Communication Form and Function Questionnaire

- 1. What reasons does your child have to communicate?
- 2. What communication signals does your child use?
 - When does he or she use these signals?
 - What is the result?
 - How clear are the signals?
 - Can other people see these signals, or would they have to be trained to recognize them?
- 3. Does your child make noise or vocalizations?
 - ♦ When alone?
 - When playing with someone else?
 - When playing with a toy?
- 4. How does your child currently let you know:
 - What he or she wants?

- When he or she wants you to do something?
- When he or she want you to pay attention to something?
- When he or she does NOT want something?
- 5. Is there one person with whom your child is most successful in getting needs or wants met?
 - What signals is this partner recognizing?
 - How does this partner interpret the signal?

- 6. When does your child communicate best?
 - ♦ With whom?
 - In what settings or activities?
 - Given what type of responses or cues from partners?
- 7. When does your child have the most difficulty communicating?
 - With whom?
 - In what settings or activities?
 - Given what type of responses or cues from partners?
- 8. How does your child respond when interacting?
 - When you interact with him or her?
 - When someone else interacts with him or her?
- 9. Does your child initiate communication with you and with others? If so, how does your child let you know he or she is ready to communicate?
- 10. Does your child take turns in communicative interaction?
 - Does your child interrupt you?
 - Are there long gaps between your turn and your child's response?
- 11. Does there seem to be a gap between what your child understands and what he or she can express?
 - What evidence do you have that your child understands you?
 - Does your child understand better with certain people, in certain settings, or within certain common routines?
- 12. What is the most frustrating aspect of communicating with your child?

All Kids Communicate. Mcmahon, P., Reeder, A., Roberts, S., Rues, J. How to build and use a communication dictionary with nonsymbolic learners. Lawrence, KS: US Department of Education, University of Kansas