



# STAGE 4 PACKET: HANDOUTS & SUPPORTS

Learn what GLPs in  
early and later Stage 4  
sound like!

Find out how to  
support GLPs in Stage  
4 and how to know if  
they're ready!

Discover the roles of  
Developmental Sentence  
Types (DST) and  
Developmental Sentence  
Scoring (DSS) in Stage 4!





# WHAT DOES AN EARLY STAGE 4 GLP SOUND LIKE?



That ... not ... car!!

You find ... YOU!

My...do it!

And truck!

Us pizza too  
expensive!

I find car ...

Messy...messy  
pink playdough!

Car broken?

I ... you ...  
scare?

It is a chips ...

A ball ...  
blue!

Stage 4 is like an  
extension of Stage 3 ...  
A GLP is beginning to  
play with grammar!

Grammar will not sound  
conventional, but instead  
experimental.

This is a good thing!



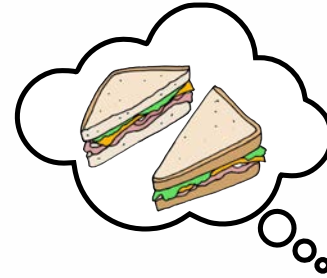


COMMUNICATION  
DEVELOPMENT  
CENTER

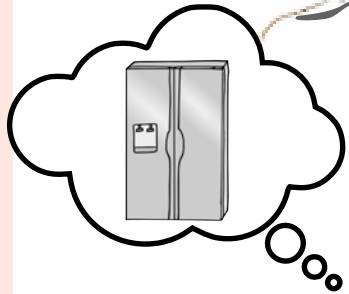
# PROGRESSION FROM EARLY STAGE 4 TO LATER STAGE 4



Hungry... me

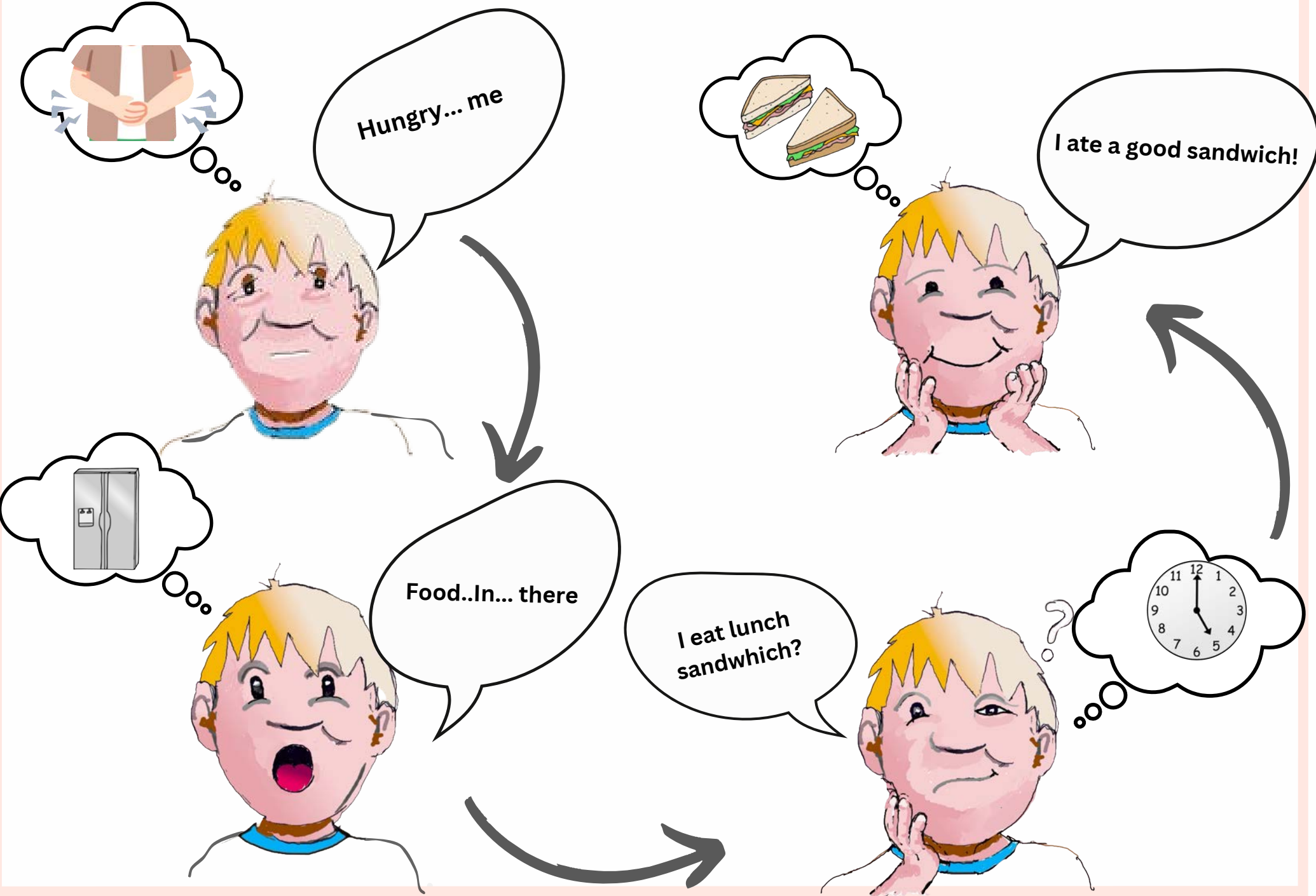
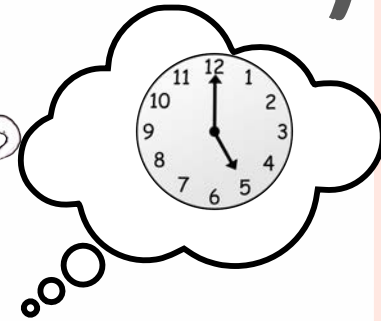


I ate a good sandwich!



Food..In... there

I eat lunch  
sandwich?





# DEVELOPMENTAL SENTENCE TYPES (DST) EXPLAINED

Stage 4 begins with pre-sentence grammar (Developmental Sentence Types), and is really a continuation of Stage 3.

Developmental Sentence Types (DST) are word combos that are \*pre-sentence\* entry points into Stage 4.

Phrases are 2-3 words long and focus on experimenting with the relationship between words before formulating full sentences.

Check out our website below for DST charts! Put them on your fridge for your family to see

DST conceptual and semantic word combos include verbs, pronouns, adjectives, wh-questions, conjunctions, negatives.



Stage 4 grammar naturally moves from pre-sentence grammar to sentence grammar once the semantic relationships of the DST have been explored.





# DEVELOPMENTAL SENTENCE SCORING (DSS) EXPLAINED

In Stage 4, a GLP will go from DST pre-sentences like "us zoo ice cream !" to DSS scoreable "We had ice cream at the zoo and then Nolan went home with his mom!"

Check out our website listed at the bottom for DSS charts!

DST conceptual and semantic word combos include verbs, pronouns, wh-question words, conjunctions, negatives.

Developmental Sentence Scoring (DSS) is a grammar chart. DSS are word combos that are \*pre-sentence\* entry points into Stage 4.

Phrases are 2-3 words long and focus on experimenting with the relationship between words before formulating full sentences.

Stage 4 grammar naturally moves from pre- sentence grammar to sentence grammar once the semantic relationships of the DST have been explored.





# EARLY STAGE 4 UTTERANCES ORGANIZED BY DEVELOPMENTAL SENTENCE TYPE

That not car!!

I find car!!

You find...YOU!

I...you...scare

Car broken?

My...do it!

Mom is look...

And truck!!

per...fect!

Us pizza too  
expensive

Write D.O.G.!

A ball blue!

Descriptive item	descriptor + noun	designator +negation+ noun	noun
Car broken	a blue ball	that not car	and truck
us pizza too expensive			

pronoun + pronoun + verb	verb + noun	noun +verb + descriptor	pronoun + verb + noun
I...you...scare	write D.O.G.!	Mom is look..per..fect!	My..do it!

Nouns, designators, (here, there, this), descriptors, verbs, and vocabulary items are part of DST.

**Variability is key!**

These phrases prepares the Stage 4 GLP in the next steps of grammar.



# WHAT IS GRAMMAR!

It describes  
real-life  
relationships ...

... relationships  
among ideas, things  
and language

Think about  
what your  
individual  
wants to express!

Meaning comes first  
then language!  
No empty  
grammar!

This fun..  
very

Who me?

Watch .. go  
I down!

Somethig  
down... there

I can  
...  
hard

You  
climb  
there!

Look at we!





# STAGE 4 TARGETS AND SUPPORTS

We should not be focused on correcting grammar- our conversational turns can model beginning grammar instead!

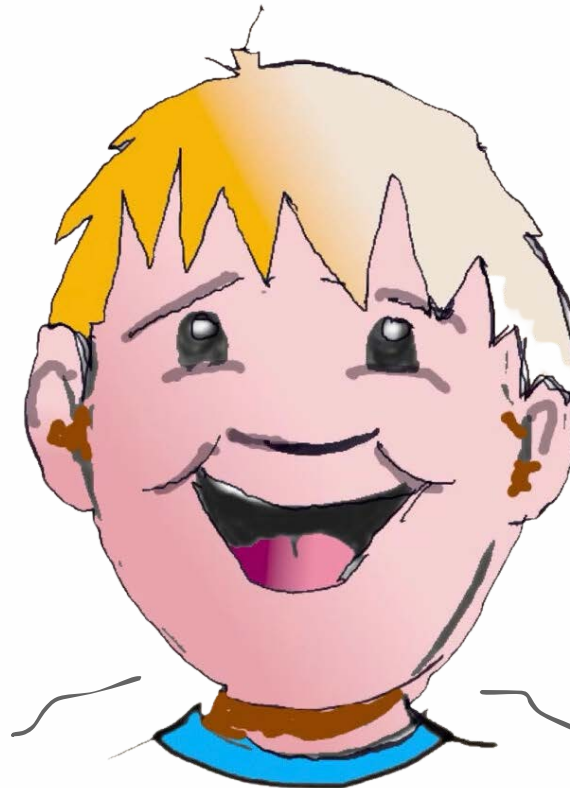
Our job is be a good conversation partner and to keep the conversation going

Encourage continued play and experimentation

She sinked 'em

Model a variety of early grammar concepts.

Use the DST and DSS 1-3 as your guides!!







# SIGNS OF STAGE 4 READINESS

Is the GLP starting to use bits of grammar to connect their "mini-chunks" left over from Stage 2?

Are the GLP's wheels turning?

Do they seem to be moving out of mainly relying on their old "echoes" for communication?

Do they start to sound LESS accurate or sophisticated than they used to?

Does the GLP show signs of comfortably playing with new language? Do they show interest in your early grammar combos (and when you model "errors") and join you in experimenting with language?



# DYSFLUENCIES AT STAGE 4

Dysfluencies happen in analytic language development – and moreso in gestalt language development.

Linguistic dysfluencies, or "mazing" mean that individuals are creating their sentences on purpose!

We may see mazing in our Stage 4 and beyond individuals as they begin to use self generated grammar and search for specific words to put together.

Mazing often increases with the greater linguistic complexity of an utterance

We suspect that someone is mazing and not displaying motor based dysfluencies if it starts to appear at Stage 3/4.

