

# Meet Conrad

---

Conrad is a 2 year old little boy who lives at home with his mother, Wendy, his father Chris, his older sister, Hazel who is 4 and his older brother, James who is 6. Here he is surrounded by a loving and supportive family, including those he lives with.



---

Come along as we navigate Conrad's PEAT journey!"

The adults supporting Conrad want to consider Assistive Technology (AT) to support him in his every day routines and activities.

Conrad loves to play with his cars, often lining them up in a row and laying on the floor to watch the wheels rotate as he moves them.

Conrad loves to find and listen to wind chimes in the neighborhood and is content to ride in his stroller as the family takes an evening walk.



Conrad was meeting developmental milestones until he was 19 months old, at which time he stopped speaking.



Conrad does not use words to communicate but does vocalize in some ways to express his feelings.

He also uses some gestures to identify wants and needs.

He shows some understanding of many familiar words but has no expressive speech, and it appears that he does not hear his family speak to him at times.

Conrad has been diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder, and receives services in his home by Early Intervention. The services on his Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) include Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy and Speech Therapy.

He also attends an inclusive early childhood education program 2 mornings a week, where he is supported by Cecelia, his Early Intervention paraprofessional and the rest of his Early Intervention team.



Conrad’s Mom would like to support Conrad’s engagement at home with his family.

She would like Conrad to have a meaningful role in their everyday routines and activities, starting with hand washing and the routine surrounding his toy cars (requesting, getting, playing, cleaning up).

# high priority

Mom's highest priority is Conrad's ability to transition from his toy cars to a different activity without it resulting in meltdown behaviors.

She would also like to find a way to help Conrad communicate that does not involve crying and other unwanted behaviors.



Now, take a look at the two routines mom has identified as priorities, hand washing and car play.



Currently, the sink in both the bathroom and the kitchen are too high for Conrad to reach. Mom lifts Conrad to the sink to wash his hands. Mom tells Conrad it is time to wash hands, and usually, Conrad will cry. Mom turns on the faucet, pumps the soap, and holds Conrad's hands under the water. When finished, Mom turns off the faucet and Conrad rubs his hands on Mom's pants to dry them after she puts him down. Conrad typically will then run to his cars or push on the television to request a show.

Conrad's IFSP team would like to see him be able to transition through a hand-washing routine without engaging in unwanted behaviors. They would also like him to be an active participant in the routine such as putting his hands under the faucet and turning off the water.



To support Conrad's participation, the team has decided to implement changes in his physical environment, before making other changes.



Currently, Conrad has a rectangular, plastic bin of cars in the living room, kitchen, bedroom, and hallway. Conrad is able to drag or push the bins but is unable to pick them up to move them. Typically, Conrad will push the bins over so that all of the cars are emptied onto the ground. He will choose specific cars, line them up, and then roll them back and forth, while laying on his tummy, with his eyes very closely focused on the moving wheels.



At child care, Conrad's IFSP team would like to see him initiate a request to play with his cars, play with them appropriately, and help to clean them up. At home, they would also like to see him transition away from his cars calmly and confidently when play time is over.

The team has decided to implement changes in Conrad's physical environment to support his car play routine.

**Now, it's time to really get to know Conrad and his family.  
To do that you'll need to check out his PEAT Portfolio.**

