

What is the Picture Exchange Communication System or PECS?

In some of our classrooms, the use of visuals and particularly PECS is a strong part of our programming. The following information was taken from the PECS website (pecsusa.com):

PECS is a unique alternative/augmentative communication system that consists of several phases and begins by teaching an individual to give a single picture of a desired item or action to a “communicative partner” who immediately honors the exchange as a request. {For our students}, the system goes on to teach discrimination of pictures and how to put them together in sentences. The primary goal of PECS is to teach functional communication. Research has shown that some learners using PECS also develop speech. Others may transition to a speech generating device (SGD).

PECS visuals are used in some of our classrooms to help students with communication delays understand information, use language to comment, request, greet, and negate, and organize their day. Here is a link showing how to get started using PECS. It was published by Pyramid Educational Consultants, the company behind PECS.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Hs-412lhXb0&feature=youtu.be>