

# Core Vocabulary

## What is Core Vocabulary?

Core Vocabulary is a set of words which can be used functionally to help a child to meet their needs across different environments. For example, they can be used to tell someone they want something or more of something they like, to ask for help, or to tell someone they want something to stop or finish. These include:

- ⇒ More
- ⇒ Want
- ⇒ Stop
- ⇒ Finished
- ⇒ Help



## How can I help my child to learn these words?

To learn to use these words, children need to hear them being used throughout their daily activities. For example, give a piece of a motivating game or food bit by bit, saying "more" each time you give the child a new piece. Once you have modelled this frequently in lots of different situations, begin to wait longer before you give the child the next piece to give them an opportunity to say 'more' themselves.




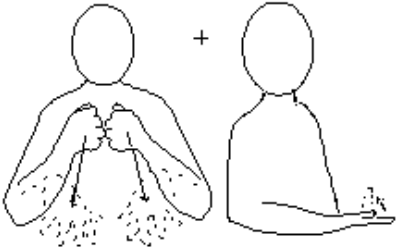
## Using Makaton to support Core Vocabulary:

Some children may benefit from using Makaton signs for Core Vocabulary words to support their understanding and ability to use them. Please ask your Speech and Language Therapist for more information on Makaton signs for core vocabulary.

## Using symbols to support Core Vocabulary:

Some children may benefit from using symbols for Core Vocabulary words to support their understanding and ability to use them. Please ask your Speech and Language Therapist for more information on symbol use for Core Vocabulary.

**Makaton signs for core vocabulary:**

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>More</b></p> <p>Clench your non-dominant hand into a fist and turn it on its side. Then place your dominant hand on top of the first and say "more".</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Want</b></p> <p>Place your dominant hand on your chest and move it away from you and say "want".</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Stop</b></p> <p>Show the back of your hand at shoulder length and say "stop".</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Finished</b></p> <p>Clench both fists and hold them just below shoulder length. Then begin to open your fists while moving them towards your waist until your hands are flat and say "finish".</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Help</b></p> <p>Place your dominant hand in a fist and put it on the palm of your non-dominant hand. Then move both hands (kept in the same position) up towards your chest and say "help".</p>	