

## Using Choice Charts

Allowing for choice making gives children opportunities for socially appropriate power and control.

Give choices at every opportunity possible. (“Do you want the blue cup or the red cup?”)

If you don’t have a visual that represents a particular choice use the actual item or a representation of the choices (e.g., food choice, art materials, toy pieces, video choices)

When first introducing choices, start with 2 or 3 choices: then, gradually over time and communication progress, increase the amount of choices offered at one time.

\*Examples of Choice Boards commonly used (Start with one category at a time):

(foods/drinks, toy choices, activity choices, places, material choices, clothing/shoes, actions, people, songs)

Choice Boards or Charts need to be placed in a location that is accessible to the child (at eye level and within reach) for quick and easy use.

Incorporate a child’s preference, when possible, in choice charts and choice making. For instance, if the child like “Blue’s Clues” place “Blue’s Clues” stickers along the border to increase attention (unless it is distracting).



Photo credit of The Center on the Social Emotional Foundations for Early Learning (Tips and ideas for Making Visuals)  
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