



Southern Health
and Social Care Trust

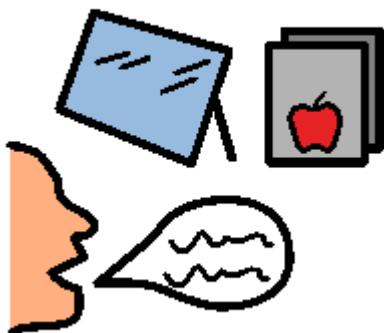
April Communication Tips

Speech and Language Therapy Team

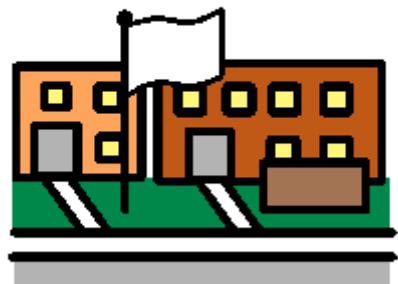
Easter



speech therapy



school



Hello Everyone and welcome to April! We hope you are looking forward to the Easter break. As a Speech and Language Therapy team, we recognise that all children communicate in different ways and we wanted to give you some ideas and materials to support your child's communication. This is the month for Easter (chocolate) and also a good opportunity for Spring walks.

Here are some ways that your child may communicate:

- PECS: If your child uses PECS, we have included some Easter/ baby animal vocabulary that you can add to their book.
- PIXON boards: If your child uses a PIXON board, you could add the vocabulary to their fringe strip (top of the board).
- Makaton: If your child uses Makaton, please find some key signs for Easter and baby animals.
- If your child uses a voice output device, you could add the vocabulary to the device or ask your friendly SLT for help with this!
- If your child uses speech to communicate, these materials could be useful as a basis for teaching short phrases (e.g. the word "chocolate" could be expanded to big chocolate, small chocolate, more chocolate, eat chocolate, Chocolate bunny/egg, Chocolate is yummy etc).
- If your child does not use these forms of communication, the materials will still hopefully be a good visual support and a chance to model simple language and new vocabulary.

We really hope that you find these tips and materials useful, not just during the Easter break but in everyday life. We will also share this information with classroom teams. If you feel these materials would be useful for you but you are having trouble printing them, please get in touch with your child's class teacher.

Best wishes from the Speech and Language Therapy Team!



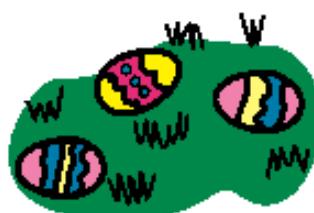
Easter Core Vocabulary:

If your child uses PECS, PIXON, a core board or responds well to visuals, please feel free to cut out these vocabulary items to add to their board or book. It may suit your child better to use actual photos.

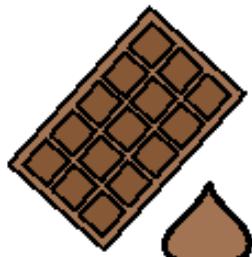
Easter



Easter egg hunt



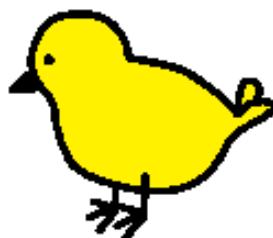
chocolate



bunny



chick



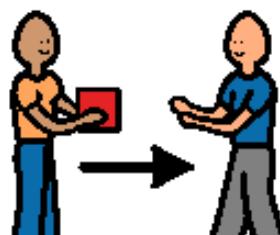
lamb



daffodil



give



find



Spring Walks Vocabulary

Again, please find vocabulary which you might find useful if you are out and about during the next few weeks. Feel free to use them as described on the Easter page or in whatever way suits you and your child. You can pick the symbols most appropriate for your child.

walk



hold hands



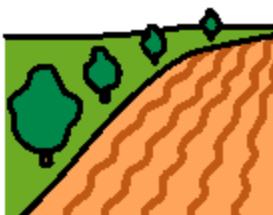
look



calf



field



tractor



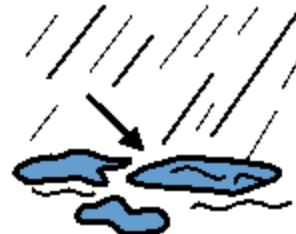
grass



flowers

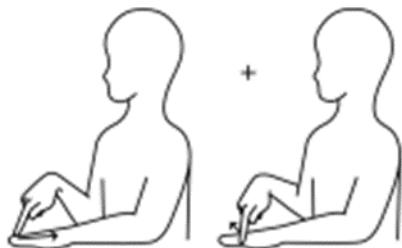


puddle





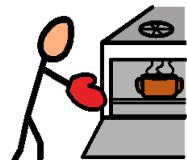
Makaton Signs:



Easter



Keeping Communication Fun!



Easter time with your child offers opportunities for communication and interaction. Please see an example in this Craft activity.

This is an easy Easter hand print craft activity for all the family. In this activity we can make Easter cards with lambs, chicks or bunnies, And the best part is they only require a few supplies to make!

Find the How to here: [Easter Handprint Cards - The Best Ideas for Kids](#)

Let's look at the language we can target – phrases on PIXON boards are underlined but these can all be used as part of a good language model. You will notice that there are a mix of questions and comments. There are verbs (such as want, help, put on, make,, like etc) and describing words such as good, big, and little.



Quick How to!

Trace around your child's hand on different coloured card/paper.
For bunny glue down thumb, middle and little finger.
Use cotton wool, sticky eyes, pom-poms, pipe cleaners to decorate.
Or draw.

- Will you to help?
- Are you ready?
- What animal will we make?
- Where should we stick the feet?
- Put on more wool.
- Your turn to glue. My turn!
- They look good!
- Will we make big eyes or little eyes?
- We are all done.
- Give one to daddy.
- Make bunny hop. Ready steady Go
- I like those cards. Do you?
- The chick looks happy
- Lets make a different animal now

Useful websites:



Makaton songs about Easter/Chocolate/spring :

There are lots of songs online, some showing signs for pop songs about love which some of our older audience might enjoy. Just type 'Makaton pop songs' into your search engine and have fun!

I have included a lovely song for older children "Cover me in Sunshine" [Makaton - COVER ME IN SUNSHINE - Singing Hands - YouTube](#)

Below are a few that might appeal to a younger audience, I just hope they don't end up going around your head all day!

[Singing Hands: Five Little Easter Eggs Nursery Rhyme - in Makaton - YouTube](#)

[Makaton - FIVE CURRANT BUNS - Singing Hands - YouTube](#)

[CBeebies: Something Special - Sleeping Bunnies - Nursery Rhyme – YouTube](#)

[Makaton - OLD MACDONALD HAD A FARM - Singing Hands - YouTube](#)

Mr Tumble: Spring vocabulary:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L_q8SQhw0ME