## Directions for Communicating with an AEeyeOU Board



The AEeyeOU board speeds communication by breaking the alphabet into 5 groups and allowing the User to identify the group which contains his letter with his eyes. These groups all start with the vowels A,E,I,O and U in order to make them easy to memorize and eventually even remember and use without the board.

- 1. Both the non-verbal User and the communication Partner look at the board which is held between them.
- 2. The User is asked to look to the corner which contains his letter or strait up if his letter is in the E group.
- 3. When the Partner identifies which group the User has selected she will name each of the letters in that group starting with the vowel.
- 4. The User provides a prearranged signal (e.g., exaggerated eye blink, eyebrow raise, head nod, smile, looks at Partner etc.) when the Partner says the correct letter in the group.
- 5. The process will continue until the entire message is received by the Partner.

## TIPS

- The Partner must use a steady and consistent pace when saying each letter within the group. The User needs a reliable pause after each option to give his signal.
- The User should simply look at the board and wait until the Partner says the correct letter and <u>only</u> <u>then</u> give a signal. By not indicating "no", "no", "no" the user saves energy and avoids confusing the Partner ("was that a "no" or a "yes"?")
- The Partner should use a pad of paper, Boogie Board or dry erase board to keep track of the message the User is spelling. Also, the Partner should say each letter aloud after the User selects it so that the User knows if a mistake was made.
- The User can communicate that a mistake was made by selecting delete in the first group or giving a prearranged "NO" signal like multiple rapid eye blinks.
- Often it is helpful if the User also can see the dry erase board, Boogie Board or pad of paper where his message is being constructed. Many Users find that they too need help keeping track of the message they are constructing.
- For common messages, create a list of short codes consisting of two letters that represent the entire message. For example NK=I need a kiss.

