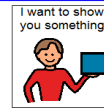


This week's PODD communication focus...

I want to show you something...



- “Communication is the essence of human life” (Light, 1997, p. 61). Whilst being an effective communicator is important to all of us, it is even more imperative for people with physical challenges. **Communication for a person with physical limitations is the key to autonomy in all other aspects of their life.** Giving information and directing others as intelligibly and specifically as possible allows a person to choose when and how they would like to be assisted.
- One of the many branches used in PODD to allow children to start learning to give information and direct others is 'I want to show you something'. Coupled with the *categories* that allow the user to indicate places that the 'something' might be, this branch allows your child to **tell someone** about an item they would like to show and **direct** them about where to find it.

In most PODD books, the 'I want to show you something' branch starter is located either on the main 'branches' page (usually page 1 or 2) or on the 'I'm telling you something' page. It will then take you to the 'show something' page, where there is vocabulary related to indicating what the item might be or where it might be located.

Some of the more complex PODD books only have the 'I want to show you something' branch on page 1 and then it is up to the user to indicate the category they need and use vocabulary within that category to indicate what the item is or where it might be.

- This week, try to model the use of 'I want to show you something' for your child. Try to use this branch in conjunction with the 'house and garden' category to indicate different places in your house where there might be items you or your child might want to 'show'. Here are some ideas:

“I want to show you something – It's in – bag – somewhere in the house – my bedroom – (on the) bookshelf” (eg. A book)

“I want to show you something – It's in – somewhere else – somewhere in the house – my bedroom – wardrobe” (eg. a new outfit)

“I want to show you something – It's – somewhere else – somewhere in the house – kitchen – fridge” (eg. A snack)

“I want to show you something – It's – go to categories – house and garden – outside – garden/flower” (eg. A flower or something new you may have planted)

“I want to show you something – It's – somewhere else – somewhere in the house – in the cupboard” (you may need to go to a list to add 'cupboard' if it's not in your child's PODD book).

- With each of these items, you can also go to categories and use the appropriate vocabulary to label the actual item or use 'descriptions' to describe the item.
- **Try using the PODD book to tell others in your family about things that you might want to show them.**