

## Using Keywords to Communicate with an AAC System

1. **Pick the most important word** you want to communicate.
  - Example: To say *"I'd like to eat an apple"*, focus on **apple**.
2. **Find the word in categories:**
  - **Food** → **Fruit** → **Apple**
3. **Add related words if needed:**
  - Action: **Actions** → **Eat**
  - Description: **Describe** → **Color** → **Red**

### Other Examples:

1. *"I want to drink water."*
  - Keyword: **Water** → **Drinks** → **Water**
  - Action: **Actions** → **Drink**
2. *"I feel happy today."*
  - Keyword: **Happy** → **Feelings** → **Happy**
3. *"I need help with my shoes."*
  - Keyword: **Help** → **Requests** → **Help**
  - Item: **Clothing** → **Shoes**
4. *"I want to watch TV."*
  - Keyword: **TV** → **Activities** → **TV**
  - Action: **Actions** → **Watch**
5. *"I have pain in my leg."*
  - Keyword: **Pain** → **Feelings/Health** → **Pain**
  - Item/Location: **Body** → **Leg**

### Why use keywords:

- This way of communicating with keywords can be used **both by the person using the AAC device** to express themselves **and by their communication partner** to support understanding and comprehension.
- Focusing on keywords allows messages to be **faster, clearer, and easier to understand**.
- Communication partners can **model the same keywords** or **help locate them on the device**, reinforcing learning and making conversations smoother.