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**CLASS**<sub>UC</sub>  
COMMUNICATION LANGUAGE  
AND SPEECH SERVICES



AAC News- June 2012

## Emergency Preparedness for AAC users

Is your AAC user ready for an emergency? In addition to having phrases programmed into their device such as “I have a speech disorder; I use this device to talk”, “I need help”, “My phone number is:\_\_\_\_\_”, it is important to prepare for the worst and have no-tech laminated paper communication boards (preferably with the same layout and symbols/ words that their high-tech device has) carried with them at all times. In the case of a loss of power or a natural disaster, these boards can help your AAC user communicate with you, emergency services, and other important people. Keep these boards in your emergency kit, along with all medications, medical information, insurance cards, contact information for support team (caregivers, grandparents, speech therapists, etc.), written instructions for how emergency response teams should communicate with the AAC user at all times, and other emergency necessities. Don't hesitate to contact us if you have any questions about AAC and emergency preparedness or if you need help creating hard-copy communication boards.

## Save the Date!

- Spring groups **end** the week of June 15<sup>th</sup>
- Summer groups **start** the week of July 1<sup>st</sup>.

## Featured App: Tapikeo HD



Tapikeo is a great new app that allows you and your AAC user to easily and quickly create your own audio-enabled picture books, storyboards, visual schedules, memory aids, audio flashcards, and more using a versatile grid style layout. It's highly customizable and versatile interface allows for limitless possibilities. For only \$3.99 Tapikeo's developers boast that with this app you can create:

- Talking picture and photo albums
- Visual schedules with verbal prompts
- Simple scrapbooking of memorable events with narration (a trip to the zoo, my birthday etc.)
- Storyboarding
- Fully customizable multi-level AAC tool...and much more! This could be a great tool to reinforce concepts taught in therapy at home!