

# **Internet Resources for Parents of Students with Disabilities to Support School Success**

## **Reading Supports**

### **Bookshare**

Provides free digital books for print disabled individuals and software that reads books aloud. Free for students with disabilities who qualify. A must-have for students to need help reading books.

<http://www.bookshare.org/web/SupportAboutUs.html>

### **Tar Heel Reader**

A collection of thousands of free, easy-to-read, and accessible books on a wide range of topics. Can be read aloud. The books may be downloaded as slide shows. Each book can be speech enabled and accessed using touch screens, the IntelliKeys with custom overlays, and 1 to 3 switches.

[tarheelreader.org](http://tarheelreader.org)

### **StoryLine Online**

Actors read childrens' books online. Audio and text.

<http://www.storylineonline.net/>

### **LibriVox**

A non-commercial and non-profit project that donates its recordings. Volunteers record books in the public domain and makes them available for free to download. Audio only no text.

<http://librivox.org/>

### **Read Print**

A free online book library of classic literature (over 8,000 titles). Reading Mode places the text in a pop-up window that is easier to read. Text only, no audio of stories.

<http://www.readprint.com/>

### **SymbolWorld**

Has reading material with picture supports for all ages and includes stories and learning materials. eLive is an on-line magazine within SymbolWorld especially for older readers.

<http://www.symbolworld.org/index.htm>

### **Barnes & Noble Lexile Reading Level Wizard**

Find books by reading level

<http://www.barnesandnoble.com/reading-level-reading-books-lexile/search.asp?cids2Pid=30223>

### **ReadPlease**

A simple to use text-to-speech program. Text must be copied into the program's window to be read aloud. ReadPlease 2003 is the free version. Windows only.

[www.readplease.com](http://www.readplease.com)

## **WordTalk**

A free Windows text-to-speech plugin for Microsoft Word. Will speak the text of the Word document and highlight as it goes. Contains a talking dictionary and text-to-MP3 converter. Windows-only.

<http://www.wordtalk.org.uk/Home/>

## **Writing Supports**

### ***Alternative ways to write a story***

#### **My StoryMaker**

My StoryMaker lets you control characters and objects - and creates sentences for you. No writing required. Once you are done with your story, you can print it out.

<http://www.carnegielibrary.org/kids/storymaker/>

#### **Make Beliefs Comix**

Create up to a six-panel comic strip by choosing characters and their emotions, add thought or talk balloons, and add objects and prompts. When finished you can print or email; comics are not saved on the site. Site also has Teacher Ideas and Family Fun writing activities.

<http://www.makebeliefscomix.com/>

#### **ZooBurst**

ZooBurst is a digital storytelling tool that lets students easily create 3D pop-up books. It includes over 10,000 free images and materials. Authors can choose to make items "clickable," allowing readers to learn more about individual characters. Each character can have its own "chat bubble" that pops up when that character is clicked. Authors can also record their own voices to have their characters really "speak" when clicked!

<http://www.zooburst.com/>

#### **Suessville Story Maker**

Use characters from Dr. Seuss' Horton Hears a Who to write a short story. When you are done, the story is played back.

[http://www.seussville.com/games\\_hb/storymaker/story\\_maker.html](http://www.seussville.com/games_hb/storymaker/story_maker.html)

#### **Kerpoof**

Kerpoof is a free story creator that provides many prompts to students as they generate text and ideas. Specifically, it limits students to 6 themes: fantasy, winter tales, inventors, aliens, rock party, and pirates. They can click and drag characters and objects onto the book page and then type their own story. Select "Tell A Story" on home page.

<http://www.kerpoof.com/>

#### **Bookr**

A very simple and easy to use site to create your own storybook using Flickr images. View examples in the archives to get ideas.

<http://www.pimpumpum.net/bookr/>

## **Writing Supports - continued**

### **VoiceThread**

A VoiceThread is a collaborative, multimedia slide show that holds images, documents, and videos and allows people to leave comments in 5 ways - using voice with a mic or telephone, typing text, uploading an audio file, or a video. Single accounts are free.

<http://ed.voicethread.com/> - home

### **Photobbable**

Create Talking Photo books in three simple steps:

1. Snap or select a photo 2. Record your voice and/or enhance your photo with visual effects

3. Share via email.

<http://www.fotobabble.com/>

### ***Other resources for writing***

Story Starters

Story Starters is a bank of writing prompts. Student spins the lever to get a writing prompt. the student can spin wheels to change any part of the prompt.

<http://teacher.scholastic.com/activities/storystarters/storystarter1.htm>

### **Pics4Learning**

Pics4Learning is a safe, free image library for education. Teachers and students can use the copyright-friendly photos and images for classrooms, multimedia projects, web sites, videos, portfolios, or any other project in an educational setting. The thousands of photos in this collection are approved for use in the classroom and indexed and sorted in order to maximize their effective use by students.

<http://pics4learning.com/>

### **Read-Write-Think**

Engaging ways to introduce your child to reading or to encourage your teens to write with age-appropriate book suggestions and online activities The materials were created by experts to be fun, educational, and easy to use outside of school.

<http://www.readwritethink.org/parent-afterschool-resources/>

### **Ginger Software**

Free spelling and grammar check software. Corrects writing based on the context of each sentence. Windows only download.

<http://www.gingersoftware.com/>

### **Typing Club**

This online program will assist you with learning and improving your typing speed.

Practice each lesson over and over to at least get all three stars. It really doesn't take much to learn, a few minutes a day for one to two weeks and you will be a pro

<http://typingclub.com/>

## **Writing Supports - Apps**

### **Typ-O HD \$9.99**

A word and grammar prediction program that speaks choices. There are four different voices available. Able to save text. Advanced spell checker included.

<http://itunes.apple.com/us/app/typ-o-hd/id372971659?mt=8>

### **Dragon Dictation Free**

A voice recognition application that creates voice-to-text that may be sent as SMS, email, or pasted into any application using the clipboard. Must have Internet access to work.

<http://itunes.apple.com/ca/app/dragon-dictation/id341446764?mt=8>

## **Study Skills Supports**

### **Study Skills**

#### **Flashcard Machine**

Create interactive web-based study flash cards and share them with others.

<http://www.flashcardmachine.com/>

#### **Quizlet**

Enter a vocabulary list of any words or data you want and Quizlet gives you a specialized learning mode, flashcards, randomly generated tests, and tools to help you study words.

<http://quizlet.com/>

#### **Head Magnet**

Headmagnet creates a model of what's going on in your head.

It predicts what memories have faded away, and what memories are still inside, allowing you to quickly get things in your head and keep them there.

<http://headmagnet.com/>

#### **Merriam-Webster Visual Dictionary Online**

An online dictionary with 20,000 terms with contextual definitions and 6,000 full-color images of a wide variety of objects from all aspects of life.

<http://visual.merriam-webster.com/index.php>

#### **MrNussbaum.com**

This teacher offers dozens of interactive games specifically designed to pinpoint one or several essential concepts taught in elementary years. Provides numerous interactive activities to complement the presentation of information.

<http://www.mrnussbaum.com/index.html>

#### **Shmoop**

Shmoop provides Learning Guides and Teaching Resources written by educators and doctorate students at universities, primarily Stanford, Harvard, and UC Berkeley. Our guides have a balance of an approachable style with academically rigorous materials to help students understand how subjects relate to their daily lives. Shmoop offers more than 3,000 titles across literature, poetry, US history, civics, biography, music and AP exams.

<http://www.shmoop.com/>

## **Study Skills Supports - continued**

### **WatchKnow**

Videos for kids from all over the Internet. Thousands of videos organized by academic content area.

<http://www.watchknow.org/>

### **VocabAhead.com**

VocabAhead offers videos that give an active demonstration of vocabulary with audio repeating the pronunciation, definition, various uses, and synonyms. Students can also go through flash cards which give a written definition and visual representation of the word.

Middle School / High School level

<http://vocabahead.com/Default.aspx>

### **Simple Wikipedia**

Wikipedia's "Simple English" uses straightforward language and by provides links for further inquiry. "Simple English" is listed under the Language options.

[http://simple.wikipedia.org/wiki/Main\\_Page](http://simple.wikipedia.org/wiki/Main_Page)

### **Snappy Words**

It's an online interactive English dictionary and thesaurus that helps you find the meanings of words and draw connections to associated words. You can easily see the meaning of each by simply placing the mouse cursor over it. Free.

<http://www.snappywords.com/>

### **Scribl**

scribe lets you annotate web pages in the browser and easily save, share and collaborate on Web-based research.

<http://www.scrible.com/>

### **HelpKidzLearn**

A collection of free software for young children and those with learning difficulties to play online. The software is split into five sections:

\* Early Years \* Games and Quizzes \* Stories and Songs \* Creative Play \* Find Out About

<http://www.helpkidzlearn.com/parents.html>

### **Do-2-Learn**

Games, songs, communication cards and information for special needs

<http://www.do2learn.com/>

### **Picto Selector**

Download this free software to create and develop individualized schedules and work systems using photographs or premade pictures similar to Boardmaker. Save as a pdf and share or print.

<http://www.pictoselector.eu/>

### **Lino It**

Create a digital bulletin board online using sticky notes, due dates with email reminders. Embed photos and videos. Share with others.

<http://en.linoit.com/>

## **Study – Organization Supports - Apps**

### **Idea Organizer \$1.99**

Idea Organizer lets you record your ideas, reminders and notes in whatever form suits you the most - text, photo, voice memo, or a combination of the above.

<http://itunes.apple.com/us/app/idea-organizer/id329621839?mt=8>

### **reQall Free**

Save your ideas, to-do lists and things to remember by voice or text. Or use email, IM, and more. Automatically organize: reQall makes it easy to organize your to-do's by recognizing dates, times, locations, and certain keywords.

<http://itunes.apple.com/us/app/reqall/id284930649?mt=8>

### **Productivity Helper \$.99**

A visual timer that can be used for self-monitoring, work sessions, and rest sessions. Simple user interface.

<http://itunes.apple.com/ae/app/productivity-helper/id316563396?mt=8>

### **Picture Scheduler \$2.99**

Create a list of items to be replayed back in order or set an alert to pop up at a later time. Uses audio, video, text and picture combinations.

<http://itunes.apple.com/us/app/picture-scheduler/id315050461?mt=8>

### **AudioNote Lite – Notepad and Voice Recorder Free**

By synchronizing notes and audio, AudioNote automatically indexes your meetings, lectures, or study sessions. Each note acts as a link directly to the point at which it was recorded. Text and drawings highlight during playback, helping you to remember the context in which they were taken.

<http://itunes.apple.com/us/app/audionote-lite-notepad-voice/id379301403?mt=8>

### **iHomework \$1.99**

iHomework tracks assignments, grades, to-do's and more. iHomework allows you to set alarms for assignments and reminders. It also includes a color-coded calendar and the ability to e-mail assignments.

<http://itunes.apple.com/us/app/ihomework/id302786560?mt=8>

### **iStudious \$2.99**

A complete note taking app designed for students. Create notebooks for each class and organize the notebook by lecture. After class, turn your notes into flashcards for study. Integrated with Quizlet.com - Download from their 7+ million flashcard sets. Include pictures and hints.

<http://itunes.apple.com/au/app/istudious-note-taking-w-integrated/id364896427?mt=8>

### **Flashcards Deluxe \$3.99**

Both text and pictures can be added. Integrates with Quizlet.com and FlashcardExchange.com. Has text to speech audio to listen to questions and answers.

<http://itunes.apple.com/us/app/flashcards-deluxe/id307840670?mt=8>

# **Math Supports**

## **WebMath**

Shows correct answers and all of the computation for all types of math operations.

<http://www.webmath.com/>

## **National Library of Virtual Manipulatives**

A collection of more than 100 on-line virtual manipulatives and math tools for K-12.

[www.nlvm.usu.edu](http://www.nlvm.usu.edu)

## **A Maths Dictionary for Kids**

A Math Dictionary for Kids is an animated, interactive online math dictionary for students which explains over 600 common mathematical terms and math words in simple language.

<http://www.amathsdictionaryforkids.com/>

## **Math Playground**

An action-packed site for elementary and middle school students. Practice your math skills, play a logic game and have some fun.

<http://www.mathplayground.com/>

## **Big Calculator**

A very simple on-line calculator that can be re-sized to fit your monitor. Windows-only

<http://www.sensorysoftware.com/bigcalculator.html>

## **Create A Graph**

National Center for Educational Statistics on-line program to create 5 types of graphs.

<http://nces.ed.gov/nceskids/createagraph/default.aspx>

## **Illuminations – Resources for Teaching Math**

This website offers interactive tools to facilitate exploration of math concepts.

<http://illuminations.nctm.org/ActivitySearch.aspx>

## **Max's Math Adventures**

A variety of relatively simple and engaging math games with audio support.

<http://teacher.scholastic.com/max/>

## **Math – Apps**

### **Kid Klock \$ .99**

Kid Klok shows both the analog and digital time on the same screen. To set a time, touch and drag the hands on the Kid Klok. The Digital Time changes as the hands are moved. The analog clock time can also be set by changing the digital time. The time is spoken when the Speaker Icon is touched.

<http://itunes.apple.com/us/app/kid-klok/id461743662?mt=8>

### **Counting Bills and Coins Free**

Counting Bills & Coins lets you practice identifying and solving math problems with money. Count, match, and make change with coins up to quarters and bills up to \$20. 5 activities:

- (1) Counting Money: Type the total of the coins and bills you see.
- (2) Show Me the Money: Drag bills and coins to make the total shown.
- (3) Making Change: Drag bills and coins to give customers change for their purchases.
- (4) Matching Amounts: Make the amount shown by using a different combination
- (5) Show Values: Drag coins and bills to count up, and then check your answer.

<http://itunes.apple.com/us/app/counting-bills-coins/id374976971?mt=8>

## **Communication Supports**

### **ACE Centre**

lots of resources for communication and success stories of children using AAC devices.

<http://ace-centre.hostinguk.com/index.cfm?pageid=B1F494A4-3048-7290-FE31D7F2468D8E30>

### **SpeechBubble**

A project of the ACE Centre, this website can give you an idea of what AAC devices are available, with details of nearly every communication aid available in the UK. (most of the same is available in U.S.) Can search for devices using feature match.

<http://www.speechbubble.org.uk/>

### **AAC Language Lab**

Learn how language develops in stages, and how to develop expressive language at each stage. Find a wealth of teaching materials, including lesson plans for language concepts, materials. This site does focus on PRC Co. devices, but the principles hold true for any communication device.

<http://www.aaclanguagelab.com/>

### **The Center for AAC & Autism**

Dedicated to building awareness of the power of augmentative communication to change the lives of children with autism and other developmental disabilities, with limited communication skills.

<http://www.aacandautism.com/>

### **PRC Device Icons**

The PRC Co. has made their symbols available for download as bitmap or jpeg files.

[http://www.prentrom.com/component/option,com\\_docman/Itemid,108/task,cat\\_view/gid,149/](http://www.prentrom.com/component/option,com_docman/Itemid,108/task,cat_view/gid,149/)

### **AAC Funding Help**

Clear, concise information on funding of speech generating devices, with specific resources.

[http://www.aacfundinghelp.com/fast\\_facts.html - 2](http://www.aacfundinghelp.com/fast_facts.html - 2)

### **101 Ways to Use a Sequential Message Device to Access the Curriculum**

From a teacher's blog, "Teaching Learners with Multiple Special Needs" this is full of good ideas on how to use simple voice-output technology in school and home.

<http://teachinglearnerswithmultipleneeds.blogspot.com/2008/03/101-ways-to-use-sequential-message-aac.html>



## **Communication Supports - Apps**

Sono Flex Lite Free Full version \$99.00

A full-featured communication app with core and topic vocabularies. Add photos or use SymbolStix icons. Choose boy/girl or man/woman voices. Create message in message window and tap to speak entire sentence.

<http://itunes.apple.com/app/sono-flex-lite/id463709444?mt=8>

Scene & Heard \$49.99

Visual Scenes with messages embedded in the pictures. Import your own photos and add voice recordings and video clips into the scene. Use Widgit symbols to add messages at the bottom or on hotspots of the scene.

<http://itunes.apple.com/us/app/scene-heard/id423528276?mt=8>

Sounding Board Free

Create custom boards with 1-9 messages using AbleNet symbols or imported photos and add recorded voice. Comes with 14 boards. Boards can be linked from messages. Switch-accessible with add-on from AbleNet.

<http://itunes.apple.com/us/app/soundingboard/id390532167?mt=8>

Proloquo2Go \$189.99

AAC software with natural-sounding speech, a 7,000 word Symbolstix vocabulary and option of adding photos and voice. Includes a message window and text-to-speech typing with word prediction.

<http://itunes.apple.com/us/app/proloquo2go/id308368164?mt=8>

TouchChat HD \$149.99

AAC software for the iPad. Messages are spoken with a voice synthesizer or recorded voice. Includes 10,000 Symbolstix, a message window and text-to-speech typing with word prediction. Four page sets included.

<http://itunes.apple.com/us/app/touchchat-hd-aac/id398860728?mt=8>

## **Assistive Technology Information**

### **Family Center on Technology and Disability**

Provides a wide range of resources on assistive and instructional technologies.

<http://www.fctd.info/show/home>

- The Family Center on Technology and Disability Family Guide to Assistive Technology

<http://www.fctd.info/resources/fig/index.html>

### **Disability.gov**

Connecting the disability community to information and opportunities.

Assistive Technology Section:

[https://www.disability.gov/home/i\\_want\\_to/assistive\\_technology](https://www.disability.gov/home/i_want_to/assistive_technology)

Funding Section:

[https://www.disability.gov/home/i\\_want\\_to/assistive\\_technology/how\\_to\\_pay\\_for\\_assistive\\_technology](https://www.disability.gov/home/i_want_to/assistive_technology/how_to_pay_for_assistive_technology)

**Enable Mart**

An assistive technology shopping site with thousands of products. Search by type of disability, type of sensory need or type of equipment.

<http://www.enablemart.com/>

**AbleData**

The AbleData database of assistive technology contains objective information on almost 40,000 assistive products. For each product, we provide a detailed description of the product's functions and features, price information and contact information for the product's manufacturer and/or distributors.

<http://www.abledata.com/abledata.cfm>

**AT Boogie**

A flash cartoon video and song about using assistive technology. Entertaining and informative.

[http://www.inclusive.com/AT\\_boogie/at30.swf](http://www.inclusive.com/AT_boogie/at30.swf)

**Assistive Technology Center at OCALI**

Ohio Center for Autism and Low Incidence AT Center has numerous resources and compiled many links pertaining to assistive technology.

<http://www.ocali.org/center/at>

**OCALI Assistive Technology Internet Modules (ATIM)**

These learning modules are available anytime and are in an easy to understand format. Written by experts from across the U.S., they are designed to showcase how assistive technology can dramatically improve the education and quality of life for people with disabilities.

Featured Modules:

- AT Consideration in the IEP Process
- Automatic Speech Recognition

<http://www.ocali.org/project/atim>

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