



Sharing our Success Stories

What happened?

Thomas is a second grader at a local elementary school. He has difficulty using his voice for communication, because it is difficult to understand him and he typically uses one-word phrases. The teacher started using a SpringBoard Lite with him hoping to get Thomas to expand his language and provide opportunities to communicate more complex information.

Over the course of a week the teacher and the student read together the book “Don’t Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus!” The teacher created character sticks to represent each character in the story. After reading the book a couple of times, the teacher asked the student to find all of the question marks and identify who was asking the questions by showing her his answer using the character sticks. Using his SpringBoard Lite, Thomas asked others about the story and who was asking questions. He shared the story with second grader peers and adults in the office and around the building. Thomas was very excited to participate as a leader in this activity.

Why is this a “success story?”

Thomas loves books and reading. He was always reluctant to use more than one word to communicate. Using this approach, pairing his love of books with the AAC device, he was more able and willing to use the device to communicate multi-word questions. His motivation to communicate was definitely more evident during this activity and his communication improved greatly.