

Comprehensive Book Suggestion List

Underlined: = [hyperlink](#)

Bold: book is part of the ‘sample book guide pages’ document: [☰ sample book guide pages](#)

Age Group	Book	Author	Short Description/Link	Additional resource to go with book	Year
0-5 years	I Talk in Different Ways	Amanda Hartmann	Explore how a young AAC user communicates and connects with the people in her life. She talks to them in so many different ways.	https://www.assistiveware.com/learn-aac/quick-communication-boards This website allows to print so called ‘coreboards’ - a page with high frequency words that people can point to to speak a message	2022
	AAC Rhyme Time	Amanda Hartmann	Book to help children learn about differences in communication.	These could be printed and given to children to explore AAC	2021
	<u>AAC Alphabet Adventure</u>	<u>Amanda Hartmann</u>	Abby asks questions about animals and Tayla talks to her toys. Find friends, words and letters in this fun book. From A-Z, explore how children who use AAC discover letters of the alphabet.		2024
	Carlos Winter Adventures	<u>Deanne Schott</u>	Join Carlos on his snowy adventures as he uses his AAC device to communicate fundamental core words. This book is a great way to practice using AAC, learn early vocabulary, and promote literacy skills. We believe that all communication is valid and everyone's voice deserves to be represented and celebrated.		2024
	Keira gets a Talker	<u>Shubha Balabaer</u>	This book is geared to preschool students and is about Keira, a neurodivergent communicator. Keira is a gestalt language processor who gets a new AAC device / talker! This book introduces preschoolers to someone who communicates with an AAC device, and sometimes communicates using scripts.	<u>Disability Awareness That Matters: 29. A Parent Perspective on Inclusion with Shubha Bala on Apple Podcasts</u> Podcast episode with author <u>Becoming a parent advocate for Special Education Meet Shubha and A: Finding a Way or Making One</u> <u>Interview with the author</u>	2022

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6-9 years	More Than Words	Roz MacLean	At school, Nathan quietly observes the ways his peers communicate. Even when they're not talking, they're expressing themselves in all sorts of ways!		2023
	A Day With No Words	<u>Tiffany Hammond</u>	The story is written from the boy's first-person perspective, however—a clever choice in that it gives readers a direct look into his mind and reinforces the book's crucial statement that nonverbal people have as many words and as much intelligence as anyone else. Cosgrove's art, throughout, does an amazing job of transporting readers into his perspective, employing various color tones, metaphoric imagery, and 'camera' angles to reflect the deep expressiveness contained in every page [...] through this book, neurotypicals' eyes will be opened, and everyone in Autistic Families will feel seen—and heard.” A Day With No Words: 9781736949795: Hammond, Tiffany, Cosgrove, Kate: ספרים	https://www.teacherspayteachers.com/Product/A-Day-with-No-Words-by-Tiffany-Hammond-Different-Ways-we-Communicate-11870803?st=46f4875f8ec8a7a89a36aa76699ce149	2023
	Private Eye, Romeo Riley The Boy Who Saw Too Much	<u>April M. Whitt</u>	<u>Private Eye, Romeo Riley The Boy Who Saw Too Much</u>	https://www.teacherspayteachers.com/Product/Romeo-Riley-Crooked-Campaign-Curriculum-Packet-2954308?st=a06037c42848a9f8c8201e1d87490b97	2012
How Katie Got a Voice: (And a Cool New Nickname)	<u>Patricia L Mervine</u>	<u>How Katie Got a Voice: (And a Cool New Nickname): Mervine M a CCC-Slp, Patricia L: 9781426966491: Books - Amazon.ca</u>	https://www.teacherspayteachers.com/Product/Readers-Theater-How-Katie-Got-a-Voice-and-a-cool-new-nickname-427695?st=6c8c14358cfe816687f34d81cfcb937b https://www.teacherspayteachers.com/Product/How-Katie-Got-a-Voice-and-a-cool-new-nickname-Story-Map-1539234?st=6c8c14358cfe816687f34d81cfcb937b https://www.teacherspayteachers.com/Product/Katies-Lessons-in-Disability-Etiquette-660961?st=6c8c14358cfe816687f34d81cfcb937b	2012	

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				The book concludes with rules of disability etiquette, which are excerpted in this Powerpoint. Use it to introduce your class or youth group to disability etiquette, and help break down barriers in your school and community.	
	Me and My AAC (Spectacular Spectrum Book Series)	<u>Tabitha Cabrera</u>	Join Ben as he shows you his very special way of communicating. It is different but we think different is good. He uses his AAC to talk to his friends and family. He will take you on an adventure to see and feel the magic he finds in trains. Ben is so glad he has a unique way to communicate with the world and that he can share it with you. The story told from his voice, his AAC.		2021
	Eddie the Elephant Has Something to Say	Alison Johns	<u>About Eddie the Elephant</u>	<u>Free Resources Eddie the Elephant</u> - free resources for book study (i.e. design your own talker)	2020
	Do you talk the way I talk	<u>Tabitha Cabrera</u>	Tyler would like to introduce you to his favorite friends. They all like a lot of the same things but they communicate in different ways. Together Tyler, Inez, Bea, and Ben celebrate both their similarities and their differences. They've built their friendship through communication, and sometimes it's unspoken. How do you talk?		2020
	Artie is Awesome (Artie's Adventures)	<u>Deidra Darst</u>	Every child is special, I tell you that's true..." Meet our awesome friend Artie: he loves trains, playing chase, and eating pizza. Artie also has autism. Let's appreciate the differences that make each one of us special (and also make us really, really cool).	https://www.teacherspayteachers.com/Product/Artie-is-Awesome-and-I-am-too-4318068?st=c27a0d6367e6b074b82da518b1177f9c https://www.teacherspayteachers.com/Product/Artie-Board-Game-Package-4320716?st=c27a0d6367e6b074b82da518b1177f9c https://www.teacherspayteachers.com/Store/Deidra-Darst	2018

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10-14 years	On Being Sarah	<u>Elizabeth Helfman</u>	<u>On Being Sarah: Helfman, Elizabeth, Saffioti, Lino: 9780807560686: Amazon.com: Books</u>	https://quizizz.com/admin/quiz/5f75d64919d6b5001bb00305/on-being-sarah	1992
	See the Hope	Rylee Tipton	This book was written by a girl with Angelman syndrome to describe her communication journey. People with Angelman syndrome have complex communication needs. She chronicles the process she went through toward freeing her inner thoughts. Rylee started this book at 9 years old and finished three years later.		2017
	A Voice of Her Own	Lois Yong and Sarah Yong	"A Voice of Her Own" by Lois Young is an inspiring story that focuses on the journey of a girl with cerebral palsy who finds her voice through the use of Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC).		2021
	The Many Mysteries of the Finkel Family	<u>Sarah Kapit</u>	<p>When twelve-year-old Lara Finkel starts her very own detective agency, FIASCCO (Finkel Investigation Agency Solving Consequential Crimes Only), she does not want her sister, Caroline, involved. She and Caroline don't have to do <i>everything</i> together. But Caroline won't give up, and when she brings Lara the firm's first mystery, Lara relents, and the questions start piling up.</p> <p>But Lara and Caroline's truce doesn't last for long. Caroline normally uses her tablet to talk, but now she's busily texting a new friend. Lara can't figure out what the two of them are up to, but it can't be good. And Caroline doesn't like Lara's snooping—she's supposed to be solving other people's crimes, not spying on Caroline! As FIASCCO and the Finkel family mysteries spin out of control, can Caroline and Lara find a way to be friends again?</p>		2021

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15+ years	Dancing Daisies Inside My Outside: An Independent Mind in a Dependent Body	<u>Sara Pyszka</u>	Author Sara Pyszka is committed to raising awareness of the everyday struggles of people with disabilities. She uses her own life experiences with cerebral palsy to add insight and poignancy to the journey of her protagonists. Pyszka is passionate about music and writes her own songs. She was the first person to sing the national anthem at a Major League Baseball game through a communication device.	https://fb.watch/u9-bJl3-t5/ - Q and A with Sara Pyszka https://www.sarapyszka.com/faqs.html	2013
	Out of My Mind , also Out of my Dreams and Out of my heart (trilogy)	<u>Sharon M. Draper</u>	Out of My Mind This novel tells the story of Melody, a girl with cerebral palsy who uses a communication device to express herself.	https://www.teacherspayteachers.com/Product/Out-of-my-Mind-Novel-Study-Digital-Printable-Sharon-M-Draper-2434030?st=941be2d10933ed1395019003175a2fd2 https://www.teacherspayteachers.com/Product/Out-of-My-Mind-by-Sharon-Draper-Novel-Study-Digital-and-Printable-5218600?st=941be2d10933ed1395019003175a2fd2 https://www.teacherspayteachers.com/Product/Out-of-My-Mind-by-Sharon-M-Draper-A-Complete-Novel-Study-1581469?st=941be2d10933ed1395019003175a2fd2 https://www.teacherspayteachers.com/Product/Out-of-My-Mind-Novel-Study-Literature-Unit-for-the-Book-by-Sharon-Draper-5303244?st=941be2d10933ed1395019003175a2fd2 https://www.teacherspayteachers.com/Product/Out-of-My-Mind-by-Sharon-Draper-Multiple-Choice-Chapter-Quizzes-8600639?st=941be2d10933ed1395019003175a2fd2 https://www.teacherspayteachers.com/Product/Out-of-My-Mind-by-Sharon-Draper-Invention-for-Melody-Novel-Project-778770?st=941be2d10933ed1395019003175a2fd2 https://www.teacherspayteachers.com/Product/Out-of-My-Mind-by-Sharon-Draper-Novel-Study-9930695?st=941be2d10933ed1395019003175a2fd2	

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				<p>https://www.teacherspayteachers.com/Product/Out-of-My-Mind-by-Sharon-Draper-Jeopardy-2461247?st=941be2d10933ed1395019003175a2fd2</p> <p>https://www.teacherspayteachers.com/Product/Out-of-my-Heart-Novel-Study-Sharon-Draper-7912370?st=941be2d10933ed1395019003175a2fd2</p> <p>...there is lots more on TpT when searching for the author</p>	
	<u>Say What You Will</u>	<u>Cammie McGovern</u>	Amy is brilliant and beautiful. She also has cerebral palsy. She uses AAC to communicate her amazing thoughts but has never had any real friends with which to communicate. So after convincing her parents to help, Amy spends her entire senior year of high school with paid “peers” rather than “adult” helpers within the school. Within these paid peers, Amy discovers friendship and love for the first time. It is energizing and new and exciting. She makes it a mission of her own to not only be helped by her peers but to help them as well. Everything changes, however, when Amy begins her first year at Stanford and loses the amazing support and relationships that she had spent a year building.	<p>Discussion questions specific to this book:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What do you think about Amy’s experiment of having paid peer helpers? 2. Do you feel that Amy’s parents were justified in their expectations for her helpers/social life? 3. In what way do you feel Amy helped others the most? 4. What did you think about the last portion of the book after Amy goes to Stanford? 	2015
	The Diving Bell and the Butterfly	Jean-Dominique Bauby	a memoir by journalist Jean-Dominique Bauby. It describes his life before and after a massive stroke left him with locked-in syndrome.	<p>https://www.teacherspayteachers.com/Product/Nonfiction-memoir-The-Diving-Bell-and-the-Butterfly-nonfiction-book-study-706185?st=d0b72781efc9bc8c776405dd450b3298</p> <p>Trailer to the movie: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TPlcQfglFJg</p>	1997
	I'll Do It Myself	<u>Glenda Watson Hyatt</u>	Glenda has cerebral palsy. A lack of oxygen at birth meant she would not be able to walk, her hands would not function well and her speech would be almost impossible to understand. Her parents were advised to	<p>https://www.queensu.ca/aac-caa/glenda-watson-hyatt</p> <p>https://womentalkdesign.com/speakers/glenda-watson-hyatt/</p>	2013

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			<p>institutionalize her. She wouldn't amount to anything, the experts said. Yet, this gutsy redhead proved them wrong. Glenda was integrated into a regular classroom long before mainstream was a buzzword. She went on to earn the Canada Cord, the highest award in Girl Guides, and the Outstanding Junior Student Award. The girl who could not walk won a gold medal in horseback riding! How did she do it? Read Glenda's inspiring autobiography I'll Do It Myself! Glenda intimately shares her life story to show others cerebral palsy is not a death sentence, but rather a life sentence.</p>	<p>https://www.cdacanada.com/resources/accessible-businesses-and-services/about/acknowledgments/</p> <p>https://nationalpost.com/news/queens-researcher-wins-national-award-for-speech-disabilities-study</p>	
	Schuyler's Monster: A Father's Journey with His Wordless Daughter	Robert Rummel-Hudson	<p>This is a book by Robert Rummel-Hudson. Rummel-Hudson began writing online in 1995 and also writes a parenting blog called Fighting Monsters with Rubber Swords; both book and blog concern the author's and his wife's parenting of their daughter who was born with polymicrogyria, a brain disorder that made her unable to speak.</p>		2009
	I raise my eyes to say yes	Ruth Sienkiewicz-Mercer & Steven B. Kaplan	<p>I Raise My Eyes to Say Yes by Ruth Sienkiewicz-Mercer Goodreads</p>		
	Carly's Voice: Breaking Through Autism	Arthur Fleischmann and Carly Fleischmann			
	Look up for yes	Julia Tavalaro	<p>Thirty years ago, in the dead of winter, a beautiful young woman woke from a seven-month coma in a lonely hospital ward. But when she opened her eyes, no one noticed. Her entire body paralyzed by a</p>		1997

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			stroke, she tried to speak and no one heard. Thus her nightmare began.		
	My Big Toe: A Story of Perseverance	Chris Klein	Chris achieved and accomplished things that nobody thought were attainable. He persevered through cerebral palsy and learned that God had a purpose for him. Chris realized he had to surrender his disability and chains over to Jesus to have freedom in Christ.		2024
	The Things We Cannot Say!	Kelly Rimmer	It's a WWII/present day novel in which two characters use AAC (an autistic child and his grandmother who had a stroke).		2019
	<u>Ghost Boy: The Miraculous Escape of a Misdiagnosed Boy Trapped Inside His Own Body</u>	Martin Pistorius	<p>In January 1988, a happy, healthy twelve-year-old Martin Pistorius came home from school with a sore throat. Soon, he was sleeping all day, refusing meals, and starting to lose his voice.</p> <p>His doctors were mystified. Within eighteen months, his voice fell silent and his developing mind became trapped inside a body he couldn't control. Martin's parents were told that the unknown degenerative disease he was struggling with would mean that he had less than two years to live. He felt invisible--like a ghost of himself.</p>	<p>**content warning: this novel deals with difficult topics like abuse. Please read with care.</p> <p>Discussion questions specific to ghost boy:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What do you think about the various caretakers in the book? Why do you think they acted the way that they did? 2. Multiple people in this memoir show amazing faith in Martin's abilities. Who do you think had the greatest influence of Martin's rehabilitation? 3. What attracted Joanna to Martin and why do you think she pursued the relationship? 4. What amazed you most about Martin's story? 	2013
	In the Blink of an Eye: The Story of Mia Austin and Her Triumph over	Mia L Austin With Sue Kelso Ryan	My name is Mia Austin. I have locked-in syndrome after having a stroke at the age of twenty-one. This is a book like no other. Its short snippets of what I can remember of my journey from the night before my accident, through to each ward I was thrown into, and finally, my coming home and getting my life back. Expect laughs, amazement, and surprises. Warning: this	https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-wales-50849739	2018

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	Locked-In Syndrome		girl has attitude!		
	<u>Every Note Played</u>	<u>by Lisa Genova</u>	An accomplished concert pianist is diagnosed with ALS; When Richard becomes increasingly paralyzed and is no longer able to live on his own, Karina becomes his reluctant caretaker. As Richard's muscles, voice, and breath fade, both he and Karina try to reconcile their past before it's too late.		
	Under the Eye of the Clock: A Memoir	<u>Christopher Nolan</u>	Christopher Nolan's injuries at birth left him severely disabled and handicapped; he was entirely paralyzed and unable to communicate, but he had so much to say and was burning to express his innermost thoughts and ideas and share them with the world.		
	Stephen Hawking - My brief History	Stephen Hawking	My Brief History narrates Stephen Hawking's journey through life. It includes memories from his childhood in post-war London right until his years of worldwide praise and being a celebrity. This book is generously furnished with rarely seen photographs.		

French books:

- Robert Jean – *Des yeux pour le dire (Eyes to tell)*
- Jean-Dominique Bauby – *Le scaphandre et le papillon (The diving bell and the butterfly)*