



What is the ACC Device?

What is it?: AAC, or Augmentative and Alternative Communication, refers to tools or strategies that help individuals communicate when they have difficulty with speech or writing. These devices allow individuals to express their thoughts, needs, opinions, and ideas.

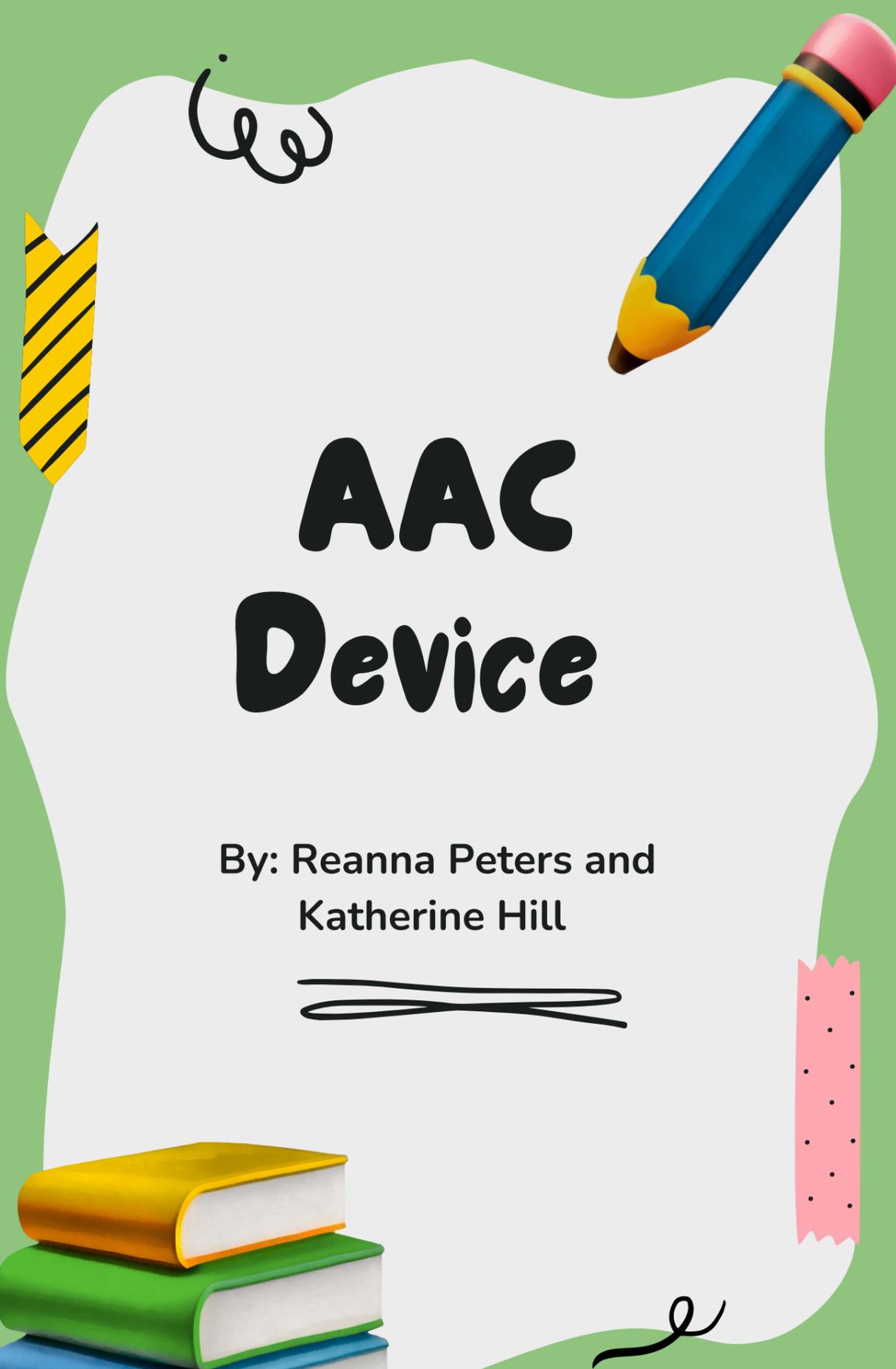
When did AAC devices begin: These devices began in the 1950s for those who had lost the ability to speak after surgical procedures. However, they did not start gaining popularity until the 1960s-1970s.

Implications for Parents, Families

AAC Devices can impact families by reducing frustration and improving the family communication overall. These devices can help individuals express themselves and help them participate in daily activities. Families will be able to understand their child and reduce the frustration on both ends because it helps eliminate miscommunication. Because of the stronger communication with the family, it is going to create more meaningful connections and for the families to have experiences together. It is important to consider that any AAC devices should be differentiated depending on the child's and family's needs and their circumstances.

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AAC Device

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In Depth Overview

Anyone can use the devices! Regardless of their age or their degree of communication challenges. Including children with developmental disabilities, acquired disorders, or those who have experienced a sudden injury. Students can use picture boards, visual schedules, GoTalk devices, Speech-generating devices, and iPad-based communication apps. These are ranges of AAC Devices from Low-tech to High-tech. These devices help individuals express their needs, wants, and ideas more effectively. Individuals with delays or disabilities can have a hard time being independent; however, these devices can empower them to participate more fully in daily life. Alongside this, the AAC devices encourage more social interaction because they allow those individuals to actually engage in conversation with others. These devices can be differentiated depending on the individual's needs; sometimes, these things are not permanent and can be used temporarily.

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Implications for Teachers, Early Childhood Educators

Children are able to communicate more effectively and are more included in the classroom. They are more able to express their thoughts in the classroom and share things with their peers. Educators can promote inclusion by ensuring that all of the students are able to participate in the classroom, and AAC devices can help educators make this happen. These devices allow for more individualized learning experiences because the teacher can use their communication support to meet the needs of the students. Ensuring to communicate with the educator and including them in the process is important for everyone to help support the child.

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