Communication Diary

Instructions

1. Write in the diary as often as possible. Ideally, describe your child's attempts to communicate as soon as you observe them. Another option is to complete the diary at the end of the day.
2. Fill in the chart below:
   a. First column: Location, Activity, Partner(s) → child's location, activity and communication partner(s).
   b. Second column: How did your child communicate? → describe child's communication attempt (e.g., smile, gesture, vocalization, pointing, sign language etc.).
   c. Third column: Intended Message → describe what you think your child's intended message was (e.g., "I don't want any, I'm angry, I'm hungry, I want to play with you").
   d. Fourth column: Strategy Used → describe the strategies you used to clarify or confirm the message (e.g., "asked yes-no questions", "showed several toys until he chose one").
   e. Fifth column: What could you model on the device? → write down a word or words that you could model

Location, Activity, Partner(s)	How did your child communicate?	Intended Message?	Strategy Used?	What could you model on the device?
Examples: • Having a snack in the kitchen with Dad	• Pointed to cupboard and vocalized	• He wanted a cookie	• I opened the cupboard, removed the cookie bag, and asked if he wanted a cookie	• *open, want, cookie, eat, like; want cookie, like cookie*
• Putting boots on with Mom before going to school	• Threw the boot against the wall and started to scream	• He didn't want to put his boots on	• None required	• *on, not* (you do "not" want to put them on); *on* (you need to put your boots on)

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Location, Activity, Partners	How did your child Communicate?	Intended Message?	Strategy Used?	What could you model on the device?