

10 Things to Know

Exploring the Option of Voice Preservation



1 **Voice preservation**

The process of recording your voice in case you want to use it for a speech generating device (SGD) at a later time.



2 **Work with an SLP**

A Speech Language Pathologist (SLP) can help you through the voice preservation process or refer you to a communication specialist who can.



3 **Voice banking**

Recording a set of specific sentences that provide all the combinations of sounds required to create a personalized computer voice that mimics your own voice.



4 **Message banking**

Recording yourself saying meaningful sentences will result in a voice that sounds most like you. Message banking allows you to record phrases that you would want others to hear in your voice.



5 **Use both**

There are communication tools that use both your recorded messages and your computerized voice. If you type a message that you have recorded, it plays your recording. If you select a message you have not recorded, it uses your personalized computer voice.



6 **Timing matters**

For the best results, communication professionals suggest that voice preservation be completed as early as possible. However, it can still be successful after early speech changes.



7 **We'll hear you**

Even if you are noticing changes in your voice or your "banked" voice does not sound exactly like you, it will sound more like you than a generic computer voice.



8 **Have it in the bank**

Think of voice preservation like an insurance plan. You have it if you need it. Your recordings can be saved indefinitely.



9 **Use your recordings**

If talking becomes difficult you can use a speech generating device for communication. Type what you wish to say, and the device speaks your message aloud in your voice.



10 **Your choice**

If you complete the process and don't like the outcome, you don't have to use it. You will still have access to a generic computer voice.