THE END

Lucy gets a communication aid

Illustrated by Nazifa Khatun

Identifying Appropriate Symbol Communication aids for children who are non speaking: enhancing clinical decision making. NIHR HS&DR Project 14/70/153
Lucy loves watching basketball on TV.
Her little brother Ryan loves baking. He is so annoying.
Lucy and Ryan go to school together on the bus. Lucy used to hate going to school because everyone else could speak.
One day, Lucy’s Mum took her to a clinic to see Aisha and Stuart.
Stuart said that there were lots of different communication aids and asked if Lucy would like to try some.
First she tried an Alltalker. It had a lovely pink cover and it was smart like Ryan’s tablet computer.
But the pictures were squiggly, she could not find the one she wanted. The Alltalker wasn’t right!
Then she tried a LetsChat. It had a cool voice and she could control a computer.
But it was really big and heavy! The LetsChat wasn’t right, it was too heavy!
Then she tried a LOCA-VOCA. This one was really small and neat. She could wear it on a strap and use it when she watched basketball on TV.
But when Lucy tried to pick the picture she wanted, she kept pressing other pictures by mistake, it was really annoying. The LOCA-VOCA wasn’t right, it was too fiddly!
Then Lucy tried the Taptalk. It had the same pictures as her communication board and it was easy to find her favourite TV programmes. She really liked this one!
Lucy asked Aisha if it came with a pink cover like the Alltalker. Aisha said it didn’t but that Lucy could put some pink stickers on her talker when it arrives. The Taptalk was just right!
Lucy thought it would never happen, but eventually her Taptalk arrived.
Lucy couldn’t wait to get to school to tell them about the basketball match. Lucy loves using her Taptalk and now Ryan can’t boss her about anymore!