



# Augmentative and Alternative Communication: Supporting Children and Adults with Complex Communication Needs, Fourth Edition

By David Beukelman, Pat Mirenda

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**Augmentative and Alternative Communication: Supporting Children and Adults with Complex Communication Needs, Fourth Edition** By David Beukelman, Pat Mirenda

As AAC use continues to flourish and new technology revolutionizes the field, tomorrow's service providers need current, authoritative information on AAC for children and adults with communication disorders. That's why David Beukelman and Pat Mirenda have revised and updated the bestselling *Augmentative and Alternative Communication*—the trusted, widely adopted graduate-level text on communication disorders and AAC. The foundational textbook for SLPs, OTs, PTs, teachers, and other professionals in clinical and educational settings, this fourth edition is a definitive introduction to AAC processes, interventions, and technologies that help people best meet their daily communication needs. Future professionals will prepare for their work in the field with critical new information on

- advancing **literacy skills** (new chapter by Janice Light and David McNaughton)
- conducting **effective, culturally appropriate assessment** to determine AAC needs
- choosing **AAC interventions** appropriate for age and ability
- selecting **AAC vocabulary** tailored to individual needs
- using **new consumer technologies** as easy, affordable, and non-stigmatizing communication devices
- understanding types of **symbols** and how individuals use them
- promoting **social competence**
- supporting **language learning and development**
- providing effective support to **beginning communicators**
- planning an **inclusive education** for students with complex communication needs

Readers will get a thorough overview of communication and AAC issues for people with specific **developmental disabilities** (including cerebral palsy,

intellectual disability, and autism) and **acquired disabilities** (such as aphasia, traumatic brain injury, and degenerative cognitive and linguistic disorders). And with helpful photos, figures, and photocopiable forms, readers will be ready to collect and use important information on assessment, individual communication needs, classroom supports, and more.

An essential core text for tomorrow's professionals—and a key reference for inservice practitioners—this new fourth edition expertly prepares readers to support the communicative competence of children and adults with a wide range of complex needs.

**What's new:**

- New literacy chapter
- Extensive updates reflecting current consumer technology
- Helpful end-of-chapter study questions
- Updated resource sections and glossary
- All the latest research and best practices in every chapter

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**Augmentative and Alternative Communication: Supporting Children and Adults with Complex Communication Needs, Fourth Edition By David Beukelman, Pat Mirenda Bibliography**

- Sales Rank: #13255 in Books
- Brand: Brand: Paul H. Brookes Publishing Co
- Published on: 2012-09-14
- Released on: 2012-09-14
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 10.00" h x 7.25" w x 1.25" l, 2.65 pounds
- Binding: Hardcover
- 616 pages



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## **Editorial Review**

### **Review**

“A tour-de-force . . . should be on the shelf of everyone with a stake in advancing the field of AAC. This book has my strongest possible endorsement.”

(Joe Reichle, Ph.D.)

### **About the Author**

David R. Beukelman, Ph.D is the Barkley Professor of Communication Disorders at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Director of Research and Education of the Communication Disorders Division, Munroe/Meyer Institute of Genetics and Rehabilitation at the University of Nebraska Medical Center, A research partner in the Rehabilitation Engineering and Research Center in Augmentative and Alternative Communication, and a senior researcher in the Institute for Rehabilitation Science and Engineering at the Madonna Rehabilitation Hospital. With Pat Mirenda, he co-authored the textbook, *Augmentative and Alternative Communication: Management of Severe Communication Disorders in Children and Adults*. He served as editor of the *Augmentative and Alternative Communication Journal* for four years.

Dr. Mirenda earned her doctorate in behavioral disabilities from the University of Wisconsin–Madison. For 8 years, she was a faculty member in the Department of Special Education and Communication Disorders, University of Nebraska–Lincoln. From 1992 to 1996, she provided a variety of training, research, and support services to individuals with severe disabilities through CBI Consultants, Ltd., in Vancouver, British Columbia. She is now Professor in the Department of Educational and Counseling Psychology and Special Education at the University of British Columbia. From 1998 to 2001, she was editor of the journal *Augmentative and Alternative Communication*. In 2004, she was named a Fellow of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association and was awarded the Killam Teaching Prize at the University of British Columbia. In 2008, she was named a Fellow of the International Society for Augmentative and Alternative Communication. Dr. Mirenda is the author of numerous book chapters and research publications; she lectures widely and teaches courses on augmentative and alternative communication, inclusive education, developmental disabilities, autism, and positive behavior support. Her current research focuses on describing the developmental trajectories of young children with autism and factors that predict the outcomes of early intervention.

Janice Light, Ph.D., is a Professor in the Department of Communication Disorders at the Pennsylvania State University. She is actively involved in research, personnel preparation, and service delivery in the area of augmentative and alternative communication (AAC). Her primary interest has been furthering understanding of the development of communicative competence and self-determination by individuals who require AAC.

Dr. Light is the principal investigator on several federally-funded research grants to improve outcomes for individuals who have significant communication disabilities through the use of augmentative and alternative

communication. She is one of the project directors in the Augmentative and Alternative Communication Rehabilitation Engineering Research Center (AAC-RERC), a virtual research consortium funded by the National Institute for Disability and Rehabilitation Research.

In 1996, Dr. Light was recognized as the Don Johnston Distinguished Lecturer by the International Society of Augmentative and Alternative Communication for her leadership in the AAC field. In 1999, she received the Dorothy Jones Barnes Outstanding Teaching Award at the Pennsylvania State University.

## **Users Review**

### **From reader reviews:**

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#### **Robert Thompson:**

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#### **Mary Muncy:**

The reason? Because this Augmentative and Alternative Communication: Supporting Children and Adults with Complex Communication Needs, Fourth Edition is an unordinary book that the inside of the publication waiting for you to snap that but latter it will surprise you with the secret that inside. Reading this book alongside it was fantastic author who also write the book in such incredible way makes the content within easier to understand, entertaining way but still convey the meaning thoroughly. So , it is good for you for not hesitating having this nowadays or you going to regret it. This unique book will give you a lot of benefits than the other book have got such as help improving your ability and your critical thinking means. So , still want to postpone having that book? If I had been you I will go to the guide store hurriedly.

**Carolyn Berndt:**

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