

## What is a Symbol Place Mat?

Meal or snack times are a great opportunity for your child to practice using their symbols. They can make requests, comment, ask questions or request help. Specific food items related to that meal or snack can be placed on the Velcro at the top, with the core vocabulary staying the same on the sides. This provides the chance for a communicator to also model the use of symbols for commenting (i.e. "Hot sandwich", "I like it") or help increase the number of symbols combined by adding on one more to what the child has done. For example, if the child points to "yogurt", the adult can model "more yogurt", "I want yogurt", or "good yogurt" to further develop their language skills.

