



Choosing Boards

Why use visual supports?

- Visuals remain when spoken word "disappears"
- Visuals direct and hold attention
- Visuals allow more time to process information
- Visuals can support learning language
- Visuals can support memory
- Help adults slow down their spoken language
- To support understanding
- To be build independence
- To reduce anxiety

Choosing Boards can:

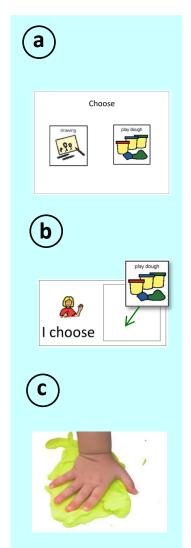
- Support children to be aware of choices available
- Support children to extend play/ activity choices
- Reduce choice to prevent the child being overwhelmed
- Support children to extend engagement in play
- Support adults to reduce language
- Be used with other visual strategies such as "First, Then Board

Creating a Basic Choosing Board

- Choose your visuals e.g. real photos or symbols
- Print, laminate and add Velcro to the cards
- Create your choice board a piece of card with Velcro or a printed choose board

How to use a Choosing Board

- 1. Start with two choices, which can then be increased but ideally no more than five
- 2. Take the child to the board or take the board to the child (depending on the child)
- 3. Say "Name..or choose" (repeat if needed).
- The cards should initially be placed as far apart as possible.
 (a)
- 5. Wait for a response e.g. eye pointing, gesturing, pointing, picking up the card, or using language.
- 6. Verbally repeat the child's choice
- 7. Support child to transfer the chosen card to the appropriate place (where appropriate) (b)
- 8. Support child to engage in activity. (c)



Top Tips

- If using photos preferably plain background, the less cluttered the better
- Using a printed choose board means everyone knows the board's purpose
- Keep the board in the same place so child/ children can access independently
- If using the board for one child, it may be helpful to add the child's photo