



Self-Reflection Sheet

Communication

When communicating with a person who has an intellectual disability:

- Carefully consider the person's ability to understand
- Allow plenty of time
- Be careful to avoid assumptions (There is no evidence that people with ID/DD need less information on death and dying than any other person)
- Use picture cues and books
- Provide honest and simple answers
- Use concrete communication versus abstract concepts

Consider specific things that you have said (or would say) to a person with an intellectual disability who is in an end-of-life situation. What does "concrete communication" sound like.

Try writing some of these expressions below: