



VILLA ESPERANZA SERVICES

*Where Hope is Hard at Work for Individuals  
with Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities*

## **TEACHING TIP OF THE DAY**

### **To Encourage Communication & Engagement**

*Provided by the speech therapists at Villa's Hjelte-Phillips Speech & Language Center*

### **OFFER CHOICES**

- When you offer choices, you provide communication opportunities for your child, and help them feel in control.



- Offering choices can happen in any DAILY ROUTINE
  - “What do you want to do first – brush teeth or put on pajamas?”
  - “How do you want to help – get cups or get plates?”
  - “What’s for snack – cookies or chips?”
- Offer VISUALS if needed
  - Hold up items to represent the choice, use AAC device to model choices, or write/draw choices
- WAIT for a response
- MODEL a response in the modality your child uses (sign language, iPad, speech, etc.) if your child does not respond on their own.
- START SMALL – Offer a choice in just one new activity each day 😊

If you have questions, feel free to contact Ariel Hegedus, SLP, at  
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