

Past Life Experiences

- List the past life experiences and events that supported your vision for a good life.
- Has always had a mixture of opportunities with daycare in typical programs and receiving therapy either in the daycare or a separate setting
 - At day care parents have the opportunity to see the program and have communication with the teachers
 - Having friends without disabilities in daycare settings
 - Was invited to a birthday party for a child in the daycare who didn't have disabilities
 - Plays with neighborhood kids
 - Has an older sister and brother who plays with her and brings friends into her life
 - Is using some sign language
 - Learns new things by repetitive practice
 - Is beginning to be toilet trained
 - Can walk around the house without a walker
 - Uses a walker to go long distances outside of the home
 - Helps feed the family dog

Future Life Experiences

- List the future/current life experiences that continue to support your vision for a good life.
- Be given and expected to have age appropriate responsibilities (chores, taking out trash, picking up her room, clearing/setting table)
 - Attend Elementary with her sister, brother and neighborhood kids
 - Teach her to point to items so that she shows her understanding
 - Have meetings with the school staff to plan and not just use email
 - Use a "talker" so others understand her
 - Have birthday parties and have people come
 - Go to Sunday school
 - Consider ABA therapy during the summer only
 - Continue teaching her to use the toilet and pull her pants up and down
 - Teaching her to show recognition of people by giving them items when requested
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LIST what you want Morgan's "good life" to look like...

- Be embedded in her community including church, work and social with multiple community connections
- Have life experiences like going on vacations, movies, and other opportunities
- Have relationships with friends and family
- Able to express herself and communicate her wants/needs/ interests and carry on a conversation
- Read
- Do math to meet functional needs
- Live in a supported manner so that she doesn't have to live with her parents
- Be safe
- Go to Sunday school
- Be interdependent and able to dress, bathe, fix simple meals
- Be invited to birthday parties and to other people's homes
- Have people come to her birthday parties



4 Years old

- List the past life experiences that have supported the arrow toward things you don't want to have.
- People have had low expectations and being placed in program that meets her therapy needs but not social needs
 - In a class with students who can't talk and who don't challenge her for interaction
 - There is no consistency between private and school speech therapy
 - Many of her signs look the same and parents are the only one who consistently understand them
 - People don't wait for a response because it takes so long
 - Family lives far away and can't help out
 - Has had 2 seizures in the past year when she was over-tired

- List life experiences to avoid because they push you toward things you don't want
- Only rely on her version of sign language
 - Her life circling around her therapies
 - Being in a Life Skills class for all instruction
 - Being bored and not challenged
 - Getting too tired, stressed, hot or cold because this can bring on seizures
 - Being put in a program based on the therapies that she needs
 - People setting low expectations because she can't talk and walking is hard for her

- What I DON'T Want**
- LIST the things you don't want in her life...
- Be isolated
 - Only have exposure to people with significant disabilities
 - Not be treated well and connect to people because she is seen as different and not cute
 - Being left behind
 - Seizures controlling her life
 - Being hurt and not able to tell parents and others when she is hurt or scared

Link to a worksheet that can be completed by parents



