

*Module:*   **Communication and Emergent Literacy:  
Early Intervention Issues**

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**Session 1: Overview of Communication and  
Literacy**

**Activity A: Identifying Communicative Attempts**

**Participant Guidelines**

The purpose of this assignment is to describe the communicative interactions between children with visual impairments and their parents, other adults, and other children.

**Materials.** Video clip CL 1-06, “Communication in Young Children With VI”

**Directions**

1. Watch video clip CL 1-06.
2. Use the questions listed below to describe the communication shown in the video clip. Turn in written answers to your instructor.
  - a. How did the children with visual impairments communicate with adults or other children? Did the children with visual impairments use linguistic or nonlinguistic communication or a combination of both?
  - b. How did the adults and other children communicate with the children with visual impairments? Did they use linguistic or nonlinguistic communication or a combination of both?
  - c. In order for communication to be successful, one partner must express a message and the other partner must receive a message. Which communicative attempts were not received by a partner and why?
  - d. Did the children's visual impairments affect communication? If so, how?
  - e. Did the children with visual impairments use compensatory communication strategies? If yes, please describe.
  - f. Did the adults make adjustments to facilitate communication? If so, describe adjustments.
3. Discuss your responses with other participants in small groups, as a class, or in an online discussion.
4. After the discussion, watch the video clip a second time to view other aspects of the communication not identified earlier. What did you observe this time that you did not notice during your initial viewing?

## **Background Information**

Patti is 23 months old with cortical visual impairment, hearing impairment, and motor impairments. She is seen during a home visit with her TVI and mother.

Alex is 27 months old with retinoblastoma. He is seen attending a playgroup with other children with visual impairments accompanied by his mother.

Michaela is 29 months old, has Leber's congenital amaurosis, and appear to have light perception. She is seen at a playgroup with other children with visual impairments with her mother and her TVI.