**Thinking About Vocabulary**

**Personalized Vocabulary**

• “Words” that are highly motivating and meaningful to the individual

• Includes “words” that: - the individual would want to say - can occur several times a day - are available in the individual’s environment - are likely to be nouns or highly preferred activities

**Selecting Vocabulary**

• The more motivating the words, the better chances of success.

• These should be motivating to the individual and NOT just what is available, or what team members want them to say.

• It should be what the individual would want to say.

• Core vocabulary should be introduced once the initial vocabulary is established.

**Core Vocabulary**

• Makes up 80% or more of language used from toddlers through adults

• 250-400 of the most commonly used vocabulary across environments

• Includes: – action words like “want” and “put” – nouns like “things”, “stuff” and “people” – pronouns like “I”, “me”, “my”, “mine” – demonstratives like “this” and “that” – adverbs like “here” and “there”