

Appendix 10. Operational Behavioral Definitions

Parent Behaviors	Operational Definitions	Examples
Communication Incentives (Dyad B)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Preparing the natural environment with materials, people, activities, and routines that provide opportunities or new items to teach communication ● Incorporating motivation by using rewards, social praise; interspersing mastered skills, or affirming what child said “yes” ● Communicative temptations and/or routine interruptions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Parent places the child’s preferred items (e.g., toys, iPad), provides the child’s preferred activities (e.g., watching sports video), or provides new materials in the child’s line of sight but out of the child’s reach ● When the child requests, parent praises or reinforces the child and provides the item the child requests (e.g., agreeing with what the child said, “Yes, that’s right!” “They are!” or “I see!”; praising for letting the other person speak “Thanks for letting me talk.”)
Modeling (Dyad B and C)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Modeling communication verbally without telling the child, “say ____.” ● Modeling communicative behaviors physically 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Parent models how to request by saying “I want Mickey Mouse.” ● Parent taps the AAC device or demonstrate a gesture to request “I want Mickey Mouse.”
Prompting (Triad A, Dyad B and C)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Using a verbal, gestural, or physical prompt to redirect or prompt the child to use the appropriate communication skill 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Parent directly tells the child “You say, I want Mickey Mouse.” or “You say, I like sports because it’s exciting.” ● Parent holds the child’s hand to tap the icons “I want” and “Mickey Mouse” on the AAC device to request
Expanding (Triad A)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Modeling new vocabulary, longer sentences or phrases, or conversational turns verbally or physically ● When the child uses voice or at least one word to request, the parent models longer sentences 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Based on the child’s answer or comments (e.g., “Yes! I like it.”), the parent asks for longer sentences or completed answers (e.g., “Why do you like it?” or “Tell me more!”)