

HOLIDAYS, EVENTS & LITE TECH

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Developing successful literacy and communication activities for students and adults with significant disabilities can, at times, seem daunting. Some of the best activities are those with easily recognizable and reproducible visual cues or ones that occur naturally and often at home, school, work or in the community. When possible, it is best to involve interaction with family, peers, and community members. In addition, we want these activities to reinforce communication and the use of technology as well as literacy development.

Activities based on holidays and other special events often meet the criteria listed above. Besides the standard holidays known by all, there are many other community events such as Cancer Walks and Earth Day activities that are often overlooked. All of these events can be used to help create meaningful activities.

For most holidays, there is a wealth of visual cues available. These visual cues are seen not just at school but throughout the community and other places of business frequented by our students and clients. They are often just as visible at home with family and friends. These visual cues are generally things that are already familiar and interesting to our students and clients. This helps save time in teaching new visual cues. Also, they are easily related to by family and peers, so they are great for encouraging interaction and community involvement.

This workshop is a must for attendees looking for fun and functional activities that also reinforce literacy development and communication competence. The activities demonstrated will incorporate Adaptivation's technology including both voice output and environmental control devices. We will show how to turn a central theme into multiple activities that can be used throughout the day. Some examples include vocabulary, counting, sensory, motor, cooking, art, family connections, community involvement and leisure activities. Attendees will leave with hundreds of ideas.