Assistive Technology Breakthroughs for Students with Disabilities

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Assistive Technology Breakthroughs

• Objectives:
  – Learn from each other!
  – Discuss state and local resources for assistive technology
  – Present examples of breakthroughs in assistive technology
  – Provide resources for further research and investigation
Tennessee Technology Access Program Centers

East Tennessee Technology Access Center
www.ettac.org

Mid-South Access Center for Technology, Memphis
http://www.memphis.edu/act/index.php

The Star Center, Jackson
http://www.starcenter.tn.org/

Technology Access Center, Nashville
http://tacnashville.org

Signal Centers Assistive Technology Center, Chattanooga
http://www.signalatcenter.org/
TTAP provides funding to five regional assistive technology centers across Tennessee. The centers provide training, evaluation, minority outreach and advocacy services. The staff at each of the centers works closely with businesses, school systems, vocational rehabilitation and the medical community to increase the independence and productivity of persons with disabilities through the use of assistive technology devices and services.

Funding Assistance
Device Demonstration
Device Loan
Device Reutilization
ETTAC Services

- Equipment Demonstration
- Educational Technology Services
- Vocational Technology Services
- HeartSong Center
- Community Services
- Workshops
Service Philosophy

• Presume competence
• Customer Driven
  – includes family and caregivers
• Trial use
• Vendor neutrality
• Service staff work as a team
Assistive Technology Breakthroughs

- Wireless/Bluetooth
- Mobile devices
- Web and Cloud Based Applications
- E-text Options
- Eye Gaze Technology
- Social Media
- Free Tools
Wireless/Bluetooth

• Reduces wires and increases safety
• Devices can be placed at a distance from the computer for positioning needs
• Allows access to standard Bluetooth enabled devices
Intelliswitch
www.intellitools.com
Wireless Pal Pad Switch
www.adaptivation.com
Wireless Keyboard and Wireless Mouse
www.maxiaids.com
Wireless Headset Microphones
Switch Access for iPad and iPod Touch

Ablenet Bluetooth Switch for iPad
www.ablenetinc.com

Big Button iPod Remote
www.rjcooper.com

iPad Switch Interface
www.rjcooper.com
Switch Access for iPad and iPod Touch

Hook™ iPod Switch Access

www.ablenetinc.com
It’s a Mobile World!
Mobile Devices- What Do They Offer?

• Communication
• Learning
• Entertainment
• Mainstream technology
• The “cool” factor
• Universal Design options
• Portable apps
  – USB jump drives to take applications with you
Switch Access for iPad and iPod

• Apps must be written for switch access

• Single click
  – one hit of the switch makes the screen change

• Linear scanning
  – items are presented one by one for selection

• Group item scanning
  – multiple items are presented in rows
There’s an App for That!

- **THE Journal**

- **Moms with Apps** [http://momswithapps.com/](http://momswithapps.com/)

- **Technology in (Spl) Ed** [http://techinspecialed.com/](http://techinspecialed.com/)


- **Boston Children’s Hospital**

- **Apps for Children with Special Needs**
Text Capture and Reading

Intel Reader
http://www.humanware.com/en-usa/home

Classmate Reader
http://www.humanware.com/en-usa/home

Livescribe Pen
www.livescribe.com
Text Capture and Reading

IRIScan Book 2
http://www.irislink.com/

Any Book Reader
www.donjohnston.com
www.amazon.com
Web and Cloud-Based Applications

Evernote
www.evernote.com

Drop Box
www.dropbox.com
Web and Cloud-Based Applications

Bookstream™
Your eBook Cloud,
Their iPads, Laptops,
Smartphones

www.donjohnston.com
Web Apps and Portable Apps

www.texthelp.com

Read and Write Web

eBook Reader

Skill Based Applications

* Can be accessed via web with accounts
  MindPlay
  TextHelp
  PLATO
  Reading Horizons
E-Text Options

BookShare
www.bookshare.org

1. Get It – Browse the Bookshare website and select a book
2. Read It – Click the speech button to hear the book read
3. Learn It- Use study tools to highlight important passages and take notes
E-Text Options

Tar Heel Reader
Books for beginning readers of all ages

Choose a book

Our Day
by Kim6
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Australian Animals
by Kim6
Tags: Australia, find, you

Where do horses live?
by aussie

Footy
by Karen

People have Feelings
by MegH

Cakes
by Kim6

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— Pictello
Eye Gaze

www.tobiiati.com

www.dynavoxsys.com
Eye Gaze

http://www.words-plus.com/

www.prentrom.com
Social Media

- Life long learning
  - blogs, information from developers, news, etc.
- Communication
- Opportunities for language and writing
- Motivation
  - E-Pals
For Free?!

– Natural Reader www.naturalreader.com
– Read Please www.readplease.com
– ClickNType http://cnt.lakefolks.com/
– Camera Mouse http://cameramouse.org/
– Open Office http://www.openoffice.org/
– Give Away of the Day
  • http://giveawayoftheday.com/
– My Study Bar http://eduapps.org/?page_id=7
Resources

• Each Other
• Webinars
• Blogs
  – http://atclassroom.blogspot.com/
• Family Center on Technology and Disability
  – http://www.fctd.info/
• Quality Indicators in Assistive Technology
  – www.qiat.org
What’s next?