Assistive Technology Examples

The following examples were taken from Assistive Technology Consideration Quick Reference Wheel developed for the Wisconsin Assistive Technology Initiative. This is not an exhaustive list. Technology can be anything used to support the student.

More information about the wheel can be found at: http://www.cec.org

Communication

- Communication board with pictures/words/objects
- Eye gaze frame
- Simple voice output device
- Voice output device with icon sequencing
- Voice output device with dynamic display
- Voice output device with speech synthesis

Reading

- Predictable books
- Changes in text size, spacing, color, background
- Book adapted for page turning
- Use of pictures/symbols with text
- Talking electronic device to speak challenging words
- Single word scanners
- Scanner with Optical Character Recognition and talking word processor
- Electronic books

Learning / Studying

- Print or picture schedule
- Aids to find materials (e.g. color coded folders)
- Highlight text
- Recorded material
- Voice output reminders for assignments, tasks
- Electronic organizers
- Pagers/electronic reminders
- Single word scanners
- Hand-held scanners
- Software for concept development
- Software for organization of ideas
- Hand-held computers
Math:

- Abacus/Math Line
- Enlarged math worksheets
- Alternatives for answering, explaining or giving examples
- Math "Smart Chart"
- Money calculator/Coinulator
- Tactile/voice output measuring devices
- Talking watches/clocks
- Calculator with or without print out
- Calculator with large keys and/or display
- Talking calculator
- Calculator with special features
- On-screen/scanning calculator
- Alternative keyboard
- Math software
- Software for manipulation of objects
- Voice recognition software

Written Expression:

- Word cards/book/wall
- Pocket dictionary/thesaurus
- Writing templates
- Electronic/talking spell checker/dictionary
- Word processing with spell checker
- Talking word processing
- Abbreviation/expansion
- Word processing with writing supports
- Multimedia software
- Voice recognition software

Writing:

- Variety of pencils and pens
- Pencil/pen with adaptive grip
- Adapted paper (e.g. raised line or highlighted line)
- Slant board
- Prewritten words/phrases
- Templates
- Portable word processor
- Computer with word processing
- Voice recognition software
- Talking calculator

Taken from Assistive Technology Consideration Quick Reference Wheel  www.cec.org
Computer Access:

- Keyboard with accessibility options
- Word prediction, abbrev./expansion to reduce keystrokes
- Key guard
- Arm support
- Track ball/joystick with on-screen keyboard
- Alternate keyboard
- Pointing options/Head mice
- Switch with Morse code
- Switch with scanning
- Voice recognition software

Vision:

- Eye glasses
- Magnifier
- Large print books
- CCTV (closed circuit television)
- Screen magnifier (mounted over screen)
- Screen magnification software
- Screen color contrast
- Screen reader, text reader
- Braille materials
- Braille translation software
- Enlarged or Braille/tactile labels for keyboard
- Alternate keyboard with enlarged keys
- Braille keyboard and note taker

Hearing:

- Pen and paper
- Computer/portable word processor
- TTY/TDD with or without relay
- Signaling device
- Closed Captioning
- Real Time captioning
- Computer aided note taking
- Flash alert signal on computer
- Phone amplifier
- Personal amplification system/Hearing aid
- FM or Loop system
- Infrared system

Recreation:

- Toys adapted with Velcro, magnets, handles, etc.
- Toys adapted for single switch operation
- Adaptive sporting equipment
- Universal cuff to hold crayons, etc.
- Modified utensils
- Arm support for drawing/painting
- Electronic aids to operate TV, VCR, etc.
- Art software
- Games on the computer

Taken from Assistive Technology Consideration Quick Reference Wheel  www.cec.org
Mobility:

- Walker
- Grab bars and rails
- Manual wheelchair including sports chair
- Powered mobility toy
- Powered scooter
- Powered wheelchair
- Adapted vehicle for driving

Daily Living Skills:

- Non-slip materials
- Universal cuff/strap to hold items in hand
- Color coded items for easier locating
- Adaptive eating utensils
- Adaptive drinking devices
- Adaptive dressing equipment
- Adaptive devices for hygiene
- Adaptive bathing devices
- Adaptive equipment for cooking

Environmental Control:

- Light switch extension
- Interface and switch to activate battery operated devices
- Interface and switch to turn on electrical appliances
- Radio/ultra sound to remotely control appliances
- Electronic aide to daily living controlled through augmentative device

Positioning and Seating:

- Non-slip surface on chair
- Bolster, rolled towel, blocks for feet
- Adapted/alternate chair, sidelyer, stander
- Custom fitted wheelchair or insert

For more information or individual assistance, please contact:

exceptional children's assistance center
North Carolina’s Parent Center
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Davidson, NC 28036
800-962-6817 • www.ecac-parentcenter.org