

>> Welcome to Closing the Gap solutions.

This webinar, AAC is a team effort,

AAC implementation with Avaz,

was sponsored by Avaz and was recorded April 2nd,

2018. It is presented by Lalitha Nagarajan,

Director of Avaz customer relations and experienced professional working with SLPs,

special educators, parents and children with complex communication needs.

>> Hello, everyone. Good morning.

My name is Lalitha Nagarajan and I'm from team Avaz.

Thank you so much for joining us on the webinar today.

First, let me wish you all a great autism awareness month ahead.

Today being autism awareness day,

wish you a very happy awareness day.

We hope we can make a difference in the world of autism.

Let me start with a quick introduction about myself.

My name is Lalitha, and I head the customer relations team with Avaz.

I've been working for several years closely with several SLPs, schools,

parents and children, and it's been a great journey for me as well,

being a part of the team.

Let me also inform you that we have started this,

World Through Their Eyes,

it's an Avaz initiative specifically for the autism awareness month.

Those who have subscribed for our newsletters would be getting several names

and your newsletters from us for this month,

which has a lot of tips and strategies and interviews

and different blogs from part leaders.

As part of the initiative, we also are offering a discount of 50 percent of

Avaz and I'll be talking to you more about it by the end of the session.

Let me go on and get started.

What I'll be covering today will be quick.

In total the Avaz story how it all began,

followed by an Avaz demo,

where we'll be showing you with a picture and the text modes and how to customize Avaz,

and how it can be integrated into the child's daily life.

We'll also have a brief session about best practices that are followed.

Let me start with the Avaz story.

We have Bhavna Rao,

who was actually the main inspiration behind Avaz.

She was one of the very first users of AAC in India.

She started that several years ago.

She had finished her Grade 12 with

A plus scores and had gone on to complete her under graduation in accountancy.

She's now running a clothes store in India.

She was a great inspiration for us and

had participated in the Beta testing of our app several years ago.

She's been a great inspiration and she's had cerebral palsy with quadriplegia,

so it's been a great journey for her.

Going into the chronological story,

we started way back in 2007,

and it started with different schools in India,

specifically with Spastics Society of India.

We had done research with over 500 children and 25 schools,

not only in India but also across the world as the product evolved.

The very first version of Avaz was released in 2009,
and subsequently by 2012,
it was an app in iPad and Android.

We also got featured in a Ted talk for hours,
and the founder of Avaz was named as the innovator of
the year by MIT's Technology Review.

We did have leases on both iPad and Android the subsequently.

In 2014, we were present

in more countries and a lot of school districts as well in the US,
and several other versions of Avaz for Spanish,

Danish, Italian, Australian, etc.

were released. Now by 2018 we've had a lot more,

including Sri Lanka and we've had the government of India initiative where the app
has

been bought and given to schools in all the districts of the state,
one of the states of India.

We've been going forward and it's been a great journey.

Whom does Avaz help?

It's useful for the nonverbal, partially verbal,
and single-word communicators who are on the autism spectrum,
as well as Down syndrome,
cerebral palsy, intellectual challenges, etc.

Anybody who's nonverbal, it's a great help.

What makes Avaz unique?

Apart from being a robust AAC system,

it does offer the following,

one of them is the Avaz dashboard.

The dashboard is basically a special feature that we've introduced to help the parent or the caregiver to become fluent with the Avaz vocabulary.

The second is to become a good communication partner through best practices that we share

in the app and things like modeling or is it prompting and expansions, extensions, etc., and several tips to integrate

Avaz into the daily life whether its motivations and

different ideas, communication ideas,

conversation ideas, the settings,

the different settings where you could talk to the child about,

about different aspects and what are the different pragmatics of communication.

All that was bundled into the app in one part of the app called the dashboard.

This is one of the things that makes Avaz unique because we felt that in AAC doesn't stop

with therapy and we need to extend it beyond that

where the parents are more in touch with the children rather than the therapists.

We wanted to make sure that the parent becomes a part of the journey.

We also have an analytics section in the app

which gives you some data based on the usage of the child.

We have Avaz Live,

which is a new feature that's been added.

It's an exciting feature because it offers an option for teletherapy.

Let me quickly get started with the Avaz demo.

[NOISE]

I hope you are able to see the screen of Avaz.

This is the main Avaz screen.

As you can see, this is the picture mode.

Let me start by telling you that Avaz is

basically a robust AAC system which has picture and keyboard mode.

The picture mode uses SymbolStix and we use Ivona Voices.

The picture mode is basically based on

the code vocabulary and it's also been a lot of research that has been done.

The vocabulary organization is pragmatically oriented.

It's also based on the research of people like Gail Tatenhove and others who have given suggestions based on their research as to

what is the optimum way of handling the vocabulary.

We do have three levels of graded vocabulary,

which is level 1, 2,

and 3 and they are consistent with motor planning.

We have a bunch of words that are there in the three levels.

We have in the first level,

we have about 200 words,

which moves on to about maybe

1,000 in the second level and about 4,000-5,000 words in the third level.

There is a gradual increase in the complexity as well.

As you can see, we do follow a variation of the Fitzgerald color-code,

which is green for actions and blue for adjectives,

brown for nouns, etc.

This is the main screen for the picture mode.

If you tap on the right-hand side is the navigation panel.

If you tap on the code words,

you would see that it shows up the code words.

There is an alert button.

[NOISE] If I tap on it,

it rings like an alarm to call for attention of the communication partner,
so that even if the parent is in another room,
it's a call to say that,
here I got something to say.

There's also a mistake button.

I made a mistake. That's what it says.

If he made a mistake,
he can tap it to say I made a mistake,
so that it allows him to re-enter whatever he's trying to say.

This is the level 1.

As you can see, I can tap a pictures, want more.

As you can see, the icon enlarges.

If I tap the sentence box, it speaks about.

The icon enlargement is useful feature especially for children with
visual impairments and for beginning communicators because it reinforces their
selection.

When you tap it, it speaks at aloud.

I can then navigate into the folders.

As you can see there is people,
there is food, and there are four other subcategorizations.

If they want to say something like want,
and then going to describe to say yummy,
and then I can go back to food,
and say, want yummy drink.

This isn't the first level so it would have limited vocabulary.

I can go to the next level by going into settings and
then moving pictures for screen into 24,

which will automatically set it to level 2.

I can have bigger sentence and as you can see,

the folders are pretty much in

similar locations where it was before in the previous level,

so that there is consistent motor planning that can be done.

Now, let me show you the search option where I can search for a word.

Let's say I want to look for pineapple,

as you can see it shows it in two locations.

One is in level 2 and one is in level 3.

If I tap it, it says see path and it would show me where to find it,

so an easy way to just find it.

It shows me by wiggling

[OVERLAPPING] It tells me that I go into food and then fruits and then here it is,

pineapple, that's where I find it.

It's an easy method to remember for me to

know what are the different types of folders that are there and where to find the word.

That is part of the search.

Going on to edit.

If you tap the edit button,

it turns red and I can add a new word.

When I tap the add new on the top left corner, that's here.

I can either add many items or a single item.

I can add a new category.

Let's say I add something called crafts.

I get an image that shows up automatically.

I can even browse through a set of images that show up from the SymbolStix library,

which has about 15,000 images and symbols in the library.

I can also go into the web,

currently the web is not active, oh, well, yeah it is.

Again, search for craft related images from the web.

These are all copyright-free images that I can search from Google.

That job is done automatically by the app.

That makes it far quicker for you to be able to customize for any new images that you want to add.

This is a really useful web feature.

You can do it from symbols,

which is from SymbolStix.

I can choose an image for craft,

let's say I go with this,

and I can tap this little black cross to remove the color coding so that it retains the original color for folders and I can then say save.

This saves it as a folder.

Now I can just double-tap the folder for me to go into the new folder.

I can say add many items together.

Now this is again, a unique feature of

Avaz where they can add several words at the same time.

Let me say for class I'd like to add something like colors like red, blue, yellow.

Say, I want to add a ribbon, scissors.

Then, cut

or glue and let's see,

cut, so I've added a bunch of words,

which is about seven words.

You can see they've all quickly come up with the correct color coding.

Although, the adjectives are blue,
the nouns are orange and the verb is green.

I can even rearrange them quickly to just move more with vertically.

It's very quick for me to rearrange the icons that have been formed.

If I wish to show some of them later,

I can just select it and I can say, "Hide".

It turns it gray so that it's hidden from child's view.

When I come out of it,

you can see that there are hidden from the child's view.

Now I go back into edit and they're back again,

and I can select these at any point of time and they'll say,

"Show Again" on the right panel.

This would then bring it back into the child's view.

I can also do a copy,

so let's say I want to copy some of these into a different location.

I can use the copy and the paste here.

I can copy it and then go back and I can say, "Paste".

This would then paste the items in the new location.

It's very quick for me to be able to copy and paste.

I am now just deleting it.

I just showed you how you can delete it.

The other interesting feature here is,

over here on the bottom right corner you see the word "print".

If you tap that with the three ellipses, you would see that.

I can make an Avaz book with this category.

Let me make a book with a different category so that it makes more sense.

Let me go back to the "Home" and I go into the food category.

Let's say I'm trying to teach my child the different food.

I can go into the print category,

right into the print menu item button,

and then say, "Make an Avaz book with this category".

What this does is, are you able to see it?

Okay. I think it's not showing up.

In yours it may not show up,

but it pops up another window that shows me a book that is created as a PDF file.

That I can actually mail to myself or mail to anybody else.

I'm just wondering if it is showing you.

>> Right now, is not showing us anything.

>> I'm wondering what could have been the problem.

All right let me try it again.

I'm sorry but am not sure the issue is.

>> We're seeing your desktop there.

>> Yeah. I'm not quite sure what's going wrong.

Let me start again.

I'm sorry about this. Let me try restarting this again.

[NOISE]

>> Yeah.

>> [OVERLAPPING] Yeah.

>> Thankfully. Sorry about that.

I don't want to do the same button now.

What it shows us when you tap the three, D or the print one.

It basically generates a PDF file that I can mail myself or to anybody.

This is really useful and it's a unique feature as well with others.

You can take a hard copy of the Avaz screen.

You laminate it and store it so that there's always a backup available for the child.

This is a very useful feature.

You can also get the entire Avaz vocabulary printed or you can just get a part of it.

Which the child is using right now, you can have it printed.

So that even for children who don't have Avaz at home.

You can always take a color print out laminate it,

and then this can be their communication board

at home for them to practice with their parents.

I can also change some of these,

so the way I can edit an icon is to tap it and then select the "Change Option".

I can change the color coding,

as you can see at the bottom.

[NOISE] There is also

speakers where I can record my voice or I can use a phonetic spelling.

This is specifically useful when you have other language words or things

like for eaters and things like that where the pronunciation may not

be good enough or it's not correct.

You can either give a phonetic spelling here or you can record your own voice.

For example, I can just tap this to say, "snack".

Now, playing it with the play button.

But it would play the voice.

For some reason, it's not playing it right now.

Anyway, so this is your edit screen.

Once it's done, you tap the "Save" button,

and it will be saved.

I'll just canceling and finding out.

This is about the Edit button and adding new words and categories.

Now, I'll go to some of the important settings?

All You have to do is go through this and so we have pictures in message box.

So any of the visual aids that we have,

we have a method of fading it away,

so we can't remove the pictures in

message box so that the pictures won't remain and you'll have on the text.

We also have Pictures per screen that I can change from,

it can be as large as one picture, two picture,

three pictures, and can go all the way up to 40 or 60,

which can be much smaller.

This is your particular picture.

You have 60 and 77.

So Let me just come back to the regular,

and we do have caption size or the text size that you can change,

and there's a way of changing it from small to medium to

large to only text from only imaged to only text,

so there's a smooth transition for you to move from the type from picture's effects.

We also have a high contrast option.

This will set the background to be dark for children with visual impairments.

Given the color code,

you can either do a color code a stripe or you don't color code at all.

This way, you're able to fade away

the prompts and bringing it back for the purpose of our demo.

The zone is the enlargement.

I can zoom at a different speeds or I can just set it to No zoom.

As I said, that all our visual prompts,

we have a way of fading them away,

so you can't remove the zoom altogether.

Now home screen, this is what would set your home screen,

I can set it as level 1, level 2,

or level 3, depending on the level of vocabulary.

For children who have motor issues,

we have the option to turn off the Page swipe.

So when you turn it off,

it converts the last two buttons here into next page and previous page,

so that there is no accidental scroll of the screen because of the child's motor issues.

Again, turning it back on for the purpose of the demo.

We do have an option to change within Quick

and Core Words and then we have grammar settings.

So if I turn on grammar settings,

if I want to say something like I want,

so you see a bunch of words and I say want,

I have the option to say want it.

So these are all dramatically forms of the word.

So the morphologically radiations.

I can pick on want to wanted,

wanting when I tap on it.

I want more, so many more most.

So even for verbs,

it gives you variations of the verb tense.

For the adjectives that gives you simply comparative and superlative forms.

So I can say one more snack when I say,

it can also say it's max.

So I can have singular, plural for nouns.

In this way, I have a wider set of words

to form and help me for improving and developing my language and my communication.

That is the grammar option,

I'm turning it off for now.

This is about the picture mode settings.

Now, we do have a backup and restore. I'll come back to that.

We have a Share Avaz messages where whatever is on the sent as box,

you can share it either on email or again,

share it on iMessage or Facebook or Twitter.

If I tap e-mail and I tap the message box speak,

you will notice that there is an icon of a mail.

If I tap that, whatever is on the message box,

would come up with images and words to be sent as a mail.

I just have to type in the interface of the mail.

I just had to type in, and I'm deleting the class for now,

but that's how you'll send a mail of with the content [NOISE] in the sent inbox.

Going forward, I would now go onto come out of the edit mode and more to the keyboard.

The keyboard is just one click away.

If you notice on the top left corner is the Keyboard button,

so I just need to tap it,

and it switches to the keyboard.

Again, this is in hypertask mode so the background is black,

which enables better visibility.

Now, as you can see,

it's a typical keyboard with alphanumeric,

and there are a set of predicted words along with pictures here.

As we type, you'll notice that.

Now, this dark row is a set of commonly used words and phrases which can be customized.

Let me start by saying something like,

I want to go to school so I can start with I,

and then type W ting.

Are you able to hear the audio as I type?

For some reason, the computer audio is coming through.

I'm sorry about that, but it would say I want.

When I choose I want,

it would then prompt me with to go to.

So it gives me a bunch of words that are dependent

on that are based on the previous word typed,

and not only the previous word,

but you would see that it's based on the previous phrase that I typed.

When I say I want to go to and then it gives me a bunch of places that I want to go to.

If you see college and school and including what and what can be.

There are very, very relevant words that come up

because our prediction is based on a phrase-based prediction.

When I tap it, it's also be speaking,

[NOISE] but for some reason, it's not.

The audio is not working,

but it will definitely work in your respective apps.

I [NOISE] want to go to school, it would be coming up.

Of course, they can tap the mail icon to send the mail.

I can now see if some of these commonly used words and phrases into different

alphabets,

into any of these alphabets or into the numbers into the numeric keys.

Let's say I tap it in S. I have to tap C and I tap S, and it saves it there.

Now, when I double-click and delete, when I say load,

it shows me this S, and when I tap S,

it brings back the entire sentence onto the sentence box in one click.

It's very easy for you to store frequently used sentences.

For example, things like when the child wants to

introduce himself and where does he study,

what is his address, so things like that can be easily stored in some of these places.

We also have an interesting option here,

which is a spell check.

So if the child has a poor spelling,

or is unsure of the spelling,

we also have a phonetic spell checks.

For example, if the child does something like phone,

it is spells it with F-O-N-E.

[NOISE] You will notice

that the word P-H-O-N-E is also predicted.

This helps him figured out that even if the spelling is wrong,

he can see the right word.

This is something that came out of one of our interaction with one of

the children where we found that he was

trying to spell the word ocean and he started with O-S-H,

and he got stuck because the word just didn't show up in his predicted words.

so we then figure that we need to help that

out with this kind of a feature that we've added off the bat.

It's called a phonetic spell check.

Again, this is a unique feature in the app.

You can also see it any of these phrases, try to untap.

If you want to say in stuff how are you,

if you want to say I want water,

so you can just tap this.

Let me turn off the zoom feature.

I want water.

I want to save it in place of how are you.

All I have to do is tap "Save" and then tap the "How are you?"

button, and it automatically saves the sentence there.

I want water, I can delete it,

and then save this and it will speak

the sentence out without actually disturbing what's on the screen.

But unfortunately, I think the audio is not working for some reason.

I'm sorry about that.

Moving on, I will take you through the settings for the keyboard.

When you go down, you would see that you can set it in ABC or QWERTY mode.

Now, prediction is something because it's a visual aid.

We have a way by which you can fade it away.

I can either turn off prediction completely,

I can turn off the pictures in prediction,

I can just have the next word prediction,

I can have the current word prediction,

I can turn off the phonetic match,

and the best part is also the delay that I can give.

When I introduce a delay in prediction,

it allows the child that few seconds.

I can set it to maybe five seconds.

If the child is not able to spell the word on his own,
then the prediction kicks in after five seconds.

This is where the change is given
some time to try it on his own before they've been drafted.

This is again, another method of getting away the prompt.

These are all prediction related.

Now, of course, you can set voices and speak, and what to speak.

They are all customizable for the child's needs.

You can speak only words or you can speak everything,
or you speak only message box content.

You can also turn off the action keys.

Of course, you can add a password for settings and edit.

This would prevent the child from getting into the settings or
editing the picture vocabulary.

These are the key features of the picture and keyboard mode.

Now, I'll go back to the picture mode and

I'd like to quickly run you through the dashboard.

This is the Avaz dashboard.

This is again a very unique feature.

This was made mainly because we felt that just an AAC app alone is not good
enough.

We need to empower and equip the parents or the caregivers with more information,
especially related to strategies

because they simply don't have the time to go through manuals
and they don't sit through a therapy session,

though I'm sure they would love to.

What is the best way that we could step in and help the parent out?

We decided we should do this.

We've put together a bunch of

best practices that were followed by different facilities around the world.

We have introduced some scenarios.

If you scroll through this,

there is like, having a mealtime conversation,

discussing what happened in school,

reading a book, going shopping, playing in the park.

These are all very typical day-to-day scenarios.

In each scenario, we give two things.

If you pick any scenario,

you would have, one is a practice session.

Let's take a mealtime,

when you pick this and it gives you practice with Avaz sentences.

If you say, some toast and pancakes, yummy,

these are all different types of sentences that you can actually

talk with a child using Avaz.

To practice, it actually shows you how to model the words some toast and pancakes, yummy.

Whatever is underlined is what is going to be modeled.

We firmly believe that modeling,

or a vague language input is the way to go forward with communication.

We do believe and encourage real-life.

We're trying to see how do you help

the communication partner to become better

at finding the words and finding the vocabulary organization.

We're dealing in practice by trying all the sentences.

Here it says, go to Core words.

Here is some.

It guides me on where to find the word some.

Then it says, go to Home,

so I tap "Home".

It's basically trying to tell me where to find what.

Here it moves and then cook and eat.

It says some toast.

Then it says, that's the toast.

Then it will go back to home.

Some toast and then you go to food,

then it finds pancakes.

It just navigates by itself and it guides you where to find the word.

Parents then will know,

after they go through a bunch of sentences,

where to find these words.

Yummy, this is for yummy.

It doesn't go off till I'm finished.

Yeah, this is one sentence that we have modeled the underlined words.

This way, there are about 20 sentences for each of these.

If you see all this, This juice is cold or let's not have juice today.

Do you want something different to eat?

As you can see, they're all different pragmatics of communication.

They aren't just requesting.

Because we also want the parents to understand that communication is beyond

requesting.

There are other pragmatics to use.

We have tried to have tried to use

a bunch of varying pragmatics in each of these situations.

Now, once that is done,

you would also get into strategies.

The first part, which is practice,

now would allow you to practice and find

different words and the way it's organized in the vocabulary.

Learning new strategies, if you tap that,

it's a very interesting small game that you

play by selecting different answers to questions that you will be asked.

You are first presented a scenario.

This says that, Johnny,

Johnny is the hero for all these adventures.

He's a seven-year-old boy,

and let's see how we are going to start communicating with him.

We give an example,

we say it's seven o'clock in the morning and Johnny is in the kitchen.

How do you start a conversation with him?

So it says, "Isn't it a beautiful and lovely morning?"

Is that what you would say or you just scroll to see the other options?

Would you say, "Good morning, Johnny," or would you say,

"Hi Johnny, I was wondering if you slept well last night."

If I were to select this by tapping it,

you can see that Johnny here is looking rather sad,

so it gives you a tip at the top that says,

"Try to use simple and direct sentences rather than long-winded ones".

Then I would say, "Good morning Johnny."

If I were to tap this,

then his face brightens up and you are told,

"Good going, greetings are a great opportunity for communication."

As you can see, there is a tip for every selection, for every question.

If it is right, it tells you why you're right and if it is wrong,

it tells you why you're wrong or what could be better.

"It's time for breakfast," or would you say,

"I have apples, oranges,

sandwiches, and pancakes. Which one do you want?"

When I select that, and he's looking rather confused,

so we tell you that providing too many choices can be confusing for Johnny.

Remember, he's just beginning to communicate.

These are some simple tips that we give.

We have had many parents who said that they found it extremely useful to go through

all these tips because it gives them a lot of things that they were not aware of.

This is when the calm adventures,

as we call it, helps.

These are different scenarios.

What I showed you now was just mealtime strategies, mealtime conversations, sorry.

There are about 12 scenarios.

By the time you go through this,

you get a pretty good hang of what are the dos and don'ts

in terms of communication intervention at home, or in school.

Now, you can also form your own sentences here.

The sentences for practicing.

You can even do it with a child to practice.

It'll actually prompt him where to go and find the words,

like the way I showed you just a few minutes back.

Now this is the analytics part where it would actually show you what are the words used.

Here, if you see, that word cloud,

where it shows you the most commonly used words

and the smaller ones are the less frequently used words.

It also tells you what percentage of core vocabulary has been used and from date-to-date,

you can give the date range and you can get the words used during that.

It's again a pretty useful feature and several people are using it quite effectively.

Now, we also have a bunch of resources

which gives you a lot of tips which are very useful.

As you can see, there are a whole bunch of tips here.

There's also some research papers that we felt would be very useful for parents especially details to go through in their time to catch up with AAC research.

Then also, we have a Facebook page that you can join, I'm going back.

Now, we go back to Avaz.

I also wanted to quickly show you what was the Avaz life feature.

This was the dashboard, that is they're right on top,

which is a guide for parents and aids and professionals.

That is, teachers, especially the teachers who may not be aware of the dos and don'ts and the guidelines for communication.

Now, Avaz Live is for teletherapy.

This is a very new feature that we've launched with the latest update to Avaz very recently.

When you tap that, it allows you to actually share your screen between a parent and the special head teacher or the therapist.

You can share your screen with the therapist and the therapist can actually take control of the screen and modify your settings.

You can modify your icons.

You can modify the words and vocabulary in your screen, so that even sitting in his own home or her own home, your iPad can be remotely controlled by the therapists to make changes to the settings and set up your Avaz for the child.

This is a very useful feature and it encourages a remote teletherapy.

It's very simple system to start a new session.

If you're a therapist or you connect to a session if you are a parent.

This is for Avaz Live.

We do have a small help button which is right on top.

If you look at it, we have a chat.

You can chat with us directly or you can get the screen explained where every button

in the screen is shown to you and explain what it is and the third option is a FAQs.

You have the Avaz FAQs,

you can take a look at what are the different questions that you have on Avaz.

So you can just scroll through or you just type and find whatever you want.

You can type and search for your question and you'll find the answers in this.

So this is the support part that we have,

so this is the help and support in app and yeah,

we do have a way by which you can back up and you can even connect it to Dropbox to store it safely so

that even if you have a loss of your iPad or it breaks or any such disaster, you'll still recover the vocabulary from Dropbox if you connect it to Dropbox. So you basically have to create a new backup and connect to Dropbox. Once you do that, it gets transferred to the cloud and remains there for safekeeping and then you can download it anytime.

So this is about

the hours so let me go back.

So this is a quick demo and coming back to the intervention part.

As we know that the successful intervention lies not in the app alone

but to the entire team that surrounds the child,

which is aides and teachers and family

and friends and parents and everybody around the child,

all the communication partners.

As I mentioned, we do believe in aided language input,

which is one of the most effective approaches and we completely endorse it

and we believe that it brings out and

most effective in increasing spontaneous communication.

Even modeling when you'll make sure that when the child tries to speak any word,

you make sure that you bring out the app and show it

to the child and do it yourself that you

model what you want the child to do so

that and you new model one or two words beyond what the child is trying to say.

So the child is trying say water,

you can try and say you want water or want water and as you speak,

you will show it in the app so that the child

learns how to use it for by seeing you and mimicking you.

We, of course, encourage modeling everything beyond requests alone.

So you can model,
whether it's the various pragmatics which is greetings or
questions or describing, rejecting,
jokes and request and comments,
agreeing, protesting, instructing, complaining, etc.

So we do encourage all modes of pragmatics and of course,
we firmly believe the presuming competence.

Definitely presume competence in the child so that you have faith that
he would learn to communicate and he is capable of communicating and of course,
encourages use of Avaz and all the settings,
whether it be in school or in the park or in restaurant or shopping.

One of the methods that we do suggest is to motivate communication where you
set up a scenario and give the child time to respond and if he responds,
then you give the suggested requested item and
so that he understands that he's understood and if he doesn't respond,
then you either try to prompt him or you try
a different activity or try a different time,
so try something different but I'm sure you get there when it's the right time.

Motivating, these are a couple of examples where it may sound a
little harsh but eating

your child's favorite food in front of him without offering him any.

So that is one way by which you force him to request for it or
you place his favorite item in a place that's
beyond his reach so that he tries to ask for it.

This way they are other tons of other ideas for communication,
many of which are there in the app itself under the dashboard.

Now coming to pricing and subscription, the Avaz Lite,

the difference between Lite and Pro is that the Lite is a subscription-based model while Pro is a onetime purchase from the app store. In the Lite, we have a one month subscription and a lifetime subscription. The one month is \$9.99 and lifetime and for both Pro and Lite is \$199.99.

In the Pro, you can avail the volume purchase option, which is open for schools where 20 or more copies are available at 50 percent discount.

Currently, as I mentioned earlier,

Avaz is on discount,

it's 50 percent off in celebration of Autism Awareness Month and this is available from 1st-15th of April and so on discount it is

just \$99.99 for a lifetime purchase and bulk purchases are available at just \$50 for a minimum number of 20 licenses.

Now I'll be happy to answer any questions that you may have.

You can type your questions in the question box and I'll be happy to answer them.

>> Are you able to see the questions, Lalitha?

>> Not clearly.

>> Okay. Let me just change a setting.

>> Okay. You should be able to see them now in the questions box.

>> Here's a question: is there a way to make a custom home screen?

Yes. Absolutely. You can create your own home screen,

this is for Steven Rossi.

You can create your own home screen.

What you do is you create a folder which will be your home screen on the root screen.

You initially set it to root so that you create your folder and the content within that.

You go to the settings and set the home screen to that folder.

That way, you'll create your own custom home screen.

I hope I have answered your question.

You can type in your question if you have something more.

[NOISE] I'm not sure I understand this right. Whose is this?

Mathias? Has come back to you.

The next is, would I be able to back up my student's Avaz account to my iPad in case it is left at home or the student does not have access?

Yes. Absolutely. That's the one I said that you can back it up.

You need the iPad to back it up.

Backup my student's Avaz account to my iPad.

You would be backing it up from your iPad to Dropbox, and you can take it back from Dropbox to the iPad.

I'm not sure what you mean by backup your student's Avaz account to my iPad.

I don't quite understand what you mean by that.

>> I think maybe she means if she backed it up to her own iPad in case the student doesn't have it.

>> You mean without the Dropbox?

[NOISE] You need to back it up through Dropbox.

You can back it up and link it directly to your Mac, or to your computer,

or laptop through the cable. That is one option.

In fact, in the later versions,

you even have a transport through AirDrop.

You can do an AirDrop transfer as well.

You don't necessarily have to go through Dropbox.

You can back it up from one iPad to the other directly using AirDrop.

I hope that answers your question.

Volume needed to be turned on?

[NOISE] I thought it was turned on.

I'm sorry about that. Since it was working well.

Thanks, Mathias, but I'm seeing your thing a bit late.

Is the number of button hits more or

less about the same to navigate to various messages compared to other AAC?

Well, that's hard to say.

In some of them, it is probably less,

in some of them, it may be the same or maybe a couple more.

We've not really done a study to exactly benchmark it against other apps.

But I would say that it's pretty easy to navigate and form sentences,

it doesn't take too many tabs.

Does that answer your question, Kristen?

I hope I've answered your question, Eliza.

[BACKGROUND]

Thank you. Any other questions?

[BACKGROUND].

>> There's one more in there now.

>> Does the app outcome with instructions of how to back it up?

The instructions are all available through our FAQs on the Support page.

It's also available through the Help button on the app.

If you tap "Help", it says FAQs.

You can go there directly and say,

how do I backup, and you would find the answer to it there.

The backup is extremely simple.

You just tap "Settings",

and you go into Backup and restore,

and you say Create a new backup, and that's it.

It then automatically gives you a backup name that you can actually change.

The backup name includes the date,

but you can change the whole thing,

and you just have to press okay.

It's a simple two-button thing to create a backup.

When it creates a backup, it creates it first in the device itself,

and then you can transfer it either through a cable or through Dropbox.

But otherwise, the backup gets created in the device itself.

You can look it up under FAQs as well to know how to do it.

But they're pretty easy and very intuitive to create backups or to restore it.

In the same page, you also have a way by which you can restore the backup.

Does that answer your question?

Yes. Go ahead, Eliza.

Other than the lite version, is there a free trial PDF for SLPs?

We do offer evaluation versions for SLPs for trials.

You could write to us and we'll be happy to share with you some of these trial offers.

You can write to us at support@avazapp.com.

This is our support page, support@avazapp.com.

You can write to us there and we'll be happy to give you an evaluation version for SLPs.

Any other questions?

[NOISE]

Thank you,

Eliza, I hope it's helped.

[NOISE] Finally, you could access webinar at a later date.

I guess the webinar recording will be circulated by CTG?

>> Yes. Correct.

>> Yeah. That would be available to you for referencing at a later point of time, Eliza.

[NOISE] Any other questions?

[NOISE] It

looks like we've answered all the questions.

>> Yeah. I'm not seeing any others either. Go ahead.

>> It looks like we are closing up.

Thank you everybody for attending the webinar.

I hope it was useful to you.

If you have any questions,

please feel free to write to us at support@avazapp.com.

I hope you can see it on the screen.

>> Yeah, we can.

>> You can write to us here and we'd be happy to help you out with any of your queries.

Thank you once again for attending and for making time for this.

Have a great day, and have a great month ahead,

and have a good conference.

>> Thank you, Lalitha.