

**Communication Dictionary for \_\_\_\_\_**

Completed by \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

See page 3 for instructions on how to fill out the grid and for a sample dictionary.

<b>What person does</b>	<b>What it means</b>	<b>What you should do</b>

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# Sample Sally's Communication Dictionary

Adapted from Pat Mirenda, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, June, 1991

WHAT SALLY DOES	WHAT IT MEANS	WHAT WE DO
Manual sign for "T" to chin	Wants to go to the bathroom	Give permission and help to door
"shhh" sound	"yes"	Respond according to situation
rocks back & forth	"no"	Respond according to situation
claps other's hand when offered	"I'm feeling friendly"	Respond according to situation
puts both arms around stomach	Wants a hug	Encourage to shake you hand by prompting, or give a hug if appropriate
takes partner's hand and brings to refrigerator	Would like something to eat	Open refrigerator door and take several items out for Sally to choose

## **Purpose of dictionary:**

- Facilitates common interpretations among comm. partners
- Helps new partners become familiar with individual communication
- Helps identify areas for further instruction
- Provides documentation of change in communication skills

## **To complete:**

- Regular communication partners each fill out form individually
- Observe the person for 1-2 weeks and record any kind of communication that the person does
- Partners meet to compare their observations
- One final dictionary is then put together to go with the person