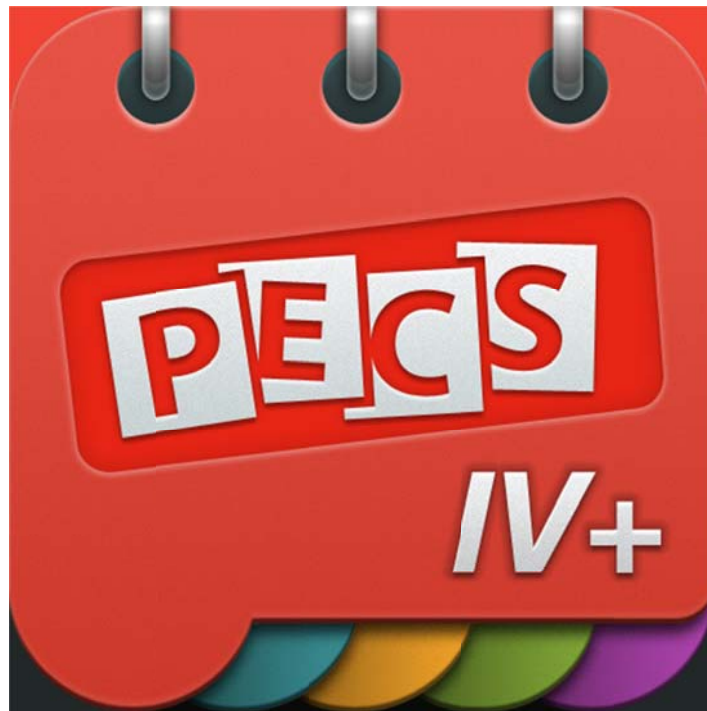


PECS[®] IV+

Getting Started



Designed for a stress-free transition from
traditional PECS[®] to tablet-based communication

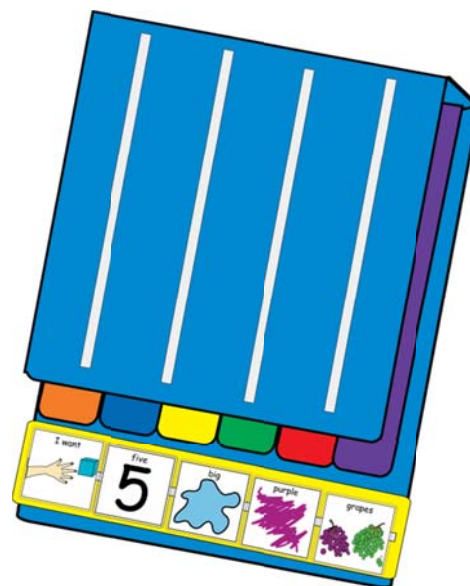
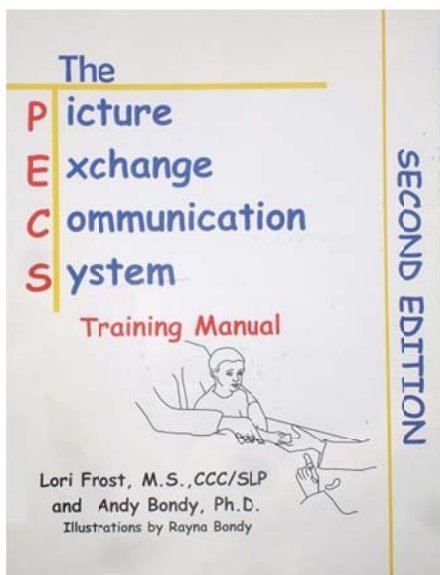


PECS® IV+

PECS IV+ is the solution for transitioning from PECS to high-tech AAC. For learners who have mastered Phases I through IV of the Picture Exchange Communication System® using traditional PECS books, PECS IV+ is the high-tech next step! From Pyramid Educational Consultants, the developers of the evidence-based and world-renowned PECS®, PECS IV+ allows users to construct a multi-picture Sentence Strip™ via a dedicated Sentence Starter™ page and up to 20 digital PECS book pages for the in-app voice to speak.

Some words of caution:

Pyramid Educational Consultants does not recommend starting functional communication intervention with an app or a speech generating device because these high-tech options do NOT require the social interaction that is crucial to communication and is the cornerstone of the Picture Exchange Communication System. When starting functional communication training, start with a traditional low-tech PECS Communication Book using the evidence-based protocol from *The Picture Exchange Communication System Training Manual, 2nd Edition* by Frost and Bondy.

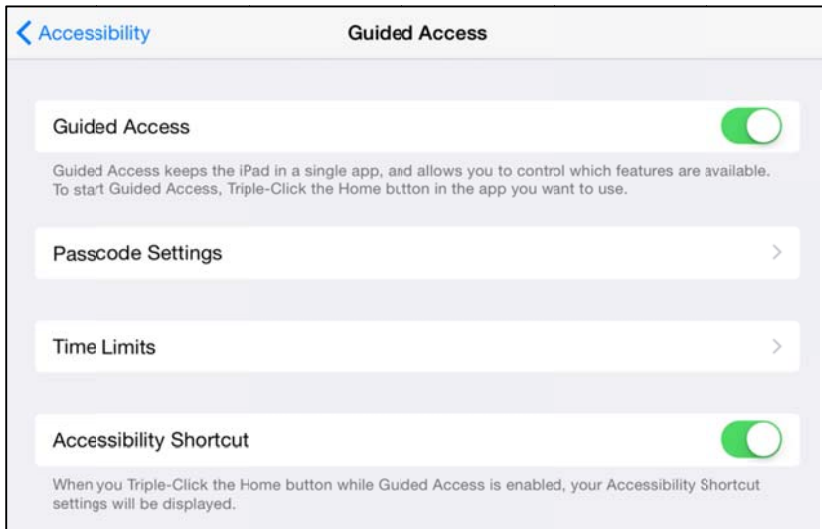
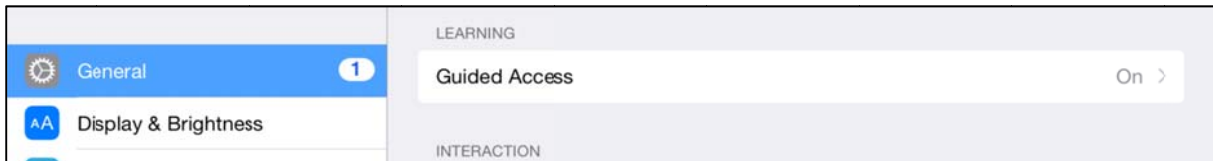
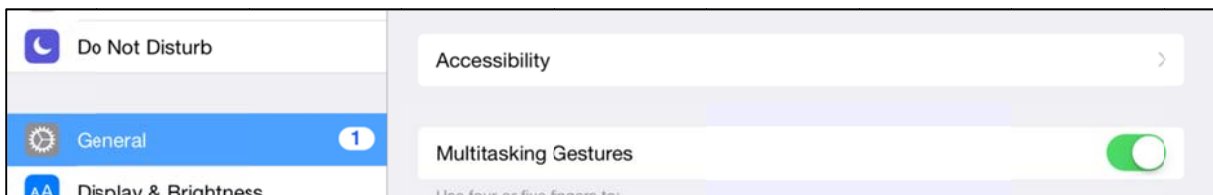




Using an App for Communication: Guided Access

PECS IV+ is available for iPad® and iPad mini™. When using an iPad with PECS IV+ for communication, we recommend putting your iPad in Guided Access. This restricts use of the iPad to a designated app (PECS IV+) and disables hardware buttons. Exiting Guided Access to access other apps can only be accomplished using a 4-digit code.

To enable Guided Access on the home screen of your iPad, select **SETTINGS**, then **GENERAL**, then **ACCESSIBILITY** and then **GUIDED ACCESS**

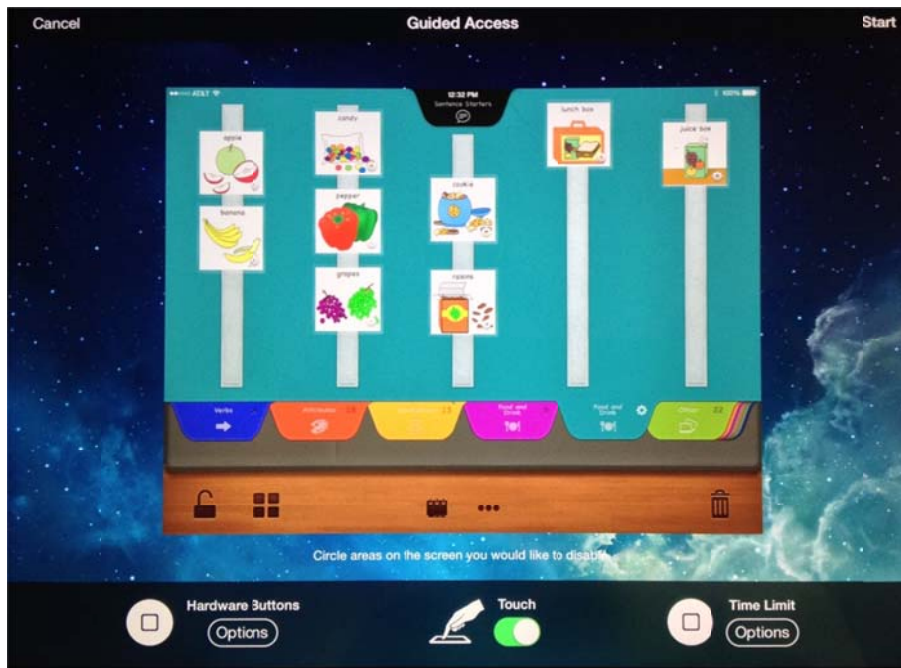


1. Toggle **GUIDED ACCESS** on
2. Select a **Passcode**
3. Add **time limit** warning sounds or speech if you will be setting time limits
4. Toggle **Accessibility Shortcut** to **On** so you can triple-click the Home button to enter Guided Access from within any app. This step is not mandatory.

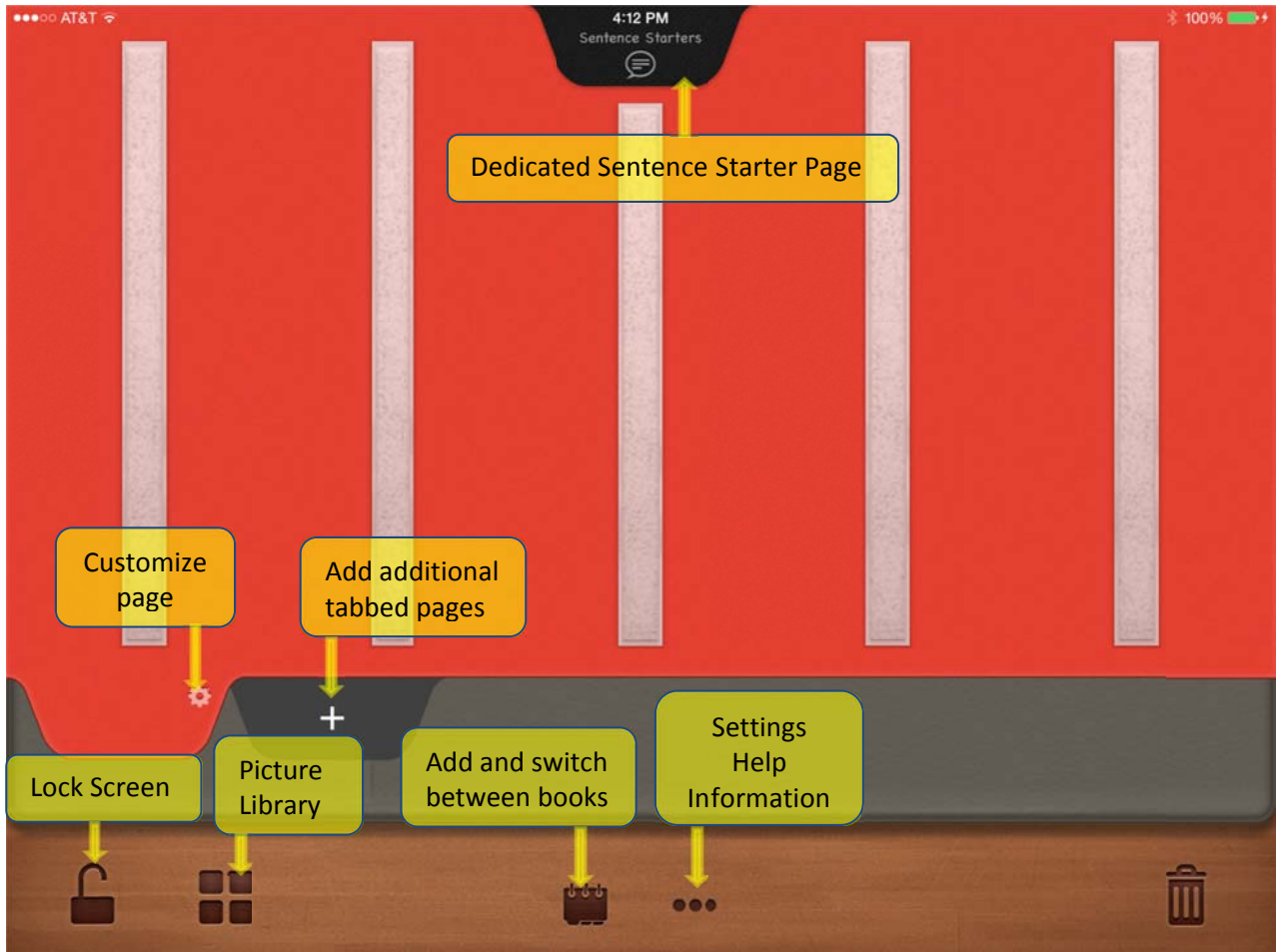
To use Guided Access:

1. Launch PECS IV+.
2. Triple click on the iPad Home button.
3. Circle areas of the screen to limit access to those functions (if any).
4. Tap on OPTIONS in the bottom left to choose whether or not to grant access to Sleep/Wake, Volume, touch screen and motion. Tap DONE.
5. Tap START at the top of the screen.

Once Guided Access is enabled, pushing the home button to leave the app will open a banner indicating that the app is in Guided Access. Leaving Guided Access requires triple tapping the home button and entering the 4-digit passcode.



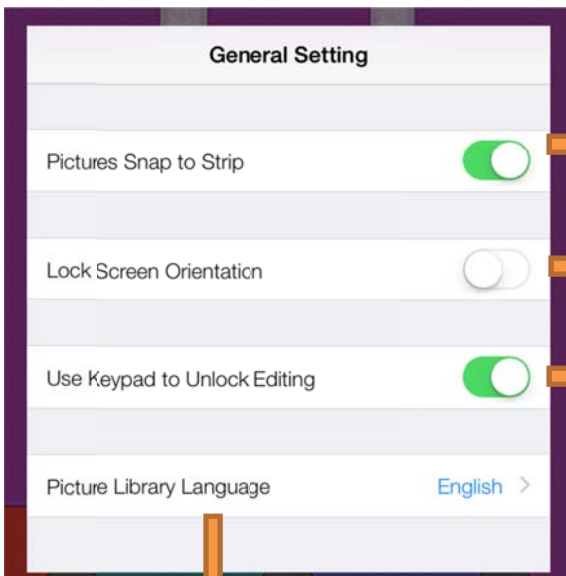
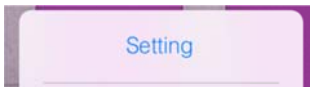
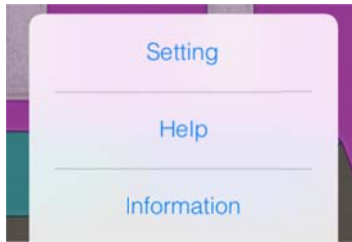
The opening screen



When you open the app for the first time, the PECS book will be blank. This is so that you can build a book identical to your student’s traditional PECS book. Tap on the BOOK icon to create your student’s book.

Use the back-up feature of your iPad to backup settings and vocabulary selected in this app.

Settings – Help - Information



Automatically align the pictures with VELCRO® strips

Lock Screen orientation to Landscape mode



Make Keypad UNLOCK function available



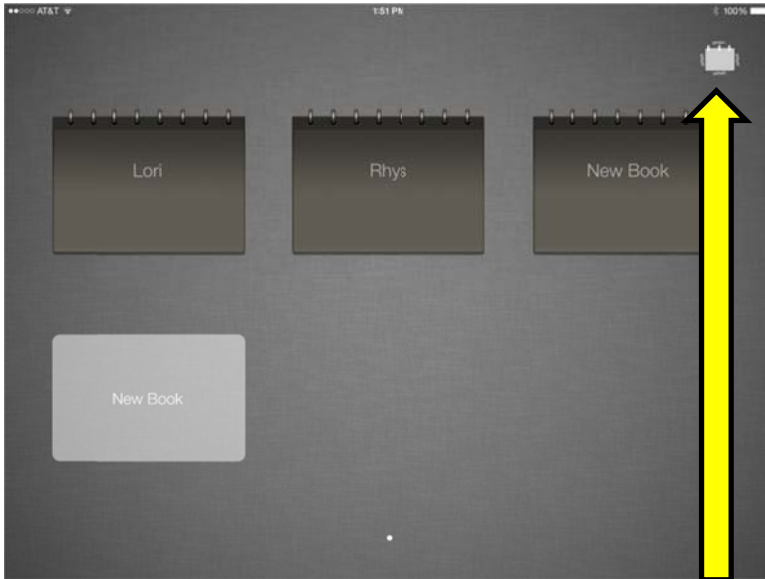
Choose a language for pictures and speech



| | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|
| | | |
| | <p>Toggle between different pages for helpful hints for using the app</p> | |
| | | |
| | | |
| <p>Toggle between pages to read about PECS IV+ or PECS.</p> | <p>A caution on using PECS IV+ only after students have mastered Phases I-IV of traditional PECS.</p> | <p>A description of several unique features of PECS IV+.</p> |

Add and switch between books

To begin creating your student's PECS IV+ book, tap NEW BOOK and give the book a name.

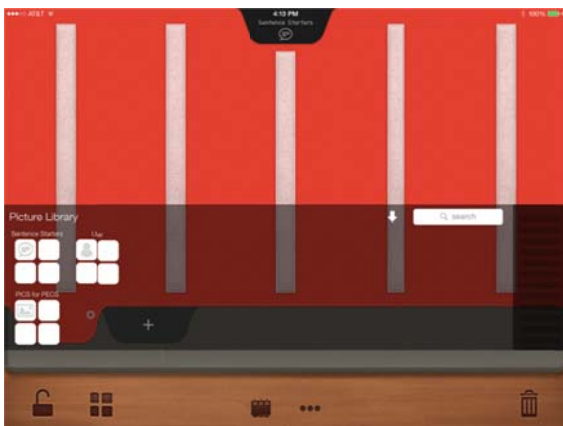


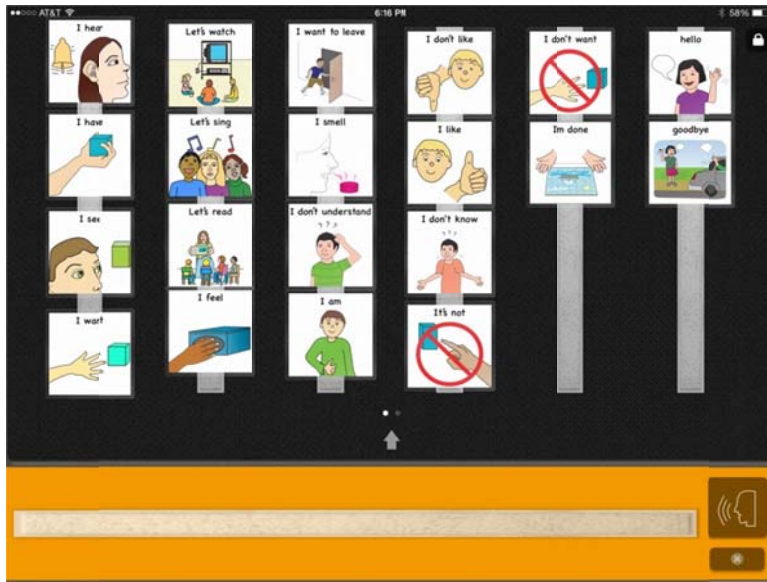
Each book holds 20 pages with up to 24 pictures per page. If you student requires additional pages, create additional books.

To delete a book, hold button and follow on-screen prompts.

Picture Library

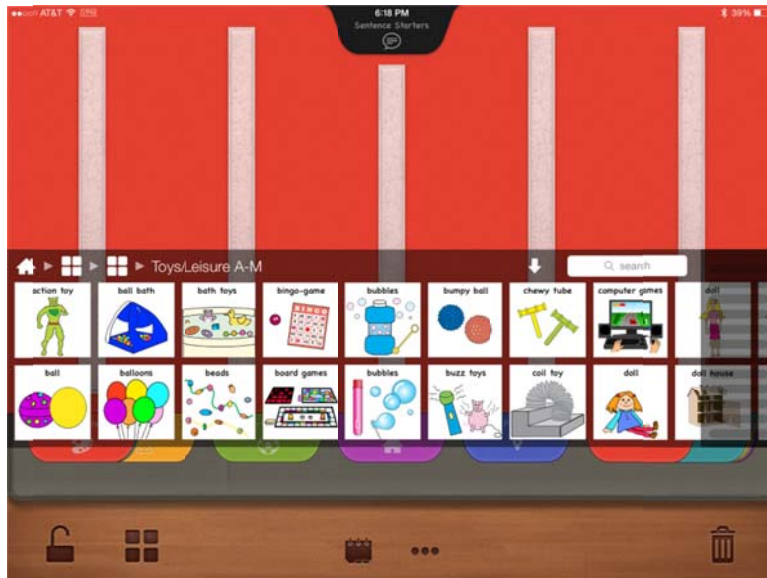
To begin adding pictures to your student's book, open the library and choose images from the Sentence Starter folder, the Pics for PECS library or add pictures from your own library to the customizable User Library.





First create your student's Sentence Starter page. Tap or drag and drop a picture onto the dedicated Sentence Starter page.

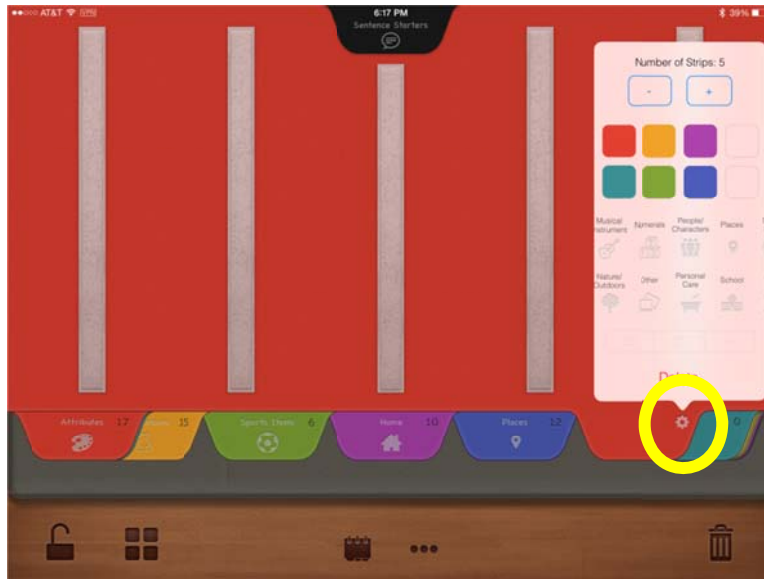
Add additional tabbed pages



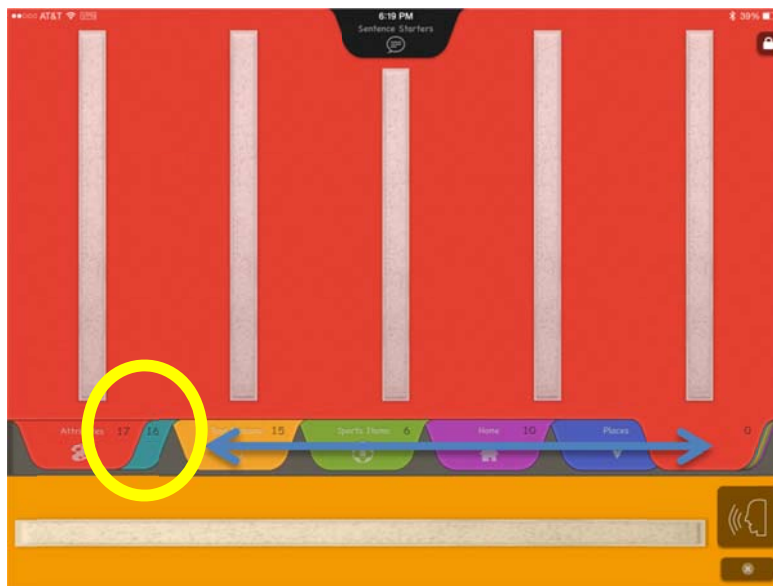
Add pages to the book and continue adding pictures by dragging pictures from the library onto the desired page.

Customize a page

To customize a page, click on the GEAR icon on the tab. Choose number of VELCRO® strips, color of page, and/or icon for tab.



Create and customize up to 20 pages per book with up to 24 pictures per page. The number on each tab represents the number of pictures on that page. To rearrange pages, hold a tab and drag to new location.

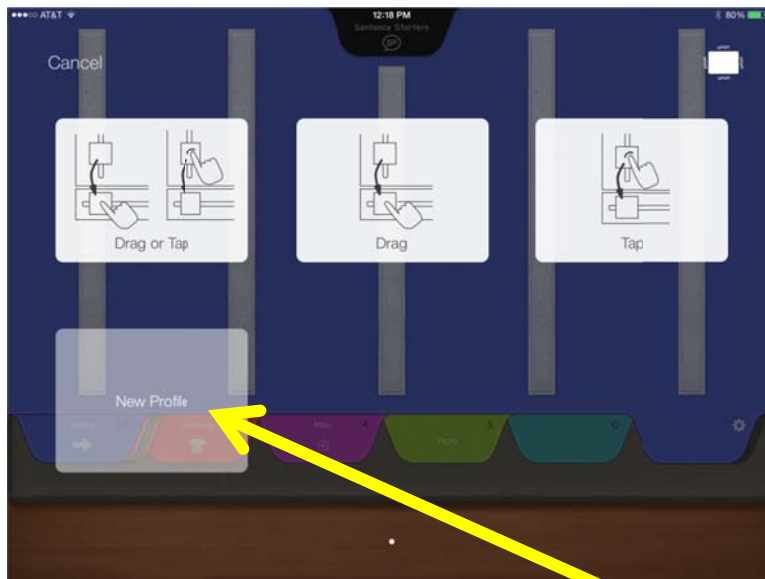




Begin Communication Mode

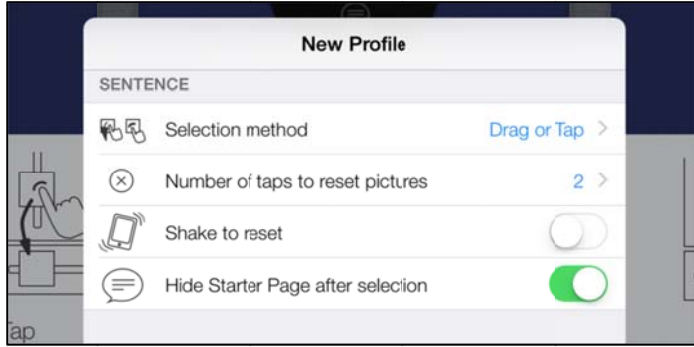
Once you have created your PECS book, you are ready to start teaching your student to use PECS IV+ to communicate! Please visit www.pecs.com for more information on transitioning from PECS to PECS IV+.

To begin communication mode, click the LOCK icon and choose a profile. This profile will determine how your student moves pictures from a PECS book page to the Sentence Strip. Additional features are available when you create a Custom Profile.

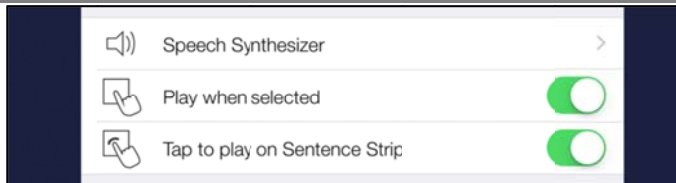


Choose an included profile or create your own profile.

Create a Custom Profile



| | |
|---------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Selection Method | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student drags picture to Sentence Strip. • Student taps picture to move it to Sentence Strip. • Either option. |
| Number of taps to reset pictures | Choose how many taps on CLEAR button to clear the Sentence Strip. |
| Shake to reset | Toggle on or off. Student can either clear Sentence Strip by tapping CLEAR button or by shaking the device. |
| Hide Sentence Starter Page after selection | <p>Toggle on or off.</p> <p>In the ON position, once student moves a picture from the Sentence Starter page to the Sentence Strip, the Sentence Starter Page automatically closes.</p> <p>In the OFF position, student must manually close Sentence Starter Page by tapping the tab.</p> |



| | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Speech Synthesizer | Choose language |
| Play when selected | <p>Toggle on or off.</p> <p>In the ON position, each picture is spoken as student moves it to the Sentence Strip.</p> <p>In the OFF position, pictures are not spoken until Student selects SPEAK button.</p> |

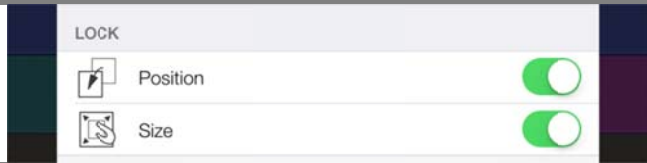


Tap to play on Sentence Strip

Toggle on or off.

In the ON position, student can tap each picture on Sentence Strip to speak that picture.

In the OFF position, student picture will not be spoken as student taps.



Position

Toggle on or off.

In the ON position, pictures can be rearranged on tabbed page.

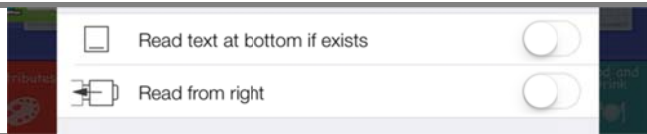
In the OFF position pictures cannot be rearranged on tabbed page.

Size

Toggle on or off.

In the ON position, pictures can be resized on tabbed page.

In the OFF position pictures cannot be resized on tabbed page.



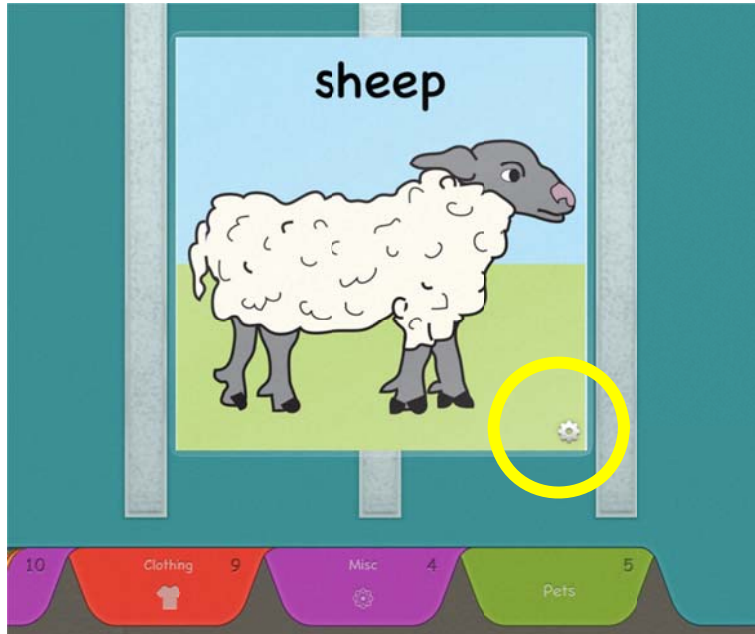
Read text at bottom if exists

Toggle on or off to read text added to bottom of each picture.

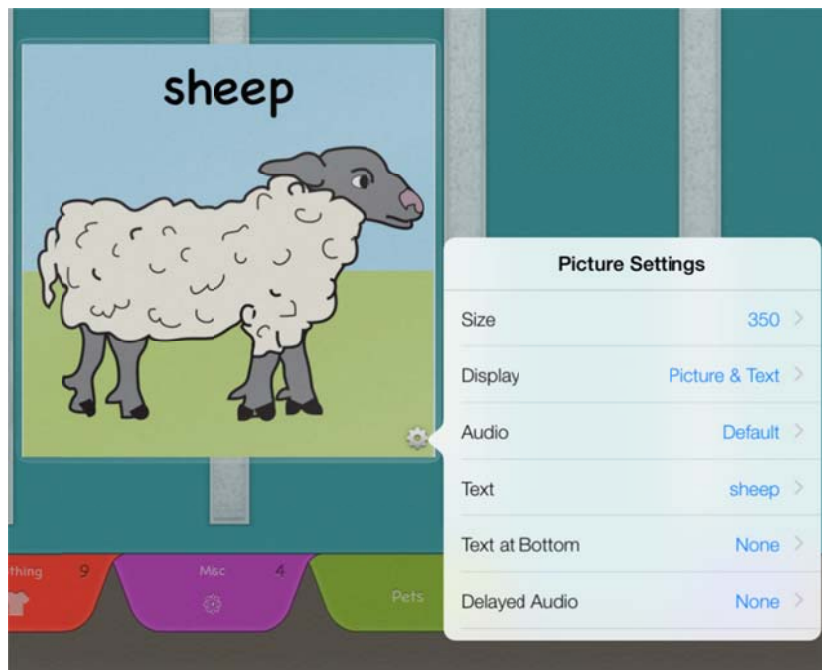
Read from right

Toggle on to read Sentence Strip from right to left.

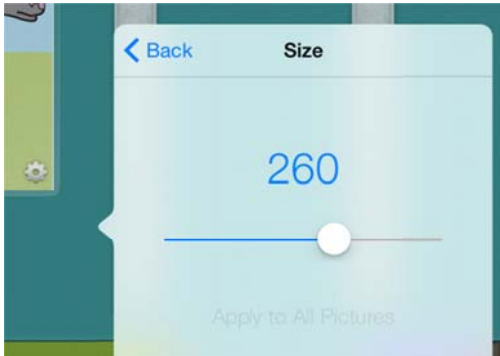
Customize Pictures



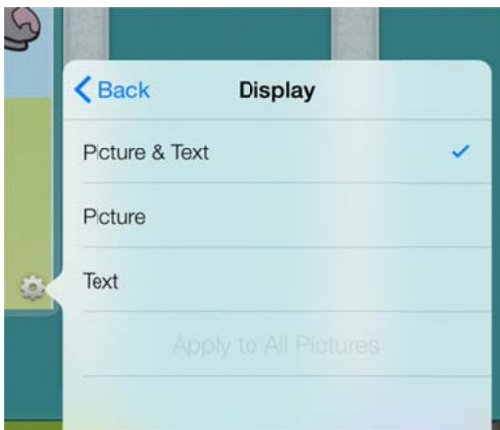
Tap the GEAR icon in the corner of the picture to customize



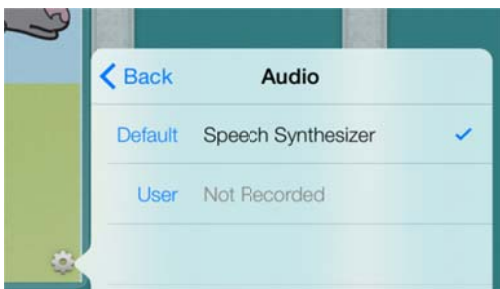
Customization Options



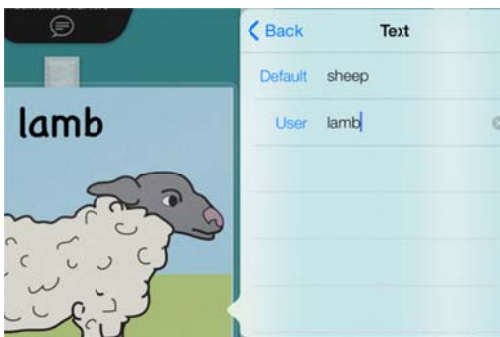
Slide to increase or decrease **size** of picture.
Choose to apply to single picture or all pictures in PECS book.



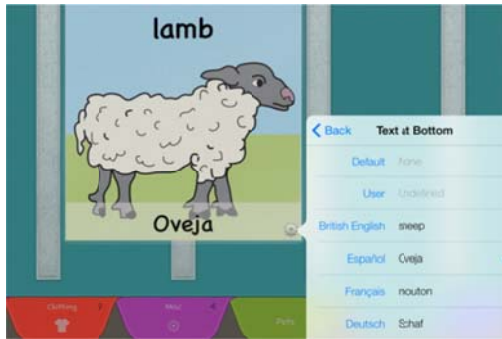
Choose to **display**:
Picture & Text
Picture only
Text only



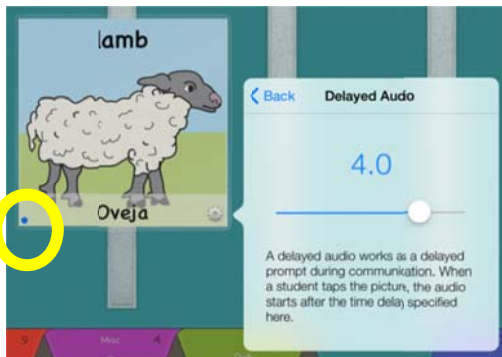
Audio
Default: Speech Synthesizer will speak the text
User: Record your own text to speak



Text for top line of picture
Choose default text create your own for the app to read.



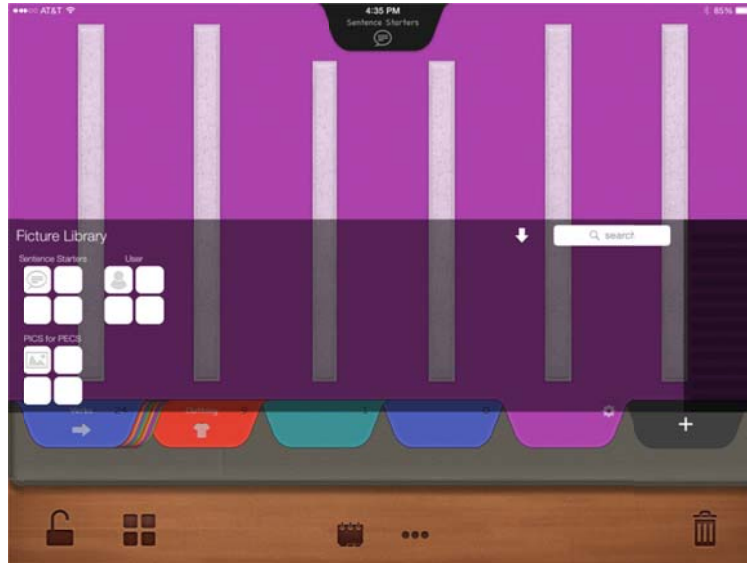
Add a line of **text to the bottom** of the picture by creating your own label or by choosing from additional languages.



Choose to use the **Delayed Audio** feature by setting delay length. The Delayed Audio feature incorporates the Constant Time delay strategy used within the PECS protocol to encourage the student to speak.

When selected for a specific picture, a blue dot will appear in the lower left corner of that symbol. Select this feature for each picture the student has learned to speak.

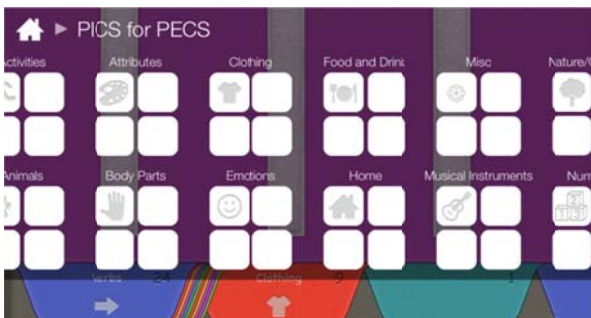
Picture Libraries



Choose from 3 libraries: **Sentence Starters**, **Pics for PECS**, **User**



Choose from any of the 31 **Pics for PECS** images from the **Sentence Starters Library** to add to the dedicated Sentence Starter Page.



Open a folder within the **Pics for PECS Library** and choose pictures to replicate those in your student's **PECS Book**.

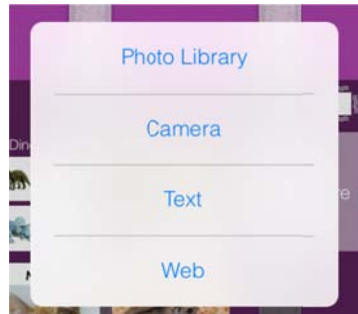


Add and customize pictures to your **User Library**.

The User Library

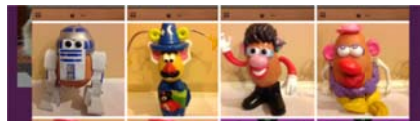


To add pictures to your User Library, tap **NEW PICTURE**.

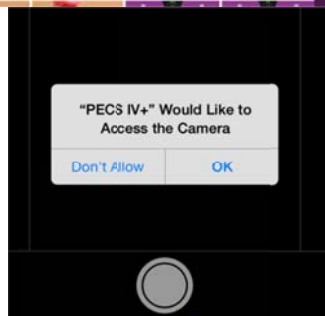


Choose any option.

Photo Library option



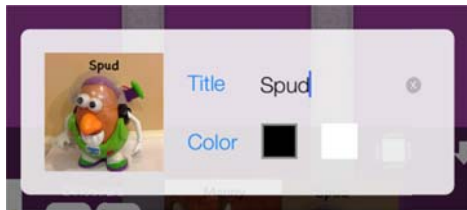
Choose Photo Library to open the photo library within your device.



To take a new picture, choose **CAMERA**, select **OK** to allow PECS IV+ to access your camera. Take a picture of the new item and choose **RETAKE** or **USE PHOTO**.

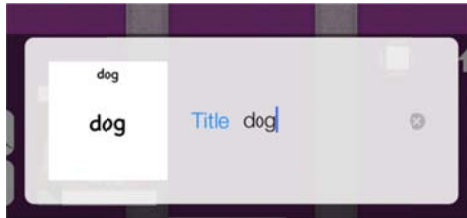


Use 2 fingers to scale or rotate the picture the picture. Drag picture into square frame and select DONE.



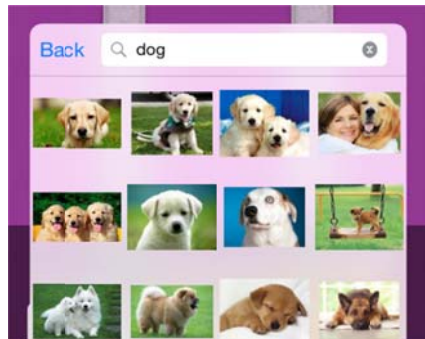
Give your picture a title and choose the color for the text. This will be the word spoken by the synthesized speech.

Text Option



To create a text-only symbol, Tap TEXT and enter the text.

Web Option

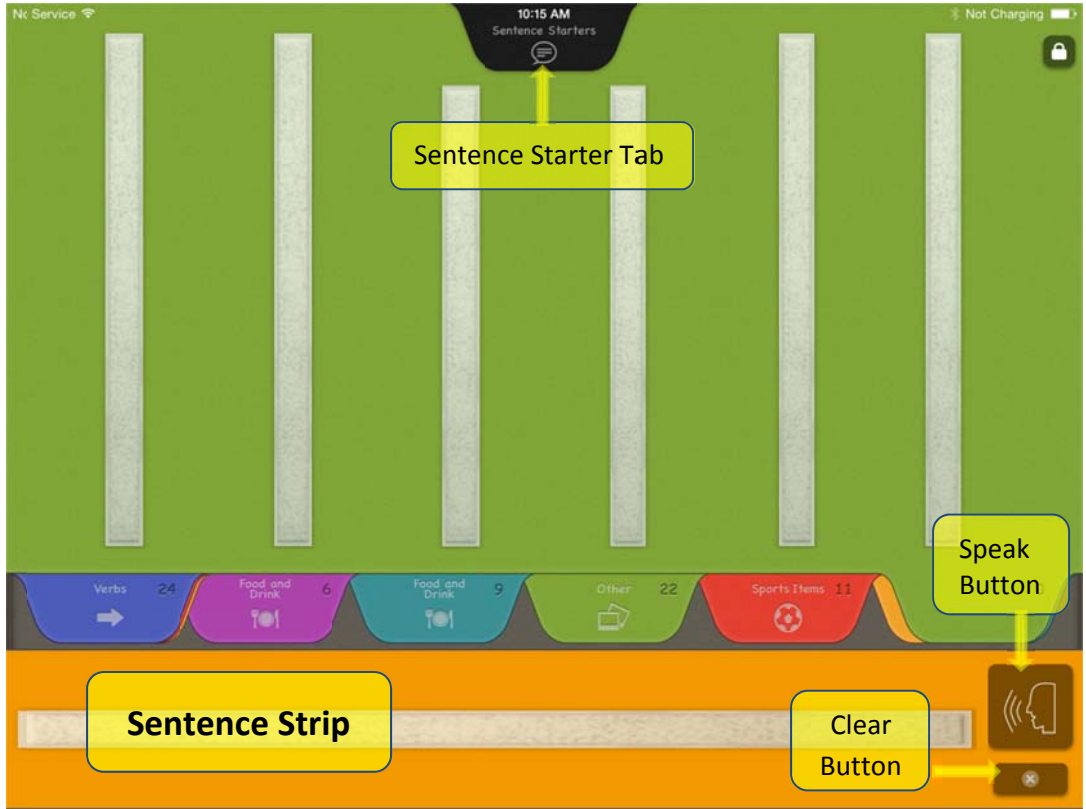


Choose WEB to search for a picture. Select a picture. Move, scale and rotate the picture. Give the picture a title.

Customize User Pictures and Library

| | |
|--|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| | <p>Tap the gray/black box in the lower left corner of pictures in your User Library to edit the text on the picture.</p> |
| | <p>Tap the EDIT button and tap X to delete a picture. The trash can will explode when the picture is deleted.</p> |
| | <p>To create a folder in the User Library, while in edit mode drag a picture onto another picture. Hold the picture on top of the other picture until the timer-circle has completed its cycle.</p> |
| | <p>Give the new folder a name.</p> |

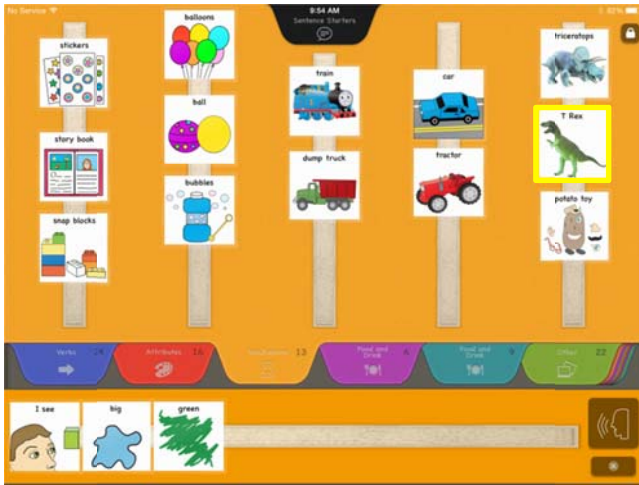
Communication Mode



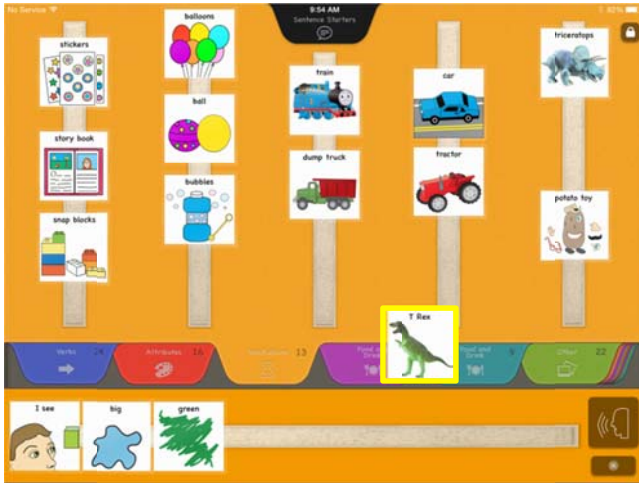
Teach your student to use the app for communication! Because the digital PECS book you have created looks just like your student’s traditional PECS book, the only skills to teach your student are:

1. To open the Sentence Starter page by tapping the black tab.
2. To drag or drop a picture onto the Sentence Strip.
3. Open a tabbed page containing the pictures to add to the Sentence Strip and drag or drop a picture onto the Sentence Strip.
4. Read the Sentence Strip, either by tapping each picture to speak or by tapping SPEAK button (depending on what is selected in your profile).
5. Clear the Sentence Strip by
 - a. Swiping individual pictures back toward the book. They will be moved back to their correct tabbed page.
 - b. Shaking the iPad if this option is selected in your profile.
 - c. Tapping the Clear Button.

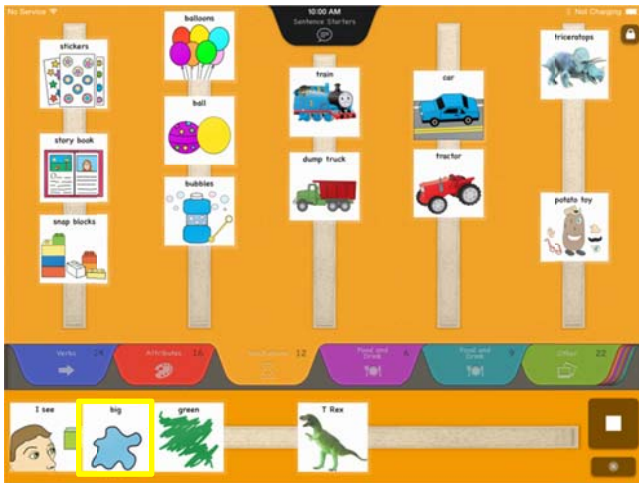
PECS IV+ provides visual cues for these skills



As each picture is touched, it is highlighted with a yellow frame.



The yellow frame remains while the picture is being dragged.



As each picture is touched or spoken on the Sentence Strip, the yellow frame highlights the picture.



Social Interaction

Within the PECS protocol, placing a picture in the hand of the Communicative Partner assures an interaction. When using an app on a tablet, tapping a picture or the SPEAK button does not assure an interaction between the user and the Communicative Partner has taken place. Therefore, if there is no evidence of an interaction, identify a behavior which guarantees that the Communicative Partner is attending to the user. These would include:

1. Tapping the Communicative Partner.
2. Bringing the tablet to the Communicative Partner before activating the SPEAK function.
3. Waiting for the Communicative Partner to approach.
4. Calling the Communicative Partner. You can create a call feature within PECS IV+ by adding Communicative Partner names, etc.
5. Repeating the message if the Communicative Partner does not respond.

Error Correction

Within the PECS protocol, we use two types of error correction procedures. These procedures are described in *The Picture Exchange Communication System Training Manual, 2nd Edition*.

1. For sequential lesson such as arranging pictures in the correct order on the Sentence Strip, we use a Backstep Error Correction Procedure.
2. For discrete lessons such as choosing the correct picture to add to the Sentence Strip, we use a 4-Step Error Correction Procedure. To assess correct picture selection conduct periodic Correspondence Checks.

If your student arranges pictures in the wrong order on the Sentence Strip, PECS IV+ allows an easy method for correcting this. Simply touch and drag a picture to its correct location on the Sentence Strip!

