Overview of Communication Skills Addressed in SLK and SAM

Forms

Dynamic: Facial expressions/vocalizations/body movements

Gestures

Signs/spoken words

Static: Level one- whole objects

(Level two, pictures, and level three, written words, may be introduced when paired

with whole objects but are not taught by themselves.)

Function/Use

Receptive: Objects and one or two word labels given to the learner for identification, anticipation,

and confirmation (coherence)

Expressive: Objects and one or two word labels given by the learner to request or refuse

Content

People, objects, actions, and places

What is it like? What does it do? What is its name?

First, addressed in highly motivating social contexts (sensorimotor routines)

Then, addressed in natural contexts (concept and vocabulary expansion)

Strategies

Loop interruption/Shaping (turning random and reflexive behaviors into intentional behaviors)

Joint attention

Modeling (visual and tactile)

Calendars (van Dijk anticipation calendars)

Routines (concept and vocabulary expansion in natural environments)

Games (practice and generalization in communication contexts)