

Accessible &
Learning
Technologies for
Educators of
Reachable Digital
NATIVE S



Bi - Weekly Resources for
Reaching & Teaching
"Digital Natives"
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Technology Resources for Education
www.TRECenter.org

Note: Some links are time-sensitive. Access to some may require registration or free subscriptions.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK:

There is no use worrying about things over which you have no control, and if you have control, you can do something about them instead of worrying."

--[Stanley C. Allyn](#),
former CEO National Cash Register Co.

Americans. Hear clips from a 1939 recording trip through the South. (Library of Congress)
http://www.free.ed.gov/resource.cfm?resource_id=1872

CONFERENCE ANNOUNCEMENT:

New York Citizens Coalition for Children (NYSCCC) 8th Annual Statewide Adoption Training Conference. May 10-12, 2007, Albany, NY. Workshops on Support and Services for Children with Developmental Disabilities, Improving Outcomes for Children in Family Court, Developmental Online registration: <http://www.nysccc.org/>

Spring is in the air and soon the ladybugs will reappear! Please spread the word about my spring project, **Lucky Ladybugs**.
<http://kids-learn.org/ladybugs> We have Ms. Bug, our friendly text to speech reader. It works on IE.

FunPixMail - <http://www.funpixmail.com/>

<http://school.nettrekker.com> has all types of subjects including literature
Nettrekker is a wonderful website for universal design. Vicky Anda,R.P.T.,A.T.P.

UDL ALTERNATIVES

"A concept or philosophy for designing and delivering products and services that are usable by people with the widest possible range of functional capabilities. . . . includes products and services that are directly usable (without requiring assistive technologies) and . . . that are made usable with assistive technologies.

- AT Act of 1998, P.L. 105-394, S. 2432

Guide to Harlem Renaissance Materials features music, art, and writing from Harlem during the 1920s and 1930s. Learn about Louis Armstrong, Billie Holiday, Duke Ellington, Zora Neale Hurston, Langston Hughes, James Baldwin, Robert Blackburn, and others. See photos of jazz greats and other creative

WordTalk for free at:
<http://www.wordtalk.org.uk/html/wordtalkdownload.flx>

Thoughts into Actions: The *Scientific American* list of top stories of 2006 includes how Matthew Nagle, a quadriplegic following a severe spine injury, has gained the ability to transform his thoughts into actions with the help of an implanted sensor. A tiny device containing 100 electrodes, each thinner than a human hair, was placed onto the surface of Nagle's motor cortex, the part of the brain that governs movement. The sensor registered electrical signals from nearby neurons and transmitted them through gold wires to a titanium base on Nagle's skull. Cables connected this base to a

set of computers, processors, and monitors that assessed the firing of the neurons and converted the impulses into action. Using a neural onscreen cursor, Nagle was able to open e-mail, draw circles, and play a version of Pong. The sensor also enabled him to control his television, open and close the fingers of a prosthetic hand, and use a robotic arm to pick up pieces of hard candy and drop them into a technician's hand.
www.sciam.com/article.cfm?articleID=0004DD3A-6E37-14B5-AE3783414B7F0000&chanID=sa009

The open source software PowerTalk will read aloud Windows based PowerPoint slide shows. You can download the software at
<http://www.oatsoft.org/Software/PowerTalk>

<http://www.media-convert.com> You can convert WAV/MP3 files online for free – no need to download any software at all.

<http://www.cnn.com/2007/HEALTH/02/21/autism.amanda/index.html> This video of a young woman with autism posted on the CNN website incorporates use of AT for "typical" communication.

http://www.xtrememac.com/audio/earphones_recorders/micromemo_video/ The Micromemo plugs right in to the bottom of the iPod and can be positioned in any direction.

Download Youtube videos for presentation, but get author's permission:
<http://www.ripzor.com/about.html>
<http://www.youtubex.com/> Also download any Video Converter to convert after downloading. (from Jeannette Van Houten)

http://learningtools.us/videos.htm#voice_recording has some "very basic" videos on how to voice record in Word and how to create a toolbar for recording.

FloatingBar
<http://www.naturalreaders.com/download.htm>

For a really cheap microphone
<http://www.radioshack.com/product/index.jsp?productId=2103831&cp=&sr=1&orig>

AAC ALTERNATIVES:

Augmentative Communication Background Research Top Ten: Simple and Complex
<http://depts.washington.edu/augcomm/index.htm>

<http://www.somaticdigital.com/> This promising technology is available on Gail Vantanhove's site. Go to: www.vantanenhove.com then click on "Review Available AAC Therapy Materials"

<http://www.tinsnips.org> Great resource!

ACCESS ALTERNATIVES

Dragon NS resource Caption Mic
<http://www.ultech.com/products/category.asp?catid=12>

DEPARTMENT NEWS:

VESID has scheduled three public hearings on its proposed regulations to implement the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004 (IDEA 2004) and the final federal regulations to implement IDEA 2004, commonly known as Part 300 of the Code of Federal Regulations. Public comment on the proposed regulations will be accepted until May 7, 2007.
<http://www.vesid.nysed.gov/specialed/idea/publichear407.htm>

FUN ALTERNATIVES:

What do you think of oddcast technology? Check out a set of samples on their website.
<http://www.oddcast.com/home/clients>

FUNDING ALTERNATIVES:

[The Dana Foundation Rural Initiative \(Arts\)](#)
Purpose: Beginning in 2007, The Dana Foundation will grant professional development

programs in rural communities in the US. To be considered, you must fill out a Letter of Intent. See [How to Apply](#). Deadline for the Letter of Intent for 2008 is June 4, 2007.
<http://www.grantsalert.com/grants.cfm?id=4&gid=4032>

MATH ALTERNATIVES:

"Money Skills" from Marble Soft.
<http://www.marblesoft.com/software.php?title=3>

MUSIC ALTERNATIVES:

<http://www.switchintime.com/SJ.html> Switch Jam: Basically everyone in the band controls a player and clicks their person, or presses a switch assigned to the keystrokes 1 to 4. There are ten songs.

Ensemble and Super Switch Ensemble:
<http://www.switchintime.com/Products.html>

<http://aex.intellitools.com/> Check out the turntable activities and the conga drum I created. user: ssennott Samuel

<http://www.drakemusicproject.org/> Scott Kupferman California State Univ, Fresno

PARENT ALTERNATIVES:

<http://www.jeena.org> Jeena is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to helping children with developmental disorders and their families in the Silicon Valley, California and in India. Janet Nunez; Parents Helping Parents, iTECH Center

TEACHING ALTERNATIVES

Zoom to Earth — NASA Style **Zoom to Earth — NASA Style** NASA's new World Wind technology allows Internet users to zoom in from satellite altitude to any place on Earth. Using Landsat satellite imagery and Shuttle Radar Topography Mission data, World Wind lets visitors experience Earth terrain in visually rich three-dimensional imagery. NASA has released

World Wind as an open source program (meaning anyone can use it) to improve its quality through peer review and to maximize the impact of its research. Free usage is subject to the terms of the NASA Open Source Agreement.
<http://worldwind.arc.nasa.gov/index.html>

Children with Disabilities: Reading and Writing the Four Blocks Way by David Koppenhaver and Karen Erickson.
http://teachersbagsbooksandbeyond.secure-shops21.com/Children-with-Disabilities-Reading-and-Writing-the-Four-Blocks-Way-1-3_p_30-4224.html

<http://www.customtyping.com/> On the left side of screen, click on "special needs, then AT assessment" and the site will collect data for you with your student. It is set up to collect information about a variety of input methods including voice recognition. Karen Janowski

http://rsk.imageg.net/graphics/product_images/pRS1C-2266483w345.jpg Dynamic title - this gives a very low cost option for speech in and speech out for kids who have trouble with traditional reading & writing methods. From Karen Janowski

LITERACY ALTERNATIVES

<http://www.mariinc.com/workhigh.html>

<http://www.agsglobe.com/Group.asp?nGroupInfoID=a0835935884>

VENDOR WEBSITES AND NEWS:

<http://trecenter.org/vendors.htm>

VENDOR NEWS:

<http://www.Axistive.com>. They run an assistive technology news website that might be interesting for you. Check out the new AT Bundle at:
<http://www.cricksoft.com/us/accessibility/bundle.asp>

Dear Friends and Colleagues:

This biweekly, free email newsletter provides resources to people interested in the use of technology as a tool to help all students. If you have information to share that would be of value to members of our learning community, including job notices, please write and let us know. We'll be happy to share it here or at our web site. Contact, reprint, and subscription information is at the end of this document.

Thank you for your interest in the TRE Center and our work. We look forward to having you share your wisdom with the people on this list and with those you serve.

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ABOUT ALTERNATIVES:

*Respond directly to the person posting an item.

*To submit questions or items for consideration, send to: David@TRECenter.org If you know others who would like to receive T.R.E.'s AT Resources, please direct them to: <http://www.trecenter.org/news.htm> for subscription information. To speak to a human about newsletter issues, please contact TRE toll free in NY 800-248-9873.

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"If we teach today like we did yesterday, we rob our children of the future."

~John Dewey