasterCard AmEx Name on Card: _____

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We regret we are unable to process refunds.

Mail registration form to: Assistive Technology Workshops
Easter Seals Massachusetts
484 Main Street
Worcester, MA 01608

Or Fax to: 508-831-9768

For your protection, do not fax or e-mail credit card information

<p><u>Agenda:</u> Registration: 8:30am-9am Workshop: 9am-12pm Lunch: 12pm-1:00pm (on your own) Workshop: 1:00pm-3:00pm</p>

Make checks payable to: Easter Seals Massachusetts

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www.eastersealsma.org