## How to Use the Communication Boards

## <u>Start by:</u>

**Modeling** - At this stage, we do NOT expect the child to point to any pictures/symbols spontaneously. If they do, that's great but they aren't being asked to do so.





When a baby is born, we talk to them

for a year or more before expecting them to speak.

Think of this when introducing the communication boards.

This is our time to provide models for the child of how we expect them to eventually use the pictures for communication.

You can model one word at a time or begin to show the child simple twoword combinations (e.g. wagon go).

Read the page from the book. Then point to the symbols on the board that "read" that page.

## **Eventually:** Ask Questions the Child Can Answer With the Board

Example Questions: What should we do next? Which animal noise should I make?

<u>Potential Responses:</u> Turn the page. Do it again Pig, cow

Each Kit contains:

- 1) A general book reading communication board
- 2) Book specific board(s)

Some kits contain more communication boards which can be used for other activities based on the book.

Boards were made to fit the GoTalk communication device from Attainment Company (1-800-327-4269). These are available on loan from the Wisconsin Assistive Technology Initiative Lending Library (1-800-991-5576).



Phone: 800-991-5576 www.wati.org