# Implementing Visual Supports

This guide provides step-by-step instructions on how to implement visual supports, including schedules and choice boards, to assist non-verbal students or individuals with communication challenges.

## Step 1: **Assessment**

Evaluate the individual's needs and the context in which the visual supports will be used. Determine the type of visual supports that would be most beneficial, such as visual schedules, choice boards, or social stories.

## Step 2: **Design**

Create the visual supports tailored to the individual's preferences and abilities. Ensure that the images, symbols, or words used are easily understood and relevant to the user.

## Step 3: **Introduction**

Introduce the visual supports to the individual in a calm and supportive setting. Explain how the supports will be used and the benefits they provide.

## Step 4: **Guidance**

Provide guidance on how to use the visual supports. Demonstrate their use and encourage the individual to interact with them.

## Step 5: **Consistency**

Ensure that the visual supports are used consistently across different settings and by different people interacting with the individual. Consistency helps in reinforcing their effectiveness.

## Step 6: **Feedback**

Observe how the individual interacts with the visual supports and gather feedback. Make any necessary adjustments to better meet the individual's needs.

## Step 7: **Training**

Train family members, educators, and other professionals on how to effectively use and support the use of visual supports with the individual.

## Step 8: **Monitoring**

Regularly review the use of visual supports and the individual's progress. Adapt the supports as needed to reflect changes in routines, preferences, or abilities.

# General Notes

## Customization

Remember to personalize the visual supports for the individual's age, developmental level, and cultural background to ensure they are engaging and effective.

# Collaboration

Involve the individual in the creation of the visual supports when possible to enhance their sense of ownership and engagement.