


Core First

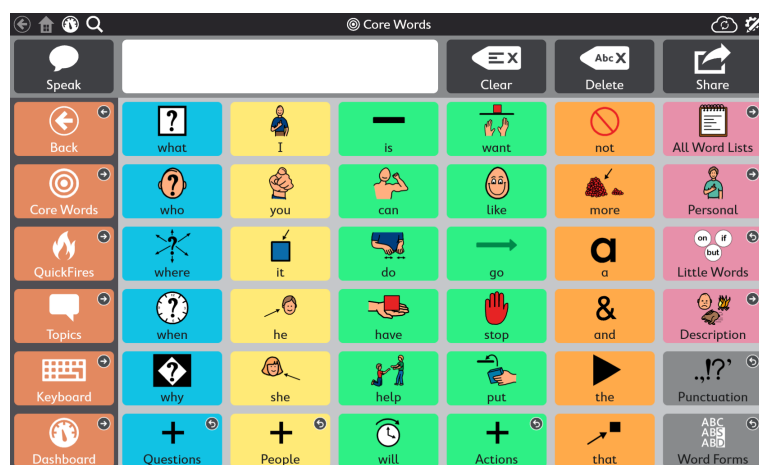
English Page Set Guide

 There are several English language versions of the Core First Page Set available. This guide uses the U.S. English version of the Page Set as the example, but the information applies to all English language Page Sets.

The Core First English Page Set consists of several tools that are accessed through the Toolbar. These tools include **Core**, **QuickFires**, **Topics**, **Keyboard**, and **Dashboard**.

Core

Core words are high-frequency words used in most sentences. These words were selected based on review by experts and evidence from language research. The Core words can be combined with those from the Word Lists to build sentences.



The Core words are organized and color-coded by part of speech, from left to right: Questions (blue), Pronouns (yellow), Verbs (green), Little Words (orange). Links to additional word lists are available at the bottom of each group and in the pink buttons on the right.


Many words are inflected automatically, e.g. verb tenses or forms of pronouns change to the correct form as you write your sentence. Contractions form automatically where appropriate (i.e. can + not = can't).

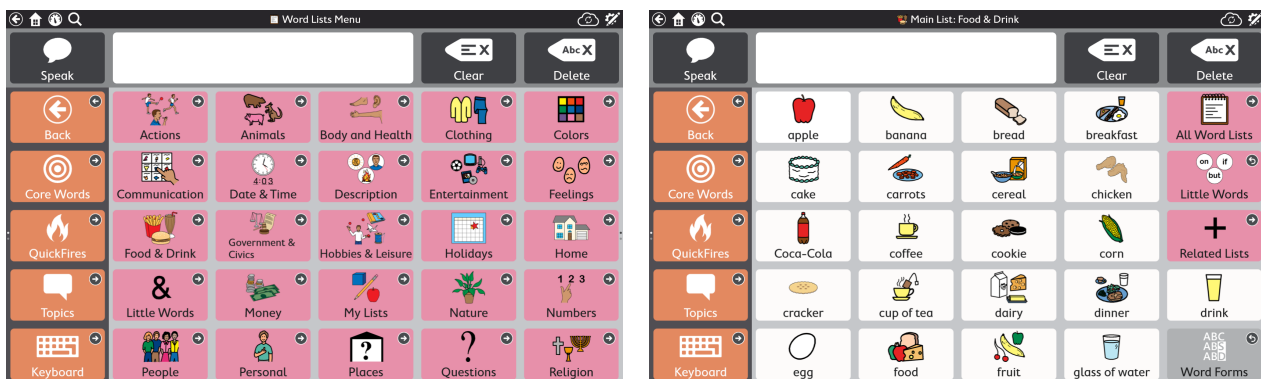


The Word Forms button, found in the lower right in grid sizes 5x5 and larger, contains additional tenses and forms of words.

Word Lists

Word Lists are lists of individual words, organized by category. Use them on their own, in combination with Core words, or

with each other to form phrases and sentences. To navigate to the Word Lists from the Core page, select the  All Word Lists button.



The Word Forms button, found in the lower right in grid sizes 5x5 and larger, contains additional tenses and forms of words.



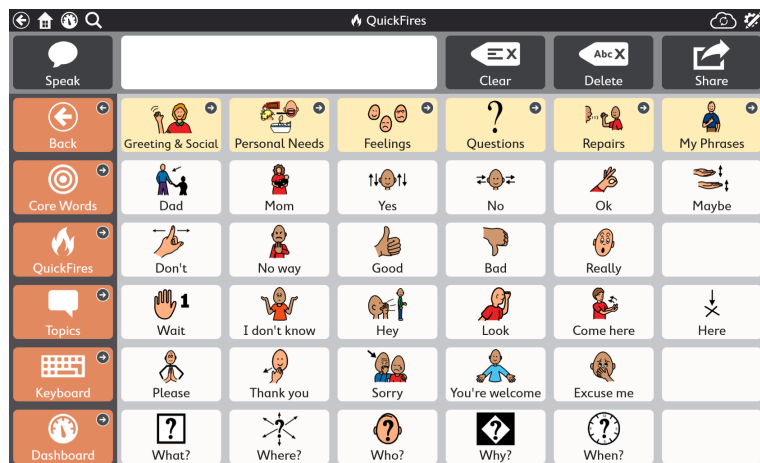
Some word list categories also have a Related Lists button, which links to additional sub-categories of words.

Most word lists display vocabulary alphabetically. A small number of word lists group vocabulary by function.

Core First contains 233 word lists.

QuickFires

QuickFires are little words and phrases to keep conversation going, gain attention, or comment. They also include common phrases for personal needs, greetings, social interactions, feelings, questions, and communication repairs.



Keyboard

A variety of keyboard options are included in Core First. These include:

- Grid Matching – any grid size (automatically matches the current Page Set grid size setting). Letters are in alphabetical order.
- QWERTY – 8x10 grid size, in standard QWERTY arrangement.
- ABC – 8x10 grid size, with letters in alphabetical order.
- AEIOU – 8x10 grid size, with letters in alphabetical order and the vowels arranged at the beginning of each row.
- Frequency of Use – 8x10 grid size, with the most frequently used letters in the top left corner for quicker access with the Scanning Access Method.

Keyboard pages include word prediction.

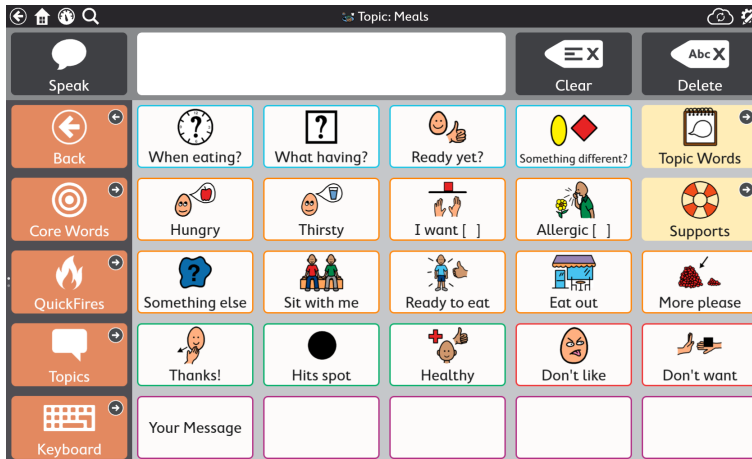


To change your keyboard, go to *Edit>Page Set>Keyboard page*, then select the keyboard page you want to use.

Topics

Topics are pre-programmed messages, organized around specific situations. These pages provide quick access to common messages within a familiar context.

There are 79 topics included in Core First. The topics included were chosen to address the needs of individuals of varying age ranges, in differing environments, and with a variety of needs.



Topics contain messages organized by communicative intent: questions (blue), requests and general comments (orange), positive comments (green), negative comments (red). Blank buttons (purple) are intended to be filled in with custom messages.



Each topic page has a Topic Words button (specific words related to that topic) and



Behavioral Supports button (visual supports to help manage problematic behaviors).

Dashboard

The Dashboard contains the following:

volume controls, remote control pages for operating infrared devices (for supported hardware only), and AccessIT pages for use with the AccessIT 3 hardware accessory (see separate [AccessIT Pages Guide](#)).

- Volume controls — Volume up, Volume down, Mute.
- Remotes — for operating supported infrared devices. You must program the commands for your IR device (TV, cable box, etc) into each button.
- AccessIT — Control another computer using the AccessIT 3 accessory. For details, see the *Snap Core First User's Manual* and *AccessIT 3 User's Manual*.
- Launch Application — Launch apps such as Boardmaker Student Center and Sensory Guru Eye-Fx.
- Date & Time — displays the current date and time.
- Visual Timer — start a countdown timer.
- Battery level — shows the current battery level and whether it is charging.
- Gaze interaction — Includes buttons for Calibration, Ttrack status, Computer Control, and Mirror for Android™. Computer Control allows you to operate Windows and other apps via gaze interaction. Mirror for Android™ creates a mirror of a USB-connected Android device and lets you operate it on your screen using Touch or Computer Control. See the *Mirror for Android™ User's Manual* for more information.
- Partner Window — control the Partner Window found on the back of Tobii Dynavox I-13 and I-16 devices.
- Google Home Speaker — use speech output to talk to an external Google Home or Google Home Mini speaker. You can use a Google Home Speaker to make phone calls, play music, control your home (lights, thermostat, etc), and ask it questions. See the Google Home Speaker section below for more information.

- Alexa — these pages use speech output to talk to an Amazon Echo device or other Alexa-enabled smart speaker. You can use Alexa to control your home (lights, thermostat, etc), ask it questions, play music, make calls, or send messages. See the Alexa section below for more information.

Google Home Speaker

Google offers a line of smart speakers that can respond to voice commands. These smart speakers offer a wide array of capabilities. You can use Snap Core First and the Google Home Speaker pages found in the Dashboard to interact with Google Home speakers.

Setup

- For the initial setup of the Google Home speaker, you must sync it to the Google Home app on your smartphone and connect it to your Wi-Fi network. Follow the instructions included with your Google Home device.

Giving commands

- To give a Google Home command, just say “OK Google,” followed by your command or question.



There must be a small pause between “OK Google” and the command. When programming a button, add a comma after “OK Google” and then add the rest of your command.

- There is only a short time window after saying “OK Google” in which you can give the command, so we recommend programming “OK Google,” into the same button as your command, rather than having a separate button to speak “OK Google”.



“OK Google,” does not appear on the button label on our Google pages, but it is included in the button message (phrase that is spoken).

- Create custom Google Home commands using the button on the main Google Home Speaker page to enter “OK Google,” into the message window, then type the command. When the custom command is correctly composed, speak the Message Window to send the command.

Google Home Capabilities

- Phone calls — make calls directly through your Google Home speaker to any phone number in the US, UK, or Canada. Currently, you cannot answer incoming calls.
- Broadcast — this feature broadcasts your message to all the other Google Home speakers in your house. This can be useful for calling for help or communicating with people in other rooms. People can also reply to your broadcast by saying, “OK Google, reply <message>”
- Music — ask Google Home to play music from Spotify, YouTube, Google Play, or Pandora. You can configure your default music app in the Google Home app, as well as link any subscriptions that you have. You can request by song, artist, album, or genre.
- Home Controls — Google Home can control a wide variety of smart thermostats, light bulbs, light switches, smart plugs, home security systems, or even appliances. You can also control TV playback through Chromecast devices. Visit the Google Home website to learn more about the different options and how to configure them.
- Information — Google Assistant can answer a wide range of questions. Just ask it whatever you want to know.
- Fun Stuff — a random assortment of funny, interesting, or useful things you can ask Google Assistant to do. See the Google Home website for more information.
- Games — Google Assistant has a variety of games that you can play via spoken responses. We have included pre-programmed pages for a few of them. You can learn more about other games on the Google Home website.

There are many other things you can ask your Google Assistant to do. Visit the Google Home website to learn more.

Troubleshooting

Google's recognition of commands can depend on several different factors. You may need to adjust some of these to get it to recognize your commands.

- Volume — you may need to increase the volume so that the speaker can hear the command clearly. This is especially important if the Google Home speaker is currently playing music or other audio.
- Voice — Some text-to-speech voices work better than others with the Google Home speakers. You may need to try different voices to get consistent recognition. It can also be helpful to adjust the speed of the voice.

- Positioning — If the Google Home speaker is too far away or obstructed, recognition can be diminished.
- Voice Match — Google offers a Voice Match feature that helps Google learn your voice. You can access this from within the Google Home app on your phone. It may help with Google recognizing your commands.

Alexa

Amazon offers a line of smart speakers, called Echo, that can respond to voice commands. These smart speakers offer a wide array of capabilities. You can use Snap Core First and the Google Home Speaker pages found in the Dashboard to interact with Echo speakers. Alexa is what Amazon calls their virtual assistant that responds to the commands that you give to your Amazon Echo speaker

Setup

- For the initial setup of the Amazon Echo, you must sync it to the Alexa app on your smartphone and connect it to your Wi-Fi network. Follow the instructions included with your Amazon Echo device.

Giving commands

- To give Alexa a command, just say “Alexa” followed by your command or question.



There must be a small pause between “Alexa” and the command. When programming a button, add a comma after “Alexa” and then add the rest of your command.

- There is only a short time window after saying “Alexa” in which you can give the command, so we recommend programming “Alexa,” into the same button as your command, rather than having a separate button to speak “Alexa”.



“Alexa,” does not appear on the button label on our Alexa pages, but it is included in the button message (phrase that is spoken).

- Create custom commands using the button on the main Alexa page to enter “Alexa,” into the message window, then type the command. When the custom command is correctly composed, speak the Message Window to send the command.

Alexa Capabilities

- Phone calls — make calls directly through your Amazon Echo speaker to any phone number in the US, UK, or Canada. You can also make Alexa-to-Alexa calls to another Amazon Echo device. Currently you only answer incoming Alexa-to-Alexa calls.
- Drop In & Broadcast — “Drop in” will act like an intercom, transmitting your voice/message to another Alexa device in your home and allowing the person on the other end to respond. You must configure your Alexa devices to enable this feature in the Alexa app. Broadcast will send your message to all the other Alexa devices in your home. This can be useful for calling for help or communicating with people in other rooms.
- Music — ask Alexa to play music from Spotify, YouTube, Google Play, or Pandora. You can configure your default music app in the Google Home app, as well as link any subscriptions that you have. You can request by song, artist, album, or genre.
- Home Controls — Alexa can control a wide variety of smart thermostats, light bulbs, light switches, smart plugs, home security systems, or even appliances. Visit the Amazon Alexa website to learn more about the different options and how to configure them.
- Information — Alexa can answer a wide range of questions. Just ask it whatever you want to know.
- Games — Alexa has a variety of games that you can play via spoken responses. We have included pre-programmed pages for a few of them. You can learn more about other games on the Amazon Alexa website.