Just START!

Try It Planning Guide- EXAMPLE

	Try it!
S: Statements **T**: Time **A**: Aided Language Stimulation **R**: Respond **T**: **Try it!**	• Pick a time in your day and just try it! • Try it during a daily routine or highly motivating activity. • Try it during a time that other kids are naturally interacting. • It is OK to make mistakes; in fact, these are great teaching moments!

The aim of Just START is to help you get started with AAC or visual supports with your children. It can be very intimidating to try something new. Early on, don't worry about doing it "right" or "wrong". Making mistakes is a natural part of the process. We can use mistakes as opportunity to model and teach our kids how to repair and/or handle mistakes. As you continue to support your emergent communicator, engage in ongoing reflection and revisions to your practice. The planning guides can help you improve on specific strategies as your practice and/or your child's language grows.

The hardest step is initiating the implementation of the AAC or visuals for communication. Amazing things can come from taking this big leap and making sure to always have the AAC available and accessible. While you can use any of the previous planning guides to get started, here is another option to help you try it! Later you may choose to organize your whole daily schedule like this.

Daily Routine or Activity	Just START strategy focus	Notes / Specifics
bubbles	Respond, Aided language	words to find before play: open, bubbles, up, down, go, more, done; follow child's lead and respond; model word/phrase for each bubble blow
robot vacuum	Aided language	"I don't like it", "go away", "no vacuum"
snack time	Time	teach "wait" signal to all kids; give rotating 1:1 attention to children; give choices for snack options; give time for making choices
getting dressed	Try it, respond	have AAC accessible and available; see what happens; respond to any communication attempts during routine
reading a book	Statements; Aided Language	say a comment on each page; model "turn the page" for each page