# Little SPARK: Simple Play Adaptations to Reference for Kids

## PowerLink 4

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| **Description:** | **Image:** |
| The PowerLink 4 is a switch interface that enables electrical appliances/devices to be controlled with switches either wired or wireless. One or two devices can be plugged into the PowerLink and either one or two switches can be used to activate the devices. There are 6 different modes of control. | PowerLink device with two green buddy buttons |

**Who Might Benefit?**

Those who benefit from switch use or currently use switches as an access method because they are unable to access typical classroom activities or common electrical appliances.

**Why Use?**

Provides an opportunity to activate an appliance for participation in classroom activities, i.e. cooking, music, math, literacy, etc.

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| Instructions for Use: | Adaptation Ideas: |
| **Environmental Considerations**   * Use on any flat surface with easy access to an electrical outlet.   **Positioning & Alternate Positioning**   * Use in any position where the device and switches are accessible.   **Basic Play/Use**   * Plug the PowerLink into any AC wall outlet and power on. * Plug appliance into either power cable on the PowerLink and turn the appliance on. * Attach and switches to corresponding switch jack(s).   **Extended Play/Use**   * Five other modes are available and useful for a variety of reasons. These can be activated by pressing the mode button in the middle of the device until the desired mode type is located.   **Play/Use with Others**   * The “Two-switch” mode provides an opportunity for a child to engage in collaborative/cooperative play with another child or adult since pressing both switches are required to activate the appliance/device. | **Optional Additional Materials/Supplies**   * Velcro * Dycem, non-skid matting, cabinet liner   **Stabilize It**   * Stabilize on a flat surface with either Velcro or a non-skid matting such as Dycem or cabinet liner.   **Add Sensory Cues**   * Add textures, colors, or picture symbols combined with words could be added to the switches.   **Communication Support**   * Include communication boards with keywords needed to engage in the specific activity.   **Alternative Uses**   * Trial multiple types of [switches](https://ocali.kohacatalog.com/cgi-bin/koha/opac-search.pl?idx=&q=Switch+Kit&weight_search=1). |

### Words to Encourage Play/Use

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| **More**  A pile of red stones with a black arrow pointing to the top and a smaller pile of red stone next to that pile. | **Go**Green light lit up on a traffic signal | **Help**A child kneeling on his knee and another child reaching toward the kneeling child. |
| **Push**Child pushing rock away. | **Stop**Red light lit up on a traffic signal | **Ready**A child with blue shirt and shorts with lines emphasizing the child and a thumbs up from someone else. |
| **OnA black circle sitting on top of a black line.** | **OffA black arrow pointing to a circle that is away from the black line.** | **DoneA child with a thumb up slightly pointed toward themself and a green circle with a white checkmark next to the child.** |

\*”Adaptations” adapted from: Haugen’s Modes for Adapting Toys based on materials from the "Let's Play" Project at the University of Buffalo

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