

# West Sussex Library Service

## Understand Me – the Communication Library



**2<sup>nd</sup> edition**

**June 2022**



## Introduction

To request any of the items in this catalogue, please complete the [Communication Resources online form](#) or ask library staff if you need help to do this.

You will need to be a member of the library and have a library card to make your request and when you collect the item. If you don't have a library card you can join for free in any [library](#) or [online](#).



## **A5 Talking Photo Album** **Reference number: 101**

The album has 20 pockets allowing for up to 40 images to be displayed. The built-in recorder allows you to record separate voice messages on each page.

Audio clips are stored on an internal memory card which can be erased allowing re-recording at any time.



### **Possible uses for this include:**

- Creating your own talking book by drawing pictures and recording the story to accompany each page.
- Creating a visual guide to a new experience for children or adults (e.g. starting school).
- Creating a reminiscence book for people living with dementia.

You can use Matrix Maker software, available at some of our libraries, to create inserts. Ask at your local library for more information.

**Batteries required:** You will need to provide 3 x AAA batteries.

**Please note:** You will need a small crosshead screwdriver to install batteries.

**Item size:** 23cm x 17cm x 3cm

**Library use only:** XX00383415

## **BIGmack** **Reference number: 121**

A recordable device that has a large inter-changeable coloured button, with a total of 2 minutes recording time.

You can record a single message and play back by simply pressing the large button.

Clear plastic covers can be removed to insert pictures, symbols or words to match sounds.



### **Possible uses for this include:**

- Record a message that needs to be repeated at different times of the day.
- Choose a good joining-in story and record a repeated line.

You can use Matrix Maker software, available at some of our libraries, to create inserts. Ask at your local library for more information.

This device comes with an external connecting lead so that it can be used in connection with other switch- adapted devices such as Freddy Fish, Washing Machine etc.

**Batteries required:** You will need to provide 1x 9V battery.

**Please note:** You will need a small crosshead screwdriver to install the battery.

**Item size:** 160mm x 55mm x 17mm

**Library use only:** XX00383414

## E-Tran Frame

**Reference number: 122**

Some people who have communication difficulties also have physical difficulties and so cannot point to a book or chart. If they have good control over their eyes, they may be able to use an E-Tran frame.

This is a sheet of stiff clear Perspex onto which symbols or words can be stuck with Blu-Tack or Velcro.

Using the eye gaze method, you can select letters to build words.



### **Possible uses for this include:**

- The user can select letters to build words by directing their eyes to each letter.
- You can use Matrix Maker software, available at some of our libraries, to create inserts. Ask at your local library for more information.

**Batteries required:** There are no batteries required for this item.

**Please note:** You will need a partner to sit the other side of the frame to watch you directing your eyes to select letters to form the words you wish to communicate.

**Item size:** 30cm x 45cm x 2cm

**Library use only:** XX00403945

## Exam Reading Pen

**Reference number: 123**

This pen can read printed text and speak aloud each word. It has a built-in speaker so that you can hear the words, but you can also use a set of headphones if you choose.

It can spell words aloud, letter by letter.

It can support students who have reading difficulties such as dyslexia.



### **Possible uses for this include:**

- Students can independently take exams knowing that they can read and understand questions.

**Batteries required:** You will need to provide 2 x AAA batteries.

**Please note:** You will need a small cross-head screwdriver to install batteries and a set of headphones.

**Item size:** 14cm x 20cm x 5cm

**Library use only:** XX00412498

## Go Talk 4+

### Reference number: 103

This is a lightweight, handheld communication aid with light touch buttons.

The board has space for four messages which can change, plus two core messages which stay the same.

Up to five different symbols/picture inserts can be used at a time, giving 20 messages in total.



#### Possible uses for this include:

- Some sample inserts will be supplied with the item.
- You can create your own inserts using pictures or symbols.
- You could also use inserts with foreign language words and translated audio.
- You can use Matrix Maker software, available at some of our libraries, to create inserts. Ask at your local library for more information.

**Batteries required:** You will need to provide 2 x AA batteries.

**Please note:** You will need a small cross-head screwdriver to install batteries.

**Item size:** 30cm x 22cm x 3cm

**Library use only:** XX00383421

## Go Talk 9+

### Reference number: 104

This is a lightweight, handheld communication aid with light touch buttons.

The board has space for nine messages which can change, plus three core messages which stay the same.

Up to five different symbols/picture inserts can be used at a time, giving 45 messages in total.



#### Possible uses for this include:

- Some sample inserts will be supplied with the item
- You can create your own inserts using pictures or symbols.
- You could also use inserts with foreign language words and translated audio.
- You can use Matrix Maker software, available at some of our libraries, to create inserts. Ask at your local library for more information.

**Batteries required:** You will need to provide 2 x AA batteries.

**Please note:** You will need a small cross-head screwdriver to install batteries.

**Item size:** 30cm x 22cm x 3cm

**Library use only:** XX00383420

## Go Talk Pocket Reference number: 105

This is a lightweight, pocket communication aid with light touch buttons and a lanyard so it may be worn.

The board has space for six messages which can change.

Up to five different symbols/picture inserts can be used at a time, giving 30 messages in total.



### Possible uses for this include:

- Some sample inserts will be supplied with the item.
- You can create your own inserts using pictures or symbols.
- You could also use inserts with foreign language words and translated audio.
- You can use Matrix Maker software, available at some of our libraries, to create inserts. Ask at your local library for more information.

**Batteries required:** You will need to provide 3 x AAA batteries.

**Please note:** You will need a small cross-head screwdriver to install batteries.

**Item size:** 14cm x 9cm x 3cm

**Library use only:** XX00383419

## Interactive Wall Chart Reference number: 117

The wall chart has 30 pockets which can hold pictures, symbols, words or small objects.

Record 10-second messages for each pocket then switch to play mode.

Switching back to record mode lets you re-record messages.



### Possible uses for this include:

- Use with a group to help everyone make difference choices (e.g. what snack they would like).
- Use as a calendar to record things that happen each day.
- Use with objects to practice describing things.
- You can use Matrix Maker software, available at some of our libraries, to create inserts. Ask at your local library for more information.

**Batteries required:** You will need to provide 3 x AAA batteries.

**Please note:** You will need a small cross-head screwdriver to install batteries.

**Item size:** 67cm x 53cm x 1cm

**Library use only:** XX00383427

## Joy 2 Cable with Switch Driver Reference number: 124

This is a USB cable that can be used with up to two smoothie switches to replace the mouse, space bar or enter key.

Download the free software or install from the disc and plug in one or two switches via the Joy 2 Cable. You can then set the smoothie switch to replace the keys you require.



### Possible uses for this include:

- Press smoothie switches instead of the mouse or keyboard for pressing Enter
- or the Space Bar on your computer.
- Simple computer games can be played using a smoothie switch to demonstrate cause and effect.

**Batteries required:** There are no batteries required for this device.

**Please note:** This item is loaned with a large and small Smoothie Switch.

**Item size:** 24cm x 15cm x 1 cm

**Library use only:** XX00412499

## Musical Floor Pads Reference number: 125

A set of 8 colourful musical pads which are fun and interactive.

Each pad plays a different musical note.

Use by stepping on or applying pressure from other parts of your body to activate the sounds.



### Possible uses for this include:

- An introduction to cause and effect.
- Encourage turn-taking and working together.
- Imaginative play.

**Batteries required:** There are no batteries required.

**Please note:** This item is quite bulky and reasonably heavy to carry.

**Item size:** Each foam pad measures 30cm in diameter.

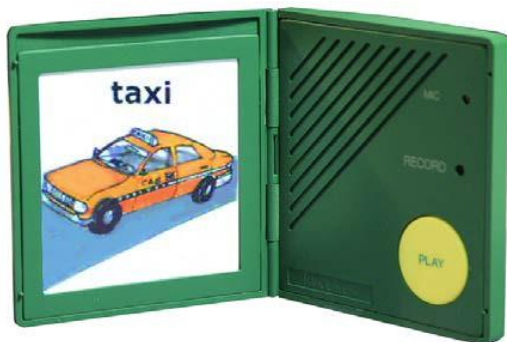
**Library use only:** XX00412501

## Personal Talker Reference number: 126

This is a pocket-sized device that allows you to record a single 10 second message.

You can insert a picture, symbol or word into the frame.

Instant playback of your message can be heard by pressing the play button.



### Possible uses for this include:

- Can be used for communicating an emergency message.
- Ordering a taxi or for getting on the bus.
- You can use Matrix Maker software, available at some of our libraries, to create inserts. Ask at your local library for more information.

**Batteries required:** You will need to provide 2 x AG13 (alkaline) batteries.

**Please note:** You will need a small cross-head screwdriver to install batteries.

**Item size:** 7cm x 6cm x 1cm

**Library use only:** XX00412502

## Rainbow Talking Boxes (set of 6) Reference number: 127

Each box can record 10 seconds of audio with a simple record button. To listen to the message, simply open the box.

Place small objects or pictures inside each box and record a sound.

These boxes have wipe clean surfaces and magnetic catches.



### Possible uses for this include:

- Place photographs/objects inside and record voices to match, for guessing games.
- Learning the alphabet: Place a letter inside each box and record a clue to guess the letter, e.g. Cat begins with a C.

**Batteries required:** There are no batteries required.

**Please note:** This item does not have a volume control. The sound is relatively quiet.

**Item size:** 155mm x 130mm x 70mm

**Library use only:** XX00412503



## Recordable Bar

### Reference number: 108

The bar has six large, light touch buttons, each with a 10-second recording capacity.

Buttons can take inserts with pictures, symbols or words on.

Switching back to record mode lets you re-record messages.



#### Possible uses for this include:

- Plan a daily routine with buttons showing tasks (e.g. clean your teeth).
- Build a story sequence with actions in a specific order.
- Use with a group to offer choices for people to make decisions.
- You can use Matrix Maker software, available at some of our libraries, to create inserts. Ask at your local library for more information.

**Batteries required:** You will need to provide 3 x AAA batteries.

**Please note:** You will need a small cross-head screwdriver to install batteries.

**Item size:** 56cm x 12cm x 3cm

**Library use only:** XX00383422

## Sound Bank Mirrors (set of 6)

### Reference number: 128

Each tile can record up to 30 seconds of audio with a simple 'press and hold' function.

Each tile has an acrylic mirror.

Switching back to record mode lets you re-record messages.



#### Possible uses for this include:

- Record animal noises to use with stories and rhymes.
- Record some of the repeated lines to participate in a story.

**Batteries required:** You will need to provide 1 x AAA type battery for each tile.

**Please note:** You will need a small cross-head screwdriver to install batteries.

**Item size:** 10cm x 10cm x 2cm

**Library use only:** XX00412504

## Step by Step Reference number: 129

This is a recordable device that has a large inter-changeable coloured button.

You can record, play, pause then record another message. It has a total of 2 minutes recording time.

To play back your messages, simply press the large button.

Clear plastic covers can be removed to allow pictures, symbols or words to match sounds.



### Possible uses for this include:

- Record animal noises and add matching pictures to use with stories and rhymes.
- This device comes with an external connecting lead so that it can be used with other switch adapted devices such as Freddy Fish, Washing Machine etc.
- You can use Matrix Maker software, available at some of our libraries, to create inserts. Ask at your local library for more information.

**Batteries required:** You will need to provide 1 x 9V battery.

**Please note:** You will need a small cross-head screwdriver to install the battery.

**Item size:** 127mm in diameter

**Library use only:** XX00412506

## Step by Step with Levels Reference number: 130

This is a recordable device that has a large inter-changeable coloured button, with a total of 4 minutes recording time.

It has three recording levels allowing you to record a series of messages which the user can step through in sequence.

Clear plastic covers can be removed to allow pictures, symbols or words to match sounds.



### Possible uses for this include:

- Record sequences for different activities throughout the day.
- Asking a sequence of questions, reading a story or counting.
- This device comes with an external connecting lead so that it can be used in connection with other switch-adapted devices such as Freddy Fish, Washing Machine etc.

**Batteries required:** You will need to provide 1 x 9V battery.

**Please note:** You will need a small cross-head screwdriver to install the battery.

**Item size:** 127mm in diameter

**Library use only:** XX00412505

**Switch Adapted Toy:  
Bubble Machine Freddy Fish  
Reference number: 113**

Switch adapted toys allow those with limited motor skills better access to control functions with a light touch switch.

Use the switch to control the bubbles blown by Freddy.

Don't forget you will need some bubbles!



**Possible uses for this include:**

- A very first introduction to cause and effect.
- Add a sensory element to any play situation.

**Batteries required:** You will need to provide 6 x AA batteries.

**Please note:** You will need a small cross-head screwdriver to install batteries. This item is loaned with a large and small Smoothie Switch.

**Item size:** 21cm x 14cm x 15cm

**Library use only:** XX00383423

**Switch Adapted Toy: First Friends Car  
Reference number: 131**

Switch adapted toys allow those with limited motor skills better access to control functions with a light touch switch.

Use the switch to beep the horn, flash the lights & drive the car forward.



**Possible uses for this include:**

- A very first introduction to cause and effect.
- Imaginative small world play.

**Batteries required:** You will need to provide 2 x AA batteries.

**Please note:** You will need a small cross-head screwdriver to install batteries. This item is loaned with a large and small Smoothie Switch.

**Item size:** 15cm x 22cm x 15cm

**Library use only:** XX00412507

**Switch Adapted Toy:  
Henry the Hoover  
Reference number: 114**

Switch adapted toys allow those with limited motor skills better access to control functions with a light touch switch.

Use the switch to control the hoover action.

Henry comes with a full range of attachments stashed inside!



**Possible uses for this include:**

- Part of role or daily routine play.
- Overcoming the fear of the real vacuum cleaner.

**Batteries required:** You will need to provide 4 x C batteries.

**Please note:** You will need a small cross-head screwdriver to install batteries. This item is loaned with a large and small Smoothie Switch.

**Item size:** 24cm x 24cm x 24cm

**Library use only:** XX00383424

**Switch Adapted Toy:  
Johnny the Tractor  
Reference number: 132**

Switch adapted toys allow those with limited motor skills better access to control functions with a light touch switch.

Use the switches to move Johnny forward and to reverse.

This is a great first remote-controlled switch adapted toy.



**Possible uses for this include:**

- A very first introduction to cause and effect.
- Imaginative play.

**Batteries required:** You will need to provide 1 x 9V and 3 x AA type batteries.

**Please note:** You will need a small cross-head screwdriver to install batteries. This item is loaned with a large and small Smoothie Switch.

**Item size:** 10cm x 15cm x 10cm

**Library use only:** XX00412508

## Switch Adapted Toy: Little People Airplane Reference number: 106

Switch adapted toys allow those with limited motor skills better access to control functions with a light touch switch.

Use the switch to control the airplane's catchy song.

Pressing the different passengers will also control different sounds



### Possible uses for this include:

- Explore the idea of going on a plane.
- A first introduction to cause and effect.
- Imaginative small world play.

**Batteries required:** You will need to provide 3 x AA batteries.

**Please note:** You will need a small cross-head screwdriver to install batteries. This item is loaned with a large and small Smoothie Switch.

**Item size:** 30cm x 22cm x 16cm

**Library use only:** XX00383413

## Switch Adapted Toy: Little People Fire Truck Reference number: 118

Switch adapted toys allow those with limited motor skills better access to control functions with a light touch switch.

Use the switch to control the fire truck's catchy song.

Lifting the ladder will also control different sounds.



### Possible uses for this include:

- A very first introduction to cause and effect.
- Imaginative small world play.

**Batteries required:** You will need to provide 2 x AA batteries.

**Please note:** You will need a small cross-head screwdriver to install batteries. This item is loaned with a large and small Smoothie Switch.

**Item size:** 30cm x 12cm x 15cm

**Library use only:** XX00412509

## Switch Adapted Toy: Little People Toy Bus

Reference number: 133

Switch adapted toys allow those with limited motor skills better access to control functions with a light touch switch.

Use the switch to listen to "The Wheels on the Bus" song.

The driver speaks to his passengers!

"Good Morning! Time to start the day!" and more.



### Possible uses for this include:

- A very first introduction to cause and effect.
- Imaginative small world play.

**Batteries required:** You will need to provide 3 x AA batteries.

**Please note:** You will need a small cross-head screwdriver to install batteries. This item is loaned with a large and small Smoothie Switch.

**Item size:** 20cm x 30cm x 12cm

**Library use only:** XX00412510

## Switch Adapted Toy: Microwave

Reference number: 134

Switch adapted toys allow those with limited motor skills better access to control functions with a light touch switch.

Use the switch to start cooking and play sounds.



### Possible uses for this include:

- A very first introduction to cause and effect.
- Imaginative play.

**Batteries required:** You will need to provide 3 x AA type batteries.

**Please note:** You will need a small cross-head screwdriver to install batteries. This item is loaned with a large and small Smoothie Switch.

**Item size:** 30cm x 20cm x 20cm

**Library use only:** XX00412511

## Switch Adapted Toy: Thomas the Tank Engine

Reference number: 135

Switch adapted toys allow those with limited motor skills better access to control functions with a light touch switch.

Use the switches to move Thomas in a straight line and reverse in a circle.

Hear Thomas speak and toot as he moves.

This is a great first remote-controlled switch adapted toy.



### Possible uses for this include:

- A very first introduction to cause and effect.
- Imaginative play.

**Batteries required:** You will need to provide 6 x AAA type batteries.

**Please note:** You will need a small cross head screwdriver to install batteries. This item is loaned with a large and small Smoothie Switch.

**Item size:** 10cm x 14cm x 6cm

**Library use only:** XX00412512

## Switch Adapted Toy: Washing Machine

Reference number: 115

Switch adapted toys allow those with limited motor skills better access to control functions with a light touch switch.

Use the switch to control the wash cycle.

Supplied with laundry basket and pretend washing powder.



### Possible uses for this include:

- Part of role or daily routine play.
- A very first introduction to cause and effect.
- Imaginative play.

**Batteries required:** You will need to provide 3 x C batteries.

**Please note:** You will need a small cross-head screwdriver to install batteries. This item is loaned with a large and small Smoothie Switch.

**Item size:** 30cm x 24cm x 22cm

**Library use only:** XX00383425

## Talking Tiles (set of 6)

### Reference number: 116

Each tile can record up to 80 seconds of audio with a simple 'press and hold' function.

Clear plastic covers can be removed to allow pictures, symbols or words to match the sounds.

Switching back to record mode lets you re-record messages.



#### **Possible uses for this include:**

- Record animal noises and add matching pictures to use with stories and rhymes.
- Choose a good joining-in story and record some of the repeated lines.

**Batteries required:** You will need to provide 3 x AAA batteries for each tile (i.e.18 for the full set).

**Please note:** You will need a small cross-head screwdriver to install batteries.

**Item size:** 10cm x 9cm x 3cm (each individual tile)

**Library use only:** XX00383416