

CAMP CONNECT for AAC

What I need to know:

- It's FREE! '8cbUh]cbg' YbVæi fU[YX"
- Each camper needs to bring a voice output communication device.
- Parents will need to provide transportation and snack/drink. Camp does not provide feeding hygiene or nursing care.
- Care providers (family, respite, nurse etc) are welcome to participate with a specific camper if they complete volunteer packet.
- Community partner volunteers will provide unique enrichment activities.
- Each camper will receive a summary following camp detailing AAC use/strategies.
- Space is limited and dependent on volunteer numbers. Must submit complete packet for consideration.
- Photos/videos may be taken which may be shared on camp's social media and used for future training.

Questions?

connect4AAC@gmail.com

Get info, register or donate
to our 501(3)c by scanning
QR code or visiting:
campconnect4aac.org

CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS!

Volunteers needed to act as peer language models and facilitate language rich interactions during all camp activities. Fingerprint clearance requested. AAC training provided! Seeking:

- ❖ Adult advanced AAC users
- ❖ SLP/ OT service providers, grad students
- ❖ family members, school age peers, caretakers
- ❖ community partners



Brought to you by multi-agency camp
co-chairs and community partners:

Wylanta Jones, M.S., CCC-SLP

Jeremy Legaspi, M.S., CCC-SLP

Yavapai County Office of Emergency
Management

Yavapai County Jeep Posse

Camp Connect



2025 Session: Amazing Animals

Dates: June 16-20

Time: 9:30-12:30

**Intended age: School age
participants**

Place: Prescott, AZ

Register
or
Donate



Augmentative Alternative Communication

AAC stands for Augmentative Alternative Communication. AAC users encounter difficulty communicating via speech due to congenital and/or acquired disabilities occurring across the lifespan. These conditions include but are not limited to autism, cerebral palsy, dual sensory impairments, genetic syndromes, intellectual disability, multiple disabilities, hearing impairment, disease, stroke, and traumatic brain injury.

According to the American Speech, Language and Hearing Association, "Augmentative and alternative communication (AAC) includes all forms of communication (other than oral speech) that are used to express thoughts, needs, wants, and ideas."

People with severe speech or language problems rely on AAC to supplement existing speech or replace speech that is not functional. Special augmentative aids, such as picture and symbol communication boards and electronic devices, are available to help people express themselves. This may increase social interaction, school performance, and feelings of self-worth.

(Michelle Austin, Diagnostic Center, Central CA)

The CampConnect4AAC Mission

CAMP CONNECT creates an inclusive camp experience that empowers children who use AAC to be autonomous communicators, connects community and AAC users and supports ongoing learning for all participants. Campers engage in language rich, interactive AUTHENTIC communication opportunities in activities such as crafts, poetry, cooking, games, adapted sports, art, exploration, and play. Community members such as first responders, emergency management, radio club and inclusive organizations bring additional enrichment. Partners such as student clinicians and service providers volunteer to plan activities and coordinate camp events. Each camper has a peer partner and language facilitator to encourage interaction.

All campers and volunteers will learn new ways to communicate with AAC!



Why bring AAC users together with community members?

CAMP CONNECT offers an opportunity for children who use communication devices to meet one another, learn, interact socially, and receive AAC instruction. The AAC users will learn new language forms, communicate in all activities, interact, and build friendships! Each camper will build upon their own language skills, while engaging in full-filled activities!

Camp blends natural communication opportunities with connections to community helpers. This connection broadens social circles for campers and gives first responders and other partners more genuine interactions than in school visits. This shows emergency responders how much the campers can do given time to process and tools to communicate.

