

Modeling AAC in Morning Meeting

Morning meeting is a great way to introduce yourself and the user to modeling because the vocabulary is familiar and concrete. Many words used in morning meeting often already exist on most communication devices!

While activities may vary between classrooms, many morning meetings include similar routines. Below are examples of words, phrases, and support strategies that can help incorporate AAC into morning meeting.

Topic	Words to Model	Example Phrases	School support staff Tips
Greetings	Hi, hello, good morning, my turn, your turn, how are you, good, friend, wave	“My turn” “Hi + friend”	Program classmates’ names so the child can greet peers by name.
Attendance	Me, I, you, school, home, peers’ names	“Jack is home” “I am in school”	Program words like “here” or “present” so the user can participate in roll call.
Calendar Time	Day of the week, time, month, today, yesterday, tomorrow, numbers	“Today is Tuesday” “The month is September”	If your classroom sings a day-of-the-week or month song, model the words as the song is being played!
Schedule	First, next, art, music, gym, reading, math, morning, afternoon, go, have	“First math, then reading” “Today we have music”	Low-tech picture boards can help users know what to expect throughout the day.
Weather	Weather, sun, rain, cold, hot, outside, cloud	“Today is cold” “I see the sun”	Point to the window to draw the user’s attention outside, then model a word on the device.
Feelings	Feel, happy, sad, mad, good, bad, you, I, excited, tired	“I feel happy” “John feels mad”	Pair modeling the word with the appropriate facial expression or gesture.
Sharing / Show and Tell	I, you, like, don’t like, my turn, your turn, more, all done, cool, boring, have, want, see, wow, oh no, yay, wait, good job	“I like that” “My turn” “I see it” “Good job sharing”	Comment your thoughts and use exaggerated emotions or gestures.

Teachers often use repeated phrases and routines during morning meeting to get the class’s attention and encourage participation. Consider programming these common phrases into the user’s device so they can join in with the group.

Teachers may also include themes or question-of-the-day activities, such as sharing something fun from the weekend on Mondays or telling jokes and choosing songs on Fridays. When these activities are part of the morning meeting routine, make sure your user has access to the language they need to participate alongside their peers.

Morning meeting routines provide predictable, engaging opportunities to model language and encourage social interactions. Through consistent modeling, meaningful interactions, and supportive communication partners, school support staffs play an important role in helping users build communication, participation, and connection within the classroom community.