Communication Temptations

(Wetherby & Prizant, 1989)

- 1. Eat a desired food item in front of the child without offering any to the child.
- 2. Activate a wind-up toy, let it deactivate, and hand it to the child.
- 3. Give the child four blocks to keep in a box, one at a time (or use some other action that the child will repeat, such as stacking the blocks or dropping the blocks on the floor). Then immediately give the child a small animal figure to drop in the box.
- 4. Look through a few books with the child.
- 5. Initiate a familiar and unfamiliar social game with the child until the child expresses pleasure, then stop the game and wait.
- 6. Open a jar of bubbles, then close the jar tightly. Hand the closed jar to the child.
- 7. Blowup a balloon and slowly deflate it. Hand the deflated balloon to the child or hold the deflated balloon up to your mouth and wait.
- 8. Hold a food item or toy that the child dislikes out near the child to offer it.
- Place a desired food item or toy in a clear container that the child cannot open while the child is watching. Put the container in front of the child and wait.
- 10. Place the child's hand in a cold, wet, or sticky substance, such as jello, pudding, or paste.
- 11. Roll a ball to the child. After the child returns the ball three times, immediately roll a rattle or a toy on wheels to the child.
- 12. Wave and say "bye-bye" to a toy upon removing it from the play area. Repeat this for a second and third toy, and do nothing when removing a fourth goy. These four trials should be interspersed through the other temptations, rather than be presented in a series.
- 13. Have the animal greet the child the first time. Repeat this for a second time and third time, and do nothing when bringing out the animal for the fourth time. These four trials should be interspersed when presented.
- 14. Put an object that makes noise in an opaque bag and shake the bag. Hold up the bag and wait.
- 15. Engage the child in an activity of interest that necessitates the use of an instrument for completion (e.g., crayon for drawing, spoon for eating, or wand for blowing bubbles). Have a third person come over and take the instrument, go sit on the distant side of the room, while holding the instrument within the child" sight and wait.