## **Tech Spotlight**

**App:** CardTalk

**App Type:** AAC/Communication

Price: FREE!

Available on: iOS and Android devices.

Communication devices come in many shapes, sizes and prices. Each one offers its own benefits and style. More complex augmentative and communication systems (AAC) generally require assessment and training. Support teams and the Enabling Tech department are here to help with this process. Mobile apps are a great place for individuals, along with their families and support staff, to jump in and start to explore communication on their own. Take a look at this option!

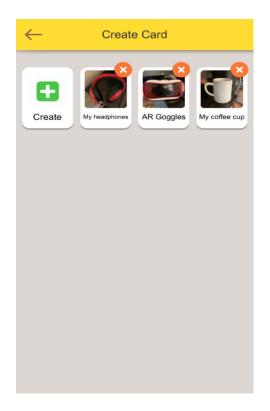
## Link to CardTalk's Website

CardTalk allows the communicator to build simple sentences out of "cards". The app comes with a library of cards separated into categories. The communicator can select up to three cards at a time. This is a great way to let someone know where you want to go, what you want to do and what you'd like for that afternoon snack. The communicator will not be able to give a dissertation, but this app gives them the tools to begin their communication journey.

Speaking of tools, CardTalk offers some interesting features that really help it stand out from other free AAC apps. Maybe your communicator needs to focus on specific words or concepts. Well, CardTalk lets you build a personal "deck" of up to 8 cards. This may be limiting for some communicators but it could be very empowering for people who struggle when offered too many options at once. The deck can be edited and changed as the communicator grows more confident. Eventually, you can move on to the complete set of cards.



If that was not great enough, the communicator can also have as many personalized cards as they need. Some communicators want to see their headphones or their coffee cup rather than general depictions. They may also have access to items or concepts not available in CardTalk's library. It is quick and easy to create your own cards. All you need to do is take or use a picture, record a few words and give the card a title. This can be done anywhere, whether sitting at a desk or running around your favorite park. CardTalk is designed to be flexible!



CardTalk is a great place to start working on some communication basics. If it is useful for a communicator, you can build on successes until they are ready to try something a little more complicated and empowering. Give it a try today! You can find CardTalk in the Appstore or on Google Play.