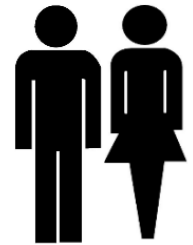


Communicating with Symbols

Purpose

The purpose of this assignment is twofold. First, graphic design as we have defined it is visual problem solving that communicates some message to an audience. Also, the saying *a picture is worth a thousand words* is an important point to remember when creating graphic messages. We use symbols everyday to communicate messages and ideas instead of using words. Consider the symbols on the page and see if you know the meaning or message for each.



Second, people with communication disorders sometimes have to rely on means other than speech to communicate. One solution for people with communication disorders is to use an alternative augmentative communication (AAC) device to assist them with their communication needs. One effective AAC solution is to create a picture book that uses symbols to communicate basic needs and wants. As a person becomes familiar with using these books more advanced ideas can be communicated using symbols. See if you can figure out what is being communicated in the example below.



Directions

For this assignment you will develop a list of common activities or situations that students have to do or encounter to make it through a typical school day. Once you have your list, you will create a document using Microsoft Word that demonstrates these activities and situations using symbols. Symbols can be found on the Internet using sites such as www.symbolworld.org or by using clip art. For this assignment you will not use text, only symbols.



Procedure

1. Brainstorm your common school day activities and situations – keep them simple, single ideas
2. Use the Internet to locate symbols or locate clip art in Word to communicate your activities and/or situations
3. Create your document with Microsoft Word
4. Save the document and print a copy to turn in