

### Peter

Peter is a 4-year-old child with [cerebral palsy](#). He uses a wheel chair. Peter is able to understand what is said to him and uses some speech but it is very difficult for anyone but his family to understand what he is saying. Peter is about to start preschool. His family feels that he needs some other way of communicating with people.



He already uses signing but they would like to look at a voice output device. Peter's parents talk to his speech pathologist about the choices they have and it is agreed that the speech pathologist will do an [assessment](#) and that they will then investigate the best communication options for Peter.

### Renee

Renee is 2 years old. She has a physical disability, including difficulties with her vision. Renee is a very sociable child who loves communicating. She follows instructions that are given to her and although she can't talk, she indicates what she wants by pointing and making sounds. As Renee is getting older, she needs to learn more effective ways to communicate. Her parents are keen for her to receive therapy to improve her speech. It is decided that this will happen, but that signing will also be introduced to Renee so that she is able to communicate with people while her speech skills are developing. Renee's AAC system is signing.

### Jack

Jack is a baby with severe and multiple disabilities. He has limited physical abilities as well as difficulties with his vision. At this stage he is not showing many normal [early communication skills](#). His parents learn about ways that they can encourage early communication. They decide to use objects to help Jack learn to communicate. Before each activity, Jack is shown an object relating to the activity so that he understands what is going to happen next. For example, he is shown a towel before he has a bath..



It is hoped that Jack will learn to link the object with the activity and eventually be able to choose what he wants by pointing to objects. Jack's current AAC system is using [object symbols](#).