

Solutions for Assistive Technology Conference Sessions

Thursday, May 3, 2007

8:00 – 9:00 am

Azalea

Write Way to Learn

Presenter: Roxanne Butterfield, Slater Software

Scratching your head to insure that your students with disabilities have adequate, appropriate and multiple opportunities for writing? This session will show you how to create writing assignments for diverse learners. You'll see how easy it is to create writing environments with PixWriter so your students can answer quizzes, complete worksheets, demonstrate vocabulary growth, and express knowledge. All examples will be developed around an educational standard covered in grades K-8, the first Pilgrims at Plymouth Rock. Cross-platform, Mac and Windows examples will be shared. Every participant will receive a CD of the complete history unit and printed samples from the picture-adapted curriculum.

Magnolia

The GOLD Standard in Literacy Support Software

Presenter: Jennifer Ray, Texthelp, Inc.

Join this session to learn how Read&Write GOLD (RWG) for Macintosh gives students an edge in learning and studying. An excellent read-aloud tool for nearly all text, RWG from Texthelp Systems also offers powerful writing and study support tools. From spelling and word prediction to studying and organizing information, RWG provides a full range of options to support student work. Best of all, students can take advantage of these powerful tools from within commonly used programs like MS Word, Safari, Outlook express and beyond. RWG puts success within the reach of struggling students.

Camellia

Let's Give 'Em Something to Talk About

Presenter: Jacquie Clark, News-2-You

Imagine having new information weekly that is fun, relevant and stimulates communication and learning. Teachers and therapists would have time to adapt materials to individual needs, rather than spend hours creating the materials. News-2-You and Joey's Locker provides over 150 pages weekly including current news, recipe, activity pages, adapted story and online games. Everything updates weekly. National and state standards are also addressed. We will show you how this can be used for all ages. How it can be adapted to regular education, special education plus provide numerous additional activities. We will demonstrate how the newspaper can be adapted for AAC devices, different access methods and software. We will also showcase the new Spanish edition and World News. You will leave with everything you need.

Salon I - Exhibits

Napoleon

Implementing Text-to-Speech Communication Devices for Literate Users

Presenter: Adam Weiss, ZYGO Industries, Inc.

This session will discuss ways to implement speech generating devices in all facets of daily life. Attendee will discover speech enhancement techniques and client accommodations to meet needs. Session will illustrate cell phone and e-mail access.

Lafourche

Sorting through Word Prediction Systems

Presenters: Kelly Fonner, MS; Scott Marfilus, Independent Educational & Assistive Technology Consultants;

Word prediction programs have had major upgrades in the last year. This will be a fast-paced, intermediate-advanced level presentation that will demonstrate the features of word prediction programs that should be considered during assessment and selection of writing supports. During this session we will look at the word prediction features of stand-alone products that are useable with any text-accepting program and do a quick overview of products that have word prediction built-in such as dedicated word processors and onscreen keyboards. We will explore how each program controls the prediction and how each customizes its vocabulary lists. This session is not about what product we think is the best, this is about sorting through the options available so that you can be more informed when making decisions.

Feliciana

Storybooks: An Important Step Towards Literacy

Presenter: Amy Koch, Adaptation

Attend this session to receive many easy, functional ideas for increasing the availability of appropriate and accessible literacy activities. We will share several ways to incorporate books into different curriculum areas using simple technology. This presentation will show you ways to turn your favorite storybooks into 'talking books'.

Vermilion

Opening Books to Everyone

Presenter: Paul Thompson, Dolphin Computer Access, Inc.

A How-to on creating diverse Alt formats for diverse population. Make reading accessible to blind, low vision, and other print impaired students by learning how easy it is to create accessible text.

New This Year!
Exhibits – Salon I
Thursday, May 3rd & Friday, May 4th

Solutions for Assistive Technology Conference Sessions

Thursday, May 3, 2007

9:15 – 10:15 am

Azalea

Learning on the Web for Students with Reading Challenges

Presenter: Bonnie Hill, Freedom Scientific

This session will provide a road map for using the Internet to support struggling students, including those with diagnosed learning disabilities. Using new WYNN 5.1 software, we'll review the software basics, then lasso the Web by conducting a search, reading the information using WYNN's bi-modal reading tools, extracting relevant text for studying and writing papers.

Magnolia

The GOLD Standard in Literacy Support Software

Presenter: Jennifer Ray, Texthelp, Inc.

Join this session to learn how Read & Write GOLD (RWG) for Macintosh gives students an edge in learning and studying. An excellent read-aloud tool for nearly all text, RWG from Texthelp Systems also offers powerful writing and study support tools. From spelling and word prediction to studying and organizing information, RWG provides a full range of options to support student work. Best of all, students can take advantage of these powerful tools from within commonly used programs like MS Word, Safari, Outlook express and beyond. RWG puts success within the reach of struggling students.

Camellia

On-the-Fly Portable AAC And Reminders

Presenter: R.J. Cooper, R.J. Cooper Associates

RJ Cooper, a pioneer in the field of Assistive Technology, will present a recent product development, the Mini-Auggie, a relatively inexpensive, highly portable, AAC device that also functions as a task reminder and cueing mechanism.

Salon I - Exhibits

Napoleon

A Language Continuum Utilizing Pre-made Language Boards

Presenter: Betsy Walker, Assistive Technology, Inc.

This session will focus on a functional language continuum developed for dynamic display AAC users, demonstrating how Functionally Speaking™ and WordPower™ can meet many AAC users language needs and ease the need for programming by SLP's.

Lafourche

LIT: Literacy Integration through Technology

Presenter: Kelly Fonner, Independent AT Consultant

As concern for literacy learning heightens in educators of all students, we look to the tools and strategies of assistive technology to bring the curriculum to students with special needs. Based upon practices in adult learning such as ECT and the literacy framework of the 4 block model, LIT training was developed to support teachers and teams serving students with severe disabilities in the acquisition of literacy skills. The results of this year long training project will be presented throughout the session with video, technology and off-computer examples. This is a project that can be replicated within any district/program that serves students with severe disabilities as it gives purpose to the technology that you have already and will guide your decisions for future purchases.

Feliciana

Standards + Technology = Access for ALL (Across the curriculum)

Presenters: Vendor Collaboration: Kim Haynes, Independent AT Consultant; Roxanne Butterfield, Slater Software; Suzanne Feit, IntelliTools; Jo Meyer, SoftTouch; Mary Sagstetter, AbleNet.

How are you going to incorporate AT tools to support curriculum content for secondary low incidence students? Join this multifaceted session and learn how to integrate what you have and how to use it in the classroom (maximize the tools you have) to teach curriculum content with literacy support. Many classrooms have a variety of assistive technology and somehow the technology becomes the objective. This session will show how to integrate a variety of tools, from low tech to high, to meet the student's academic needs.

Vermilion

Speech-Language Therapy Strategies for AAC Users

Presenter: Jenifer Sudkamp, Prentke Romick, Co.

Normal language development information is the foundation for building generative language with a child using AAC strategies. The "support team" needs to establish a vision of where the child is going in terms of AAC and language development vs. immediate needs. During this presentation we will briefly review normal language development and apply principles of normal language development to the field for AAC. Guidance for the selection of the "first words" to put on the AAC device/board will be provided with strategies for creating scripts utilizing PASS (PRC Application and Support Software...free download from website).

10:15 – 11:15 am
Visit the Exhibit Hall – Salon I
Network with vendors and presenters

Solutions for Assistive Technology Conference Sessions

Thursday, May 3, 2007

11:15– 12:15 pm

Azalea

Boardmaker Product Family Version 6.0: A Tour of Features

Presenter: Dana Stump, Mayer Johnson

This session will focus on the new features of the Boardmaker Product Family Version 6.0. New features such as Symbolate, Drag and Drop, the Freeform Button Tool, One-Step Resizing, Movable Buttons, and the improved Symbol Finder and so much more will be shared. These new features are sure to produce renewed enthusiasm for the power of the Boardmaker Family of Products.

Magnolia

Essential Language Software Level 1:

From Emerging Language to Word Combinations for Students with Autism and Other Developmental Disabilities

Presenter: Dr. Mary S. Wilson, Laureate Learning Systems

Participants will learn how to choose the appropriate early emerging language programs for their students. The 5 research-based *Sterling Edition* programs in the Essential Language: Level 1 package are designed for individuals in the earliest stages of language development. *Creature Chorus* introduces cause & effect, turn-taking, and use of the computer. *First Words*, *First Words II*, and *First Verbs Sterling Editions* train 150 early emerging vocabulary items in a highly-structured and supportive environment. *First Categories Sterling Edition* uses 60 common nouns to teach 6 basic categories.

Camellia

Reaching All Students with Destination Math and Reading

Presenter: Farrah Lemoine, Riverdeep Software

The presentation will discuss Destination Success which is math and reading software for kindergarten through high school. The audience will receive a demonstration of the software and its management system as well as how it works with assistive technology devices. The audience will also be shown how this program can help students with special needs.

Salon I - Exhibits

Napoleon

Implementing Reading and Writing Strategies with SOLO for Maximized Outcomes

Presenter: Trisha Johnson, Don Johnston, Inc.

A number of research studies have demonstrated the impact of SOLO by Don Johnston Incorporated on educational achievement in both reading and writing. So, how can you make it a fundamental part of the school day as a complete Universal Design for Learning (UDL) solution? And what implementation methods have the largest impact on learning? In this session you will learn about new researched methods of implementing SOLO to realize maximize results.

Lafourche

Assistive Technology Report Writing (Part I)

Presenter: Meher Banajee, LSUHSC

Using case examples participants will be guided through an assistive technology report writing process. A report writing template (based on Louisiana's Assistive Technology Framework) will be provided and completed by participants during the presentation.

Feliciana

Technology Supports for Math

Presenter: Scott Marfilius, Independent AT Consultant

Do your students struggle with participating in math learning activities? Using technology as a support can assist them in two ways in the math curriculum. Through instructional technologies, math skills can be practiced, reinforced and presented in a means which match the learning styles of a variety of students. With assistive technologies, students with learning, cognitive, physical and/or sensory disabilities can be supported in increasing their participation and independence in math activities. Products from both of these technologies will be demonstrated throughout the session. A framework for decision making and implementation will be the basis of the presentation and a means of which to walk away with a plan of action for supporting your students in math.

Vermilion

Redefine Static Display the *Smart* way!

Presenter: Rob McPherson, AMDi; Allison Vice, M. Ed. CCC-SLP, Vermilion Parish

Take static displays into the future with the Smart/128. Learn how to bridge the gap between static and dynamic display devices by creating and integrating interactive visual scene overlays. This session will provide sample activities to jump start your imagination while introducing you to the new features of the Smart/128.

12:15 – 1:15 pm

Lunch On Your Own

Solutions for Assistive Technology Conference Sessions

Thursday, May 3, 2007

1:30 – 2:30 pm

Azalea

Eliminating Readers and Scribes with TestTalker

Presenter: Bonnie Hill, Freedom Scientific

Fostering independence is a primary goal of every educator, and students with reading challenges can now test independently. Using TESTTALKER as an oral reading and/or scribing accommodation, students can practice and take tests all year. We'll prepare tests to be administered wherever in the building chosen. Software is independent too!

Magnolia

Send Your Student to Switch School PLUS

Presenter: Jo Meyer, SoftTouch, Inc.

This computer lab will give the educator a logical step-by-step progression from single switch activation to two-switch step scanning that they can implement with their students. SoftTouch's new program Teaching ACCESS ABILITY will be used to help the student learn the skills needed to successfully use software currently on the market. The skills are in small, discrete steps that can be practiced without confusing or frustrating the student.

Single switch scanning is often seen as the simplest and easiest method to access a computer, but in reality it takes keen timing, cognition and attention skills as well as the physical ability to activate a switch. Students with the most complex challenges often spend years hitting a switch randomly without understanding the selection method.

This presentation will get the students beyond random hitting and present the single switch and two switch progression in a logical step-by-step approach. The participant will be able to understand where the student needs to start and progress the student to new skill levels.

Camellia

Getting the Breakthrough with LD learners using Spark-Space

Presenter: Elaine Kruse, Co-Founder and CEO, Spark Space

A brief history and rationale for the development of Spark-Space and its design and testing with students and adults with learning disabilities. · How mind mapping harnesses kinesthetic and visual learning styles and helps the struggling learner. How Spark-Space bridges the gap between different learning styles allowing whole groups to learn together, giving teachers more time.

Salon I - Exhibits

Napoleon

SayIt! Sam

Presenter: Gaylon Ponder, Words Plus

Say it! Sam is now available for any PC. Words+, Inc. offers a full line of devices based on this popular product. Come see how easy this software is to learn and use. Take home a free CD you can use for evaluations by attending this session.

Lafourche

Easier Said Than Done – Part I

Presenter: Tammy Kitchings, LATI Region 7

Struggling with ideas on how to adapt age-appropriate curriculum for students with moderate/severe disabilities. Then join us to learn some low-tech strategies that can make your life easier. In this make-n-take presentation, participants will learn how to adapt books, make manipulatives, create companion activities, and utilize communication strategies. All participants will leave with a ready-to-use lesson.

Feliciana

60 Minutes of AAC/AT Fun!

Presenter: Mary Sagsetter, Ablenet

Get ready to experience new assistive technology and instructional tools that build confidence and student success. Learn about AAC and AT that can support increasing communication skills and skill-based learning packages that take all the prep out of creating activities to address IEP goals and objectives.

Vermilion

Recent advances in portable video magnifiers for use by V.I. students in multiple locations

Presenter: Forrest Dobbs, National Sales Manager, Florida Reading and Vision Technologies

This presentation will examine educational uses for the latest generation of portable video magnifiers, including the STRIX, developed in the Netherlands. These devices allow for use by students in multiple situations and multiple locations, including near reading/writing, distance viewing and various situation highlighting the versatile uses of newer and smaller technology. Further descriptions of uses will be provided by a teacher using some of these devices in a local Louisiana school district.

Solutions for Assistive Technology Conference Sessions

Thursday, May 3, 2007

2:45 – 3:45 pm

Azalea

The Writing Bin: Providing A Wide Range of Writing Opportunities For Your Struggling Writers

In this session, we will examine a number of writing templates and finished activities that were developed to provide supported reading and writing to your struggling students. Based upon the collaborative work of Susan Norwell, , Learning Magic, Inc. and other educators, the Writing Bin provides a combination of introductory materials to students around specific subjects (i.e. an initial exposure to subject matter inclusive of high quality photography, videos and text. The product then provides a series of activity formats whereby children can write about what they have just read, watched and additionally draw upon their imaginations or additional knowledge they have in regards to the subject matter.

Presenter: Byron Wilkes, Learning Magic

Magnolia

Interactive Strategies For Handheld AAC Devices

Presenter: Carol Civils, DynaVox Technologies

Use of handheld AAC devices is increasing and DynaVox offers great new software and communication strategies for our Palmtop and IChat devices

Camellia

Overcoming Dyslexia (students and working adults) using Idea Mapping with Spark-Space

Presenter: Elaine Kruse, Co-Founder and CEO, Spark Space

To create a document that accurately reflects one's ideas is a challenge for anybody. A good document has both good structure and content. For dyslexic adults structuring and adding content simultaneously is the greatest barrier to creating documents. Spark-Space enables dyslexics to overcome this difficulty.

Adults often have fossilized ways of working and find it difficult to adopt new ways of producing work, this element looks at ways to encourage adults to adopt to new methods leading to success. Spark Space has many uses. This element looks at a few on the main ones: Spark-Space as a counseling tool: Spark-Space as a writing tool: Spark-Space as a presentation tool: and Spark-Space as a project-planning tool:

Salon I - Exhibits Close at 3:00 pm

Napoleon

Low Level AAC Ideas

Presenter: Autumn Mueller, Attainment Company

Attainment Company offers a complete line of affordable augmentative and alternative communication devices that will facilitate expressive/receptive communication. All of our low-level AAC devices were designed to encourage the active participation of individuals with developmental, learning, and/or communicative disorders in communities and classrooms.

Lafourche

Easier Said Than Done – Part II

Presenter: Tammy Kitchings, LATI Region 7

Struggling with ideas on how to adapt age-appropriate curriculum for students with moderate/severe disabilities. Then join us to learn some low-tech strategies that can make your life easier. In this make-n-take presentation, participants will learn how to adapt books, make manipulatives, create companion activities, and utilize communication strategies. All participants will leave with a ready-to-use lesson.

Feliciana

Using Voice Recognition for Student Success

Presenter: Ronald Thompson, Donnie Edwards, Adaptive Solutions, Alabama

Description: The answer is finally here! Voice recognition that is accurate, easy to learn, with the power to put your students on a level playing field. Dragon NaturallySpeaking will enable your students to accomplish tasks in a new and powerful way.

Vermilion

AT Consideration: Who, What, When and How

Presenter: Donna Broussard, LADOE

This session will identify the consideration process outlined in the LA Framework for Assistive Technology Consideration, Screening and Assessment. It will provide in-depth information on which students should be considered, which adults should be involved in the consideration process, what needs to be documented, when consideration should take place and how to make effective consideration decisions. It will identify state and regional resources to help schools provide training for teachers, therapists, administrators and parents who need to make consideration decisions.

New This Year!

Exhibits – Salon I

Thursday, May 3rd & Friday, May 4th

Solutions for Assistive Technology Conference Sessions

Friday, May 4, 2007

8:00 – 9:00 am

Azalea

The Equipment is entered, Now What? AT Tracker Plus!

Presenter: Allison Vice, M. Ed. CCC-SLP, Vermilion Parish

When conducting AT assessments and providing training and support is a priority, keeping track of necessary paper work and equipment can be overwhelming. Did I do that AT assessment? Didn't that teacher give me a name ...I think I put it on a sticky note in my bag. I have a switch that does that but I don't know where it is! If this sounds like you, learn how you can keep track and stay organized with AT tracker plus!

Magnolia

STANDARDS- GOALS and TESTS – OH, NO

Presenter: Jo Meyer, SoftTouch

How in the world do we meet the standards and at the same time meet the goals and objectives of the student? The presentation will go through the process the educator can do to join these two worlds. The most important element of this presentation is how to make it interesting enough that the student wants to learn.

Creating a teaching and testing environment for the student can be challenging. This presentation will do three things. First, we will look at some ways to make curriculum that fit the standards and at the same time the needs of the students. We will look at what interests the student and how the information can it be functional. Secondly, once the curriculum is presented, we will look at the skills the student needs to test.

Camellia

Access, Access, Access – UDL

Presenter: Suzanne Feit, IntelliTools

Access to the curriculum is fundamental to student success. Using IntelliKeys or IntelliSwitch, every program can be accessible. IntelliKeys can replace the standard keyboard and mouse. IntelliSwitch can provide access to any software application. IntelliTool's Popular Software Overlays contain set-ups for PowerPoint, iTunes, Kurzweil, Co-Writer and other popular programs. The IntelliKeys and IntelliSwitch Control Panel supports access to every software application. Through presentation, the famous IntelliFun Game and audience participation, participants will leave with information on access, curriculum adaptation and the resources necessary to provide access to any application on their computer.

Salon I - Exhibits

Napoleon

Striving for F's

Presenters: Kim Haynes, Independent AT Consultant; Karen Nelson, East Baton Rouge Parish Schools

Where do I go? What do I do next? I have so many students at different cognitive levels and with different physical capabilities and I'm supposed to teach literacy!

This presentation will focus on incorporating the cognitively young child into the literacy curriculum and make them a very active participant. Often times those children that have cognitive and physical impairments are left sitting on the side lines and not actively engaged in the literacy process, or any activity for that matter!

Demonstration of a wide variety of devices, materials and strategies, will be used incorporating different literacy materials (age appropriate) to engage the student at a cause/effect level.

Lafourche

Essential Language Software 2:

From Word Combinations to Syntax Mastery for Students with Autism and Other Developmental Disabilities

Presenter: Dr. Mary S. Wilson, Laureate Learning Systems

Participants will learn how to choose the appropriate language programs for their students. This level takes children with language impairments from the early word combination stage through the mastery of a broad range of syntactic forms. *Simple Sentence Structure Sterling Edition* trains Subject-Verb-Object (SVO) word order. *LanguageLinks Sterling Editions* is a comprehensive syntax assessment and intervention system that covers over 75 forms in a 6 level, 36-module format. *Nouns & Sounds Sterling Edition* builds auditory processing skills using 100 nouns and the sounds they make.

Feliciano

Using Symbol Support for Curriculum and Standards

Presenter: Dana Stump, Mayer Johnson

This session will focus on the use of the Boardmaker Software Family for addressing curriculum and standards using symbol support for diverse learners. Standards in the area of reading and math will be demonstrated in addition to differentiated content area lessons. Additional strategies in adapting and modifying the curriculum will also be shared. Activities demonstrated will incorporate both printed and on-screen activities.

Vermilion

Building Motivated Readers in the Content Areas

Presenter: Trisha Johnson, Don Johnston, Inc.

Learning to read and reading to learn happen simultaneously for older struggling readers. Providing considerate text and technology support opens the doors across the curriculum for struggling learners. Participants will be introduced to a new revolutionary reading experience—Start-to-Finish® Core Content—and will learn how this considerate text provides older struggling students with mature story themes and grade-level curriculum, engagement, new vocabulary, background knowledge, sentence structures that make logical connections and text structures with predictable formats. In addition see how technology adds a visual, auditory and participatory element to reading this considerate informational text to help students be active in the reading process.

Solutions for Assistive Technology Conference Sessions

Friday, May 4, 2007

9:15 – 10:15 am

Azalea

New Software From RJ

Presenter: R.J. Cooper, R. J. Cooper Associates

RJ Cooper, a pioneer in the field of Assistive Technology, will present new software from the past year, including Thunder-RJ, a relatively inexpensive screenreader that runs directly from the web, or a USB memory stick, thus allowing it to be used at locations with protected computers, such as libraries. New versions of existing software will also be presented.

Magnolia

From Dust to Doable - Intellitools Applications

Presenters: Missy Weaver, Curtistine Earnest, Caddo Special Programs

Do you have Intellitools products collecting dust on the shelf? We will explore pre-made, teacher friendly activities from Intellitools, Learning Magic, News-2-You, Caroline Musselwhite and many others. Activities/skills will be correlated with Louisiana

Camellia

Building Generative Language with a Child Using AAC Strategies

Presenter: Jenifer Sudkamp, Prentke Romick, Co.

Review normal early language development, apply principles of normal language development to AAC, guide the selection of the "first words" to put on the AAC device/board, and introduce scripting for use of early language functions.

Salon I - Exhibits

Napoleon

Integrating DynaVox AAC Products Into the Classroom

Presenter: Carol Civils, DynaVox Technologies

Presentation will feature a variety of classroom integration strategies for AAC that enhance access to the curriculum.

Lafourche

Standards + Technology = Access for ALL (Thematic Units)

Presenters: Vendor Collaboration: Kim Haynes, Independent AT Consultant; Roxanne Butterfield, Slater Software; Suzanne Feit, IntelliTools; Jo Meyer, SoftTouch; Mary Sagstetter, AbleNet.

Meeting the needs of the diverse learners while teaching the mandated curriculum is the core of today's classrooms. In "Across the Curriculum" we shared ideas of meeting diverse needs across the curriculum in a variety of topics and content areas. This session "Thematic Units" we will share ideas on meeting the needs of diverse learners using a thematic unit to make the curriculum relevant to all. We will share examples of students at different levels using a variety of assistive technology tools in science, math and reading classes. The examples clearly illustrate that every student can learn in the diverse classroom. Participants receive an extensive blueprint of standards, benchmarks, activities and assistive technology.

Feliciano

Using AAC Devices to Meet the Criteria for the Language Arts Curriculum

Presenter: Adam Weiss, ZYGO Industries

This session will help bring AAC devices out of the closet and into the classroom to be used in a cooperative environment as a part of the language arts curriculum as well as mathematics, science, and social studies.

Vermilion

Accessibility Anywhere

Presenter: Paul Thompson, Dolphin Computer Access, Inc.

Learn how accessibility is no longer constrained to your home or the office, and you can take full advantage of advanced technology available to consumers. From PCs to PDAs, information can be at your finger tips in an instant with the help of accessibility software.

10:15 – 11:15 am
Visit the Exhibit Hall – Salon I
Network with vendors and presenters

Solutions for Assistive Technology Conference Sessions

Friday, May 4, 2007

11:15 am – 12:15 pm

Azalea

Creating Virtual Scene Communication Displays with Tech /Touch!

Presenter: Rob McPherson, AMDi; Allison Vice, M. Ed. CCC-SLP, Vermilion Parish Schools

Learn how to use all of the wonderful features of AMDI's Tech/Touch while creating your own virtual scene display communication pages! Taking dynamic display to another level by incorporating video, music, internet linking, and telephone use rolled in to comprehensive user friendly page sets.

Magnolia

Jump Across the Curriculum With Intellitools Classroom Suite

Presenter: Missy Tatum, Independent AT Consultant

Hop on over to the Intellitools lily pad and learn about Classroom Suite. The topic of “frogs” will be used to demonstrate how Intellitools Classroom Suite can be used for differentiated instruction so that students with a wide range of abilities can effectively access the standard curriculum. Frog-themed activities, created with templates, will address science, language arts, writing, math, and more. Hope to see you in the frog pond...rrabbit.

Camellia

Adapting Interactive Games For Symbol Users

Presenter: Rebecca Bowles, St. Mary Parish Special Education Department

Examples of “Jeopardy” using Power Point and Mayer Johnson symbols and “Writing with Symbols” and “Boardmaker”. Game format will be used to facilitate receptive and expressive language skills, math skills, science & social studies. Participants will also receive hand-outs on the directions on how to make your own games and current web sties of free formats.

Salon I - Exhibits

Napoleon

Low-level Augmentative and Alternative Communication Ideas

Presenter: Autumn Mueller, Attainment

Attainment Company offers a complete line of affordable augmentative and alternative communication devices that will facilitate expressive/receptive communication. All of our low-level AAC devices were designed to encourage the active participation of individuals with developmental, learning, and/or communicative disorders in communities and classrooms.

Lafourche

Putting it all together: AT Report Writing (Part II)

Presenter: Meher Banajee, LSUHSC

This is a continuation of the AT Report Writing session on Thursday.

Using case examples participants will be guided through an assistive technology report writing process. A report writing template (based on Louisiana's Assistive Technology Framework) will be provided and completed by participants during the presentation.

Feliciana

Storybooks: An Important Step Towards Literacy

Presenter: Amy Koch, Adaptation

Attend this session to receive many easy, functional ideas for increasing the availability of appropriate and accessible literacy activities. We will share several ways to incorporate books into different curriculum areas using simple technology. This presentation will show you ways to turn your favorite storybooks into 'talking books'.

Vermilion

Computer Access, Software and Autism Solutions

Presenter: Teresa Hughes, Turning Point Therapy & Technology, Inc.

This presentation will show a variety of computer access methods and software for those with Autism. Software demonstrating life skills, emotional understanding, cognitive skills and comprehension. Receptive vocabulary will also be shown.

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12:30 – 1:30 pm

Azalea

AAC, Education & Employment

Presenter: Gaylon Ponder, Words Plus

A special guest who uses assistive technology helps present this session. The attendee learns how to help a person using assistive technology get a meaningful job. New job opportunities exist because of technological changes in society. The roles of speech pathologists, teachers, and vocational counselors are described.

Magnolia

Science for ALL

Presenter: Roxanne Butterfield, Slater Software

Shrinking habitats. Endangered species. Electricity. Magnets. These concepts are often difficult to teach to children with significant disabilities because they lack background knowledge and have low language levels. Special education teachers want adapted materials in the content areas for their students. Not only do they want the lessons, they want the lessons to also provide a way to continue literacy instruction in the content areas. This session will discuss how to create a science classroom that results in all students reading, writing and learning science. We will use many examples from Simply Science™, a series of standards based, ready-to-use science lessons with visual supports for reading, writing, and comprehension! Everyone will receive a CD of materials they can use in the classrooms.

Camellia

Integrate Assistive Technology into your Day!

Presenter: Mary Sagsetter, AbleNet, Inc.

Often assistive technology is used for a specific student at a specific time during the day. What we know is that if students are going to become proficient with technology, they need access to a variety of technology and to have multiple opportunities to practice their skills. Attend this AbleNet session to learn about the multiple opportunities for integrating technology and building student success.

Salon I - Exhibits

Napoleon

Destination Success and the Curriculum: Special Needs Students and the Curriculum

Presenter: Farrah Lemoine, Riverdeep Software

In this presentation the comprehensive curriculum will be discussed and how Destination Math and Reading can help students with special needs to work on the grade level expectations within the comprehensive curriculum.

Lafourche

Meeting the Needs of Visual Learners Through Self Selected Reading Books

Presenter: Byron Wilkes, Learning Magic

In this one hour presentation we will examine a wide range of self selected reading books developed by Learning Magic, Inc. utilizing SoftTouch's My Own Bookshelf and reading comprehension testing product Test Me Score Me.

The books will cover a variety of subjects inclusive of earth and life science (i.e ecosystems, the animal kingdom and natural disasters). The books are inclusive of high quality photographs, short videos and appropriate sound effects to enhance the learning experience for all children.

The high quality photographs and videos have proven to be very effective in increasing the interest level and subsequent reading success of a wide range of students.

The follow on Comprehension based tests provide automatic grading and reporting. This data collection then provides immediate classroom assessment and provides an opportunity for augmentative instruction and assistance where needed.

Feliciana

Functionally Speaking: A language continuum utilizing pre-made language boards

Presenter: Betsy Walker, Assistive Technology, Inc.

This session will focus on a functional language continuum developed for dynamic display AAC users, demonstrating how Functionally Speaking™ and WordPower™ can meet many AAC users language needs and ease the need for programming by SLP's.

Vermilion

The GOLD Standard in Literacy Support Software

Presenter: Jennifer Ray, Texthelp

Join this session to learn how Read&Write GOLD (RWG) students an edge in learning and studying. An excellent read-aloud tool for nearly all text, RWG from Texthelp Systems also offers powerful writing and study support tools. From spelling and word prediction to studying and organizing information, RWG provides a full range of options to support student work. Best of all, students can take advantage of these powerful tools from within commonly used programs like MS Word, Internet Explorer, Outlook and beyond. RWG puts success within the reach of struggling students.

Solutions for Assistive Technology Conference Sessions

Friday, May 4, 2007

1:45 – 2:45 pm

Azalea

AAC, Education & Employment

Presenter: Gaylon Ponder, Words +

A special guest who uses assistive technology helps present this session. The attendee learns how to help a person using assistive technology get a meaningful job. New job opportunities exist because of technological changes in society. The roles of speech pathologists, teachers, and vocational counselors are described.

Magnolia - TBA

Camellia - TBA

Salon I - Exhibits Close at 2:00 pm

Napoleon

Intellitools: A Must for Your Assistive Technology Assessment Kit

Presenter: Missy Tatum, Independent AT Consultant

Intellitools products are universally designed so that they can meet the needs of a wide range of users. Given that, they make an excellent addition to your AT assessment toolkit. Some of the features that will be explored in this session include scanning, onscreen keyboards, talking tooltips, standard and custom overlays, word prediction, speech feedback, and more.

Lafourche

The Wonders and Magic of Nature

Presenter: Bryon Wilkes, Learning Magic

This session will cover *The Wonders and Magic of Nature* CDs and its contents developed by Learning Magic, Inc. in Cricksoft Inc.'s Clicker 5 product set. The CD provides supplemental curriculum that meets and exceeds National Standards for learning in the areas of Reading/Writing and Earth and Life Science.

The CD contains electronic reading books, comprehension testing, sorting/classifying activities and a multiple of supported writing formats where students can journalize, log and write about their experiences as they learn about the different ecosystems.

The CD is comprised of hundreds of high quality photographs, short videos, sound effects and appropriate grade level text which are written at a third to fourth grade reading level. The CDs contents have been specifically developed to provide a rich environment designed around universal design for learning principles. In a number of activities the child is an active participant and makes individual choices as to how they are going to explore the environment which further enhances the learning opportunities for children who learn best through doing.

The ecosystems covered in the two CD collection are Deserts, Tropical Rainforests, Taiga Forest, Tundra, Oceans, Savannas, Coral Reefs and Wetlands. As a side note a lot of the photography and video work for the Wetlands unit was photographed and filmed in Louisiana.

Feliciana

Low Vision AT Innovations

Presenters: Donnie Edwards, Paula Thompson

Using the newest in low vision technology to integrate both academic and daily living into successful transitional experiences. Discussion of devices that are portable, wearable and computer compatible, with a glimpse into the future.

Vermilion

Recent advances in portable video magnifiers for use by V.I. students in multiple locations

Presenter: Forrest Dobbs, National Sales Manager, Florida Reading and Vision Technologies

This presentation will examine educational uses for the latest generation of portable video magnifiers, including the STRIX, developed in the Netherlands. These devices allow for use by students in multiple situations and multiple locations, including near reading/writing, distance viewing and various situation highlighting the versatile uses of newer and smaller technology. Further descriptions of uses will be provided by a teacher using some of these devices in a local Louisiana school district.