Technology Supports for Struggling Writers



Technology Links for Writing Instruction

Assistive Technology in Texas Schools Series



Technology Supports for Struggling Writers is a professional development module that was collaboratively developed by:

- Texas Assistive Technology Network led by Region 4 Education Service Center
- Texas Education Agency



Technology Supports for Struggling Writers is a training module in the *Assistive Technology in Texas Schools Series* developed by the Texas Assistive Technology Network (TATN). Assistive technology is a decentralized function of the Texas Education Agency (TEA) with leadership provided by Region 4 Education Service Center. The network consists of representatives from each of the twenty educational service centers and TEA. For more information or to download the training modules, visit the TATN website at <u>www.texasat.net</u>. The Technology Links for Writing instruction chart is a supplement to the *Technology Supports for Struggling Writers* training module and is provided in draft format in order to collect additional information. Please send input to Diana Carl, Region 4 Education Service Center, 7145 West Tidwell, Houston, TX 77092 or <u>dcarl@esc4.net</u>.

Copyright © 2004-2007 Texas Assistive Technology Network

Permission granted to photocopy this document for educational purposes providing credit is maintained.

Contact Information



Texas Assistive Technology Network led by Region 4 Education Service Center

Marguerite Hornéy, Region 1 ESC Kimberly Cook, Region 2 ESC Mary Scott, Region 3 ESC Diana Carl, **Lead**, Region 4 ESC Kirk Behnke, Region 4 ESC Cecilia Robinson, Region 4 ESC Angela Standridge, Region 4 ESC Theresa Tanchak, Region 4 ESC Dana Pitman, Region 5 ESC Ana Deter, Region 6 ESC Robert Smith, Region 7 ESC Connie Rhymes, Region 8 ESC Rita Reeder, Region 9 ESC Gayle McNurlen, Region 10 ESC Debbie Roybal, Region 11 ESC Gina Holman, Region 12 ESC Kathy Clapsaddle, Region 13 ESC Nicole Kertis, Region 13 ESC Mary Ann Brady, Region 14 ESC Patti Wyatt, Region 15 ESC Max Hudson, Region 16 ESC Anita Neff, Region 17 ESC Mary Hurt, Region 18 ESC Lou Ann Rosario, Region 19 ESC Cindy Miller, Region 20 ESC



Educated Solutions **Region 4 Education Service Center** 7145 West Tidwell Houston, Texas 77092-2096 Diana Carl, Director Special Education Services Telephone: 713.744.6386 Fax: 713.744.6811 E-mail: <u>dcarl@esc4.net</u> Region 4 Website: <u>http://www.theansweris4.net</u>



Texas Education Agency Division of Special Education 1701 North Congress Avenue Austin, Texas 78701-1494 Telephone: 512.463.9414 Fax: 512.463.9560 Website: <u>http://www.tea.state.tx.us</u>

ESC contact's information available at TATN Website: <u>http://www.texasat.net</u>

Foreword

The *Technology Supports for Struggling Writers* training module addresses the five research based components of effective writing instruction: pre-writing, drafting, revising, editing, and publishing. The *Technology Supports for Struggling Writers* is a supplementary chart that breaks each component into areas and links technology to each of the skill areas to support the development of writing ability. The document is provided as a resource tool for professionals, students and parents working with technology to support writing needs. The tools and strategies provided are not intended to be an exhaustive list, but more a resource that provides examples of low-tech materials and software to use to supplement learning. The project leadership believes that the free exchange of information does not necessarily involve endorsement of that information, the websites, links, products, or services contained therein.

Acknowledgements

The project leadership is grateful to the initial Assistive Technology Advisory Committee members at Region 4 Education Service Center (ESC) for their contributions to the initial foundational work on the *Technology Supports for Struggling Writers*. Special acknowledgement is extended to several members of that committee who also participated in the Steering Committee along with Region 4 ESC staff. The Steering Committee expanded and refined the content of the *Technology Supports for Struggling Writers* in addition to Illinois State University, Special Education Assistive Technology Center (SEAT). Mike Marotta, Independent Consultant, Brick, NJ, served as a consultant and final editor to the project. The following served as members of the Steering Committee:

Felisha Branford, Region 4 Education Service Center, Instructional Support Services
Diana Carl, Region 4 Education Service Center, Special Education Services
Beth Goodrich, Region 4 Education Service Center, Special Education Services
Sonja Hollan, Region 4 Education Service Center, Reading and Language Arts Services
Karie Lawrence, Cypress-Fairbanks Independent School District
Sandra McCormick, Clear Creek Independent School District
Blaise Mladenka, Alief Independent School District
Michaelene Morrison, Region 4 Education Service Center, Special Education Services
Cecilia Robinson, Region 4 Education Service Center, Special Education Services
Angela Standridge, Region 4 Education Service Center, Special Education Services
Theresa Tanchak, Region 4 Education Service Center, Special Education Services

The work of the Texas Assistive Technology Network is deeply appreciated throughout the development of the module. They willingly shared their extensive collective expertise in planning, drafting, editing and producing the product.

Table of Contents

| | | Page | | | Page |
|------|---|---------|------|--|---------|
| I. | Stages of the Writing Process: Prewriting | 1 - 3 | VI. | Common Technology for Writing Categoriesa) Graphic Organizers/Outlining Toolsb) Multimedia Tools | 19 - 24 |
| II. | Stages of the Writing Process: Drafting | 4 – 8 | | c) Picture Word Processors d) Portable Word Processors e) Scan and Read Systems f) Text Readers / Talking Word Processors | |
| III. | Stages of the Writing Process: Revising | 9 - 12 | | g) Word Prediction | |
| IV. | Stages of the Writing Process: Editing | 13 - 16 | VII. | Resources a) References b) Assistive Technology Tutorials c) Technology and Writing Resources | 25 - 27 |
| V. | Stages of the Writing Process: Publishing | 17 - 18 | | | |

Stages of the Writing Process: Prewriting

No Tech/Low Tech:

| Note Cards | Dry Erase Board |
|--------------------------|--------------------|
| Written Outlines | Sticky Notes |
| Magnetic Letters / Words | Story Starters |
| Graphic Organizers | Writing Checklists |

| Product Name | Manufacturer | Website | Description |
|----------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------|--|
| Author's Toolkit | Sunburst | www.sunburst.com | Author's Toolkit is a software application that provides step by step cues to support students in their planning process. Some of the cueing tools include 'Purpose and Audience' and 'Structuremaker.' |
| ClaroRead Premium | Claro Software | www.clarosoftware.com | ClaroRead Premium is a software application that provides students with a variety of support. ClaroRead Premium contains a concept map generator to assist students in planning their writing. ClaroRead Premium provides text to speech support. |
| Draft:Builder SE | Don Johnston Incorporated | www.donjohnston.com | Draft:Builder SE is a software application that provides scaffolded support to students through teacher prompts, outlines and concept maps helping students in the writing planning process. Draft:Builder SE comes with a variety of ready made templates which can be customized for individual student use or teachers can create new templates for the students to use. Draft-Builder provides text to speech support. |
| Inspiration | Inspiration | www.inspiration.com | Inspiration is a software application that allows students to note and organize their ideas. Students may do this in either an outline format or a graphical concept map. Inspiration allows the student to flip between corresponding views of the outline or graphical map. Inspiration provides text to speech support. |
| Inspiration for Palm | Inspiration | www.inspiration.com | Inspiration for Palm is a smaller version of Inspiration designed for use on devices that are running the Palm Operating System. Inspiration for Palm contains many of the same features as Inspiration without text to speech support. |
| Kidspiration | Inspiration | www.inspiration.com | Kidspiration, a version of Inspiration designed for younger children, is a software application that allows students to note and organize their ideas. Students may do this in either an outline format or a graphical concept map. Inspiration allows the student to flip between corresponding views of the outline or graphical map. Kidspiration provides text to speech support. |
| MediaWeaver | Sunburst | www.sunburst.com | MediaWeaver is a word processor that utilizes both text and multimedia to support students throughout the process of writing (writing, revising, editing, illustrating and publishing. |

| Microsoft Word | Microsoft | www.microsoft.com | MS Word is a software application that serves as a word processor allowing students to plan their writing through the creation of hierarchical outlines. MS Word contains various templates which can be used to assist students in planning and organizing their writing. |
|-----------------------------|--------------|---------------------|---|
| Microsoft Visio | Microsoft | www.microsoft.com | MS Visio is a software application that provides the means to create graphical concept maps which can be used to note, link, and organize ideas. |
| MindGenius for Education | MindGenius | www.mindgenius.com | MindGenius for Education is a software application that enables students to create a graphical concept map to note, link, and organize ideas. MindGenius for Education also allows the embedding of other content (e.g., documents, references, etc.) in the concept map. |
| MindJet | Web Tool | www.mindjet.com | MindJet is a free web based application that allows for the creation of graphical concept maps. |
| MindMapper | SimTech | www.mindmapper.com | MindMapper is a software application that allows for the creation of graphical concept maps enabling student to note and organize their ideas. |
| MindMeister | Web Tool | www.mindmeister.com | MindMeister is a free web based application that allows for the creation of graphical concept maps. |
| Mindomo | Web Tool | www.mindomo.com | Mindomo is a free web based application that allows for the creation of graphical concept maps. |
| mxGraph | Web Tool | www.mxgraph.com | mxGraph is a free web based application that allows for the creation of graphical concept maps. |
| ndxCARDS | TruTAMIL LLC | www.ndxcards.com | Software tool allows user to record ideas on electronic index cards. Ideas can be organized via keywords, subjects, etc. |
| Neo | Alphasmart | www.alphasmart.com | The Neo is a portable word processing device. It allows students to type, save and edit their work. Students can then transfer their work to a computer based word processor for finalization. The instructor has the option to enable planning outlines to guide students in their writing. |
| Open Office Writer | Open Office | www.openoffice.com | Open Office Writer is a free software application that serves as a word processor. The Open Office Writer contains various templates which can be used to assist students in planning and organizing their writing. In addition, students may access the hierarchical outlining tool to create outlines in the planning stage of their writing. |
| Write Brain | Sunburst | www.sunburst.com | WriteBrain is an online application that provides sequential scaffolding in the writing process. WriteBrain provides students with highly structured cues to aid in the idea generation and organization during the planning process. |

| Writer's Companion | Visions | www.writerscomp.com | Writer's Companion is a software application that provides students with different supports for a variety of writing purposes. Students can choose a template (either open-ended or for a particular purpose of writing) to note and organize their ideas. Writer's Companion provides text to speech support. |
|-----------------------|----------|---------------------|--|
| Zoho Writer | Web Tool | www.zoho.com | Zoho Writer is a free web based application that serves as a word processor. Zoho Writer provides templates to assist students in the idea generation and organization processes of writing. Zoho Writer also contains an outlining tool which may help students in the planning process. |

| No Tech / Low Tech | Possible Technology Tools |
|--------------------|---------------------------|
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |

Stages of the Writing Process: Drafting

No Tech/ Low Tech:

| Written Templates | Word Cards / Wall / Book |
|-------------------|--------------------------|
|-------------------|--------------------------|

| Product Name | Manufacturer | Website | Description |
|---|------------------|-----------------------|---|
| Author's Toolkit | Sunburst | www.sunburst.com | Author's Toolkit is a software application that provides step by step cues to support students in their planning process. Some of the cueing tools include 'Purpose and Audience' and 'Structuremaker.' |
| AutoTextTyper | Chaotic Software | www.oatsoft.org | This menu plugin lets the person add commonly used text (email addresses, company names, etc.) to a list of items in a contextual menu. Those items can then be chosen from the menu and automatically typed into any application that supports contextual menus. |
| Board Maker, Board Maker Plus! | Mayer Johnson | www.mayerjohnson.com | This software tool enables users to create symbol based communication and educational materials. The Plus! version of this software adds the interactive features of voice, animation and video capability. |
| Board Maker with Speaking Dynamically | Mayer Johnson | www.mayerjohnson.com | This software tool enables users to create symbol based communication and educational materials. The addition of Speaking Dynamically creates a talking word processor and a speech output AAC tool. |
| CalcuScribe | Qwerty | www.calcuscribe.com | A portable word processor device that enables students to send text files to any computer application. This device also includes an interactive calculator. |
| ClaroRead Plus | Claro Software | www.clarosoftware.com | This software application reads back text as it is typed. Text can also be highlighted and read back for editing/proofreading. The Plus version of the software can provide support for scanned documents and PDF documents. The Plus version also will echo back words or phrases dictated using Dragon NaturallySpeaking version 8 or 9. |
| ClaroRead Premium | Claro Software | www.clarosoftware.com | ClaroRead Premium is a software application that provides students with a variety of support. ClaroRead Premium contains a concept map generator to assist students in planning their writing. ClaroRead Premium provides text to speech support. |
| ClaroRead Standard | Claro Software | www.clarosoftware.com | This software application reads back text as it is typed. Text can also be highlighted and read back for editing/proofreading. |
| Clicker 5 | Crick Software | www.cricksoft.com | Clicker is a writing tool that enables users to write with whole words, phrases or pictures. Customized grids can be downloaded or developed to meet the specific needs of each individual. |

| Co:Writer SE | Don Johnston Incorporated | www.donjohnston.com | Provides grammar, and vocabulary support capabilities to any word processor or e- mail program Incorporates topic dictionaries for curriculum specific vocabulary Offers Flex Spell to translate phonetic spelling and grammar support |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| Dana | AlphaSmart | www.alphasmart.com | Incorporates the Palm OS platform within a portable word processor Enter text with stylus, keyboard, touch screen |
| Draft:Builder SE | Don Johnston Incorporated | www.donjohnston.com | Draft:Builder SE is a software application that provides scaffold support to students through teacher prompts, outlines and concept maps helping students in the writing planning process. Draft:Builder SE comes with a variety of ready made templates which can be customized for individual student use or teachers can create new templates for the students to use. Draft-Builder provides text to speech support. |
| Dragon Naturally Speaking | Nuance | www.nuance.com | This software tool enables users to dictate text directly into any software application (word processor, email, etc.) using their voice. Only works in the Windows operating system. |
| I Listen | Mac Speech | www.macspeech.com | This software tool enables users to dictate text directly into any software application (word processor, email, etc.) using their voice. Only works in the Mac operating system. |
| Intellitalk III | Cambium Learning | www.intellitools.com | Talking word processor software tool that provides users with a variety of tools to support writing. |
| KeyStone ScreenSpeaker | Words Worldwide | www.keyspell.com | This software tool works in cooperation with word processing tools (Microsoft Word, etc.) to provide auditory feedback during the writing process. |
| Key to Access | Premier Programming Solutions | www.readingmadeez.com | Small USB flash drive device with 8 pre-loaded programs. These programs can work on any computer by plugging into a USB port. The programs are: Premier Predictor Pro, PDF Equalizer, Scan and Read Pro, Universal Reader Plus, E-Text Reader, Ultimate Talking Dictionary, Talking Word Processor, PDF Magic, Text to Audio, Talking Calculator. |
| Kurzweil 3000 | Cambium Learning | www.kurzweiledu.com | Reads word & pdf documents and documents scanned into the computer Offers customizable visual and auditory feedback Break words into syllables, spell words aloud, looks up the definition of a word Provides a built in Internet browser to read web pages aloud, and complete web searches |
| Laser PC6 | Perfect Solutions | www.perfectsolutions.com | Compatible with PC platform Includes typing tutorial using Herzog's abc progression, spreadsheet options, calculator. Offers optional features for word prediction and text-to-speech and infrared connection |
| MediaWeaver | Sunburst | www.sunburst.com | MediaWeaver is a word processor that utilizes both text and multimedia to support students throughout the process of writing (writing, revising, editing, illustrating and publishing. |
| Microsoft Word | Microsoft | www.microsoft.com | MS Word is a software application that serves as a word processor allowing students to plan their writing through the creation of hierarchical outlines. MS Word contains various templates which can be used to assist students in planning and organizing their writing. |

| Neo | Alphasmart | www.alphasmart.com | The Neo is a portable word processing device. It allows students to type, save and edit their work. Students can then transfer their work to a computer based word processor for finalization. The instructor has the option to enable planning outlines to guide students in their writing. |
|---|-------------------------------------|------------------------|---|
| Open Office Writer | Open Office | www.openoffice.com | Open Office Writer is a free software application that serves as a word processor. The Open Office Writer contains various templates which can be used to assist students in planning and organizing their writing. In addition, students may access the hierarchical outlining tool to create outlines in the planning stage of their writing. |
| Pen Friend | Crick Software | www.cricksoft.com | This is a word prediction tool that works with any word processing software. Word choices are displayed in a floating box and users get auditory support throughout the writing process. |
| Picture It | Slater Software, Inc. | www.slatersoftware.com | Compose documents up to 500 words Includes 6000 graphic both color and black& white Import graphics and customize visual and auditory feedback |
| PixWriter | Slater Software, Inc | www.slatersoftware.com | Utilizes a Picture based on-screen keyboard Incorporates 1800 picture symbols |
| Premier Predictor Pro | Premier Programming Solutions | www.readingmadeez.com | This is a talking word predication software tool that works with all the programs on the computer. Word choices are shown via a floating window that appears next to the cursor in the application being used. |
| QuickPAD IR | QuickPad | www.quickpad.com | Portable word processor that enables typing materials to be downloaded to any computer word processing program. Device can hold up to 250 named files and files can be transferred to computer via Infrared transfer. |
| QuickPAD Pro | QuickPad | www.quickpad.com | Portable word processor that enables typing materials to be downloaded to any computer word processing program. This device also has ability to transfer materials to optional Compact Flash memory cards or via USB port to a computer. |
| REACH Sound-It- Out Phonetic Keyboard | Applied Human Factors | www.ahf-net.com | This on-screen keyboard allows user to "type" word by selecting the sounds in words instead of the letters. By pointing at a key, the phonemic sound is played. |
| Soothsayer | Applied Human Factors | www.ahf-net.com | Offers word prediction, speech feedback, abbreviation expansion and word completion |
| Speak Q | QuillSoft | www.wordq.com | This software tool enables user to speak directly into the computer to create writing assignments. The user can choose to type with the keyboard, use word prediction or type via voice. |
| Speegle Plugin for Firefox | OATSoft | www.oatsoft.org | Provides auditory support while user types into an Internet search engine. |

| Talking Word Processor | Premier Programming Solutions | www.readingmadeez.com | This word processing software tool provides auditory support throughout the writing process with the assistance of the following features: talking grammar check, text highlighting and extraction, talking word prediction and talking spell checker. |
|--|--------------------------------------|---|---|
| Text Help Read and Write Gold | TextHelp Systems | www.texthelp.com | This software provides a customizable toolbar that provides added functions to Microsoft Word. This includes voice output, word prediction, talking dictionary, spelling/homophone checker, and the ability to create MP3 audio files of materials. |
| Text Help Read and Write Gold Portable | TextHelp Systems | www.texthelp.com | This tool provides all the software features without having to install any software. The device plugs info any USB port and provides access to the following features: voice output, word prediction, talking dictionary, spelling/homophone checker, and the ability to create MP3 audio files of materials. |
| The Writer II | Advanced Keyboard Technologies | .www.keyboardinstructor.com | Portable word processor that enables students to work on writing in any location. Files are organized through the Work Folder Filing System. |
| The Writer Fusion | Advanced Keyboard Technologies | www.keyboardinstructor.com | Portable word processor that enables students to work on writing in any location. Files are organized through the Work Folder Filing System. This device is also equipped with text to speech to provide auditory support throughout the writing process. |
| Thinkfree Write | Web Tool | www.thinkfree.com | Online alternative to Microsoft Office. Allows for easy collaboration and storage of up to 1 GB online. |
| Universal WriteAssist | SecondGuess | www.secondguessusa.com | This tool provides text to speech features in existing word processing programs. These features include the ability to hear words spoken and a auditory spell checker. |
| Wordbar | Crick Software | www.cricksoft.com | This toolbar sits along the bottom of the screen. By clicking on words or phrases, the user can send information to the word processor. Text to speech feature is also available. |
| Word Q | QuillSoft | www.wordq.com | Intended to be used along with standard Windows word processing software Offers advanced word prediction and text-to-speech feedback |
| WordTalk PlugIn for MS Word | OATSoft | www.oatsoft.org www.wordtalk.org.uk/ | Works with all versions of Microsoft Word (from 97 – current) and provides auditory support within the writing environment. Text is highlighted and spoken simultaneously to support struggling students. |
| Write Brain | Sunburst | . <u>www.sunburst.com</u> | WriteBrain is an online application that provides sequential scaffolding in the writing process. WriteBrain provides students with highly structured cues to aid in the idea generation and organization during the planning process. |

| Writer's Companion | Visions | www.writerscomp.com | Writer's Companion is a software application that provides students with different supports for a variety of writing purposes. Students can choose a template (either open-ended or for a particular purpose of writing) to note and organize their ideas. Writer's Companion provides text to speech support. |
|-------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|
| Write:Out Loud SE | Don Johnston Incorporated | www.donjohnston.com | Word processing software that offers customizable visual and auditory feedback and spell checker/dictionary. |
| Writing with Symbols | Mayer Johnson | www.mayerjohnson.com | Provides 3800 picture symbols, 4000 rebus symbols and you can import your own graphics Offers visual & auditory feedback and can be used with pictures or without as a talking word processor |
| WYNN | Freedom Scientific | www.freedomscientific.com/ LSG | Suite of built-in tools supporting reading, writing, studying, and Internet research, all with customized auditory and visual modifications. Import curriculum to be read; Web browsing with text extraction; listen to links aloud without activating; writing and study tools include dictionary, two spell checkers, word prediction, note-taking, voice notes, bookmarks, and study guide extraction. Easy to learn with simplified interface. |
| Zoho Writer | Web Tool | www.zoho.com | Zoho Writer is a free web based application that serves as a word processor. Zoho Writer provides templates to assist students in the idea generation and organization processes of writing. Zoho Writer also contains an outlining tool which may help students in the planning process. |

| No Tech / Low Tech | Possible Technology Tools | |
|--------------------|---------------------------|--|
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |

Stages of the Writing Process: Revising

No Tech/Low Tech:

| Print Dictionary | Personal / Custom Dictionary |
|------------------|------------------------------|
| Custom Word List | Word Cards / Wall |

| Product Name | Manufacturer | Website | Description |
|---|------------------------------|-----------------------|--|
| Author's Toolkit | Sunburst | www.sunburst.com | Author's Toolkit is a software application that provides step by step cues to support students in their planning process. Some of the cueing tools include 'Purpose and Audience' and 'Structuremaker.' |
| Children's Speller & Dictionary | Franklin | www.franklin.com | Handheld device provides support with over 40,000 definitions, written specifically for children ages 6 & up. Device also provides spell correction for over 46,000 words and six educational games. |
| Children's Talking Dictionary & Spell Corrector | Franklin | www.franklin.com | Handheld device provides auditory support with 44,000 elementary word definitions. Device speaks letters, words and definitions. Also includes a personal vocabulary word list and a homophone guide. |
| ClaroRead Plus | Claro Software | www.clarosoftware.com | This software application reads back text as it is typed. Text can also be highlighted and read back for editing/proofreading. The Plus version of the software can provide support for scanned documents and PDF documents. The Plus version also will echo back words or phrases dictated using Dragon NaturallySpeaking version 8 or 9. |
| ClaroRead Premium | Claro Software | www.clarosoftware.com | ClaroRead Premium is a software application that provides students with a variety of support. ClaroRead Premium contains a concept map generator to assist students in planning their writing. ClaroRead Premium provides text to speech support. |
| ClaroRead Standard | Claro Software | www.clarosoftware.com | This software application reads back text as it is typed. Text can also be highlighted and read back for editing/proofreading. |
| Clicker 5 | Crick Software | www.cricksoft.com | Clicker is a writing tool that enables users to write with whole words, phrases or pictures. Customized grids can be downloaded or developed to meet the specific needs of each individual. |
| Co:Writer SE | Don Johnston Incorporated | www.donjohnston.com | Provides grammar, and vocabulary support capabilities to any word processor or e-mail program Incorporates topic dictionaries for curriculum specific vocabulary Offers Flex Spell to translate phonetic spelling and grammar support |
| Dana | AlphaSmart | www.alphasmart.com | Incorporates the Palm OS platform within a portable word processor Enter text with stylus, keyboard, touch screen |
| Draft:Builder SE | Don Johnston Incorporated | www.donjohnston.com | Draft:Builder SE is a software application that provides scaffold support to students through teacher prompts, outlines and concept maps helping students in the writing planning process. Draft:Builder SE comes with a variety of ready made templates which can be customized for individual student use or teachers can create new templates for the students to use. Draft-Builder provides text to speech support. |

| Intellitalk III | Cambium Learning | www.intellitools.com | Talking word processor software tool that provides users with a variety of tools to support writing. |
|--|-------------------------------------|------------------------|---|
| KeyStone ScreenSpeaker | Words Worldwide | www.keyspell.com | This software tool works in cooperation with word processing tools (Microsoft Word, etc.) to provide auditory feedback during the writing process. |
| Key to Access | Premier Programming Solutions | www.readingmadeez.com | Small USB flash drive device with 8 pre-loaded programs. These programs can work on any computer by plugging into a USB port. The programs are: Premier Predictor Pro, PDF Equalizer, Scan and Read Pro, Universal Reader Plus, E-Text Reader, Ultimate Talking Dictionary, Talking Word Processor, PDF Magic, Text to Audio, Talking Calculator. |
| Kurzweil 3000 | Cambium Learning | www.kurzweiledu.com | Reads word & pdf documents and documents scanned into the computer Offers customizable visual and auditory feedback Break words into syllables, spell words aloud, looks up the definition of a word Provides a built in Internet browser to read web pages aloud, and complete web searches |
| MediaWeaver | Sunburst | www.sunburst.com | MediaWeaver is a word processor that utilizes both text and multimedia to support students throughout the process of writing (writing, revising, editing, illustrating and publishing. |
| Merriam-Webster Dictionary and Thesaurus | Franklin | www.franklin.com | Handheld device provides support with over 100,000 dictionary entries and over 500,000 synonyms. |
| Merriam-Webster Speaking Dictionary and Thesaurus | Franklin | www.franklin.com | Handheld devices provide auditory support for 120,000 words, with over 300,000 definitions, 500,000 thesaurus entries. |
| Microsoft Word | Microsoft | www.microsoft.com | MS Word is a software application that serves as a word processor allowing students to plan their writing through the creation of hierarchical outlines. MS Word contains various templates which can be used to assist students in planning and organizing their writing. |
| Picture It | Slater Software, Inc. | www.slatersoftware.com | Compose documents up to 500 words Includes 6000 graphic both color and black& white Import graphics and customize visual and auditory feedback |
| PixWriter | Slater Software, Inc | www.slatersoftware.com | Utilizes a Picture based on-screen keyboard Incorporates 1800 picture symbols |
| Speaking Language Master | Franklin | www.franklin.com | Handheld devices provide auditory support for 130,000 words, with over 300,000 definitions, 500,000 synonyms and 10, 000 antonyms. |
| Speaking Merriam- Webster's Collegiate Dictionary | Franklin | www.franklin.com | Handheld device provides auditory support for spell correction of over 200,000 words as well as access to 500,00 synonyms and antonyms. This reference tool has a built-in ROLODEX Databank and is expandable with a PC connectivity kit (sold separately) that allows for downloads of other reference and eBook titles as well as eNews from around the world. Use your book card slot to access a library of additional Franklin titles. |
| Speegle Plugin for Firefox | OATSoft | www.oatsoft.org | Provides auditory support while user types into an Internet search engine |
| Spelling Ace & Thesaurus | Franklin | www.franklin.com | Handheld device provides phonetic spell correction for over 100,000 words, as well as access to 500,000 synonyms and antonyms. Also includes a calculator and built-in word related games to improve skills. |

| Talking Word Processor | Premier Programming Solutions | .www.readingmadeez.com | This word processing software tool provides auditory support throughout the writing process with the assistance of the following features: talking grammar check, text highlighting and extraction, talking word prediction and talking spell checker. |
|--|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| Text Help Read and Write Gold | TextHelp Systems | www.texthelp.com | This software provides a customizable toolbar that provides added functions to Microsoft Word. This includes voice output, word prediction, talking dictionary, spelling/homophone checker, and the ability to create MP3 audio files of materials. |
| Text Help Read and Write Gold Portable | TextHelp Systems | www.texthelp.com | This tool provides all the software features without having to install any software. The device plugs info any USB port and provides access to the following features: voice output, word prediction, talking dictionary, spelling/homophone checker, and the ability to create MP3 audio files of materials. |
| The Writer II | Advanced Keyboard Technologies | www.keyboardinstructor. com | Portable word processor that enables students to work on writing in any location. Files are organized through the Work Folder Filing System. |
| The Writer Fusion | Advanced Keyboard Technologies | www.keyboardinstructor. com | Portable word processor that enables students to work on writing in any location. Files are organized through the Work Folder Filing System. This device is also equipped with text to speech to provide auditory support throughout the writing process. |
| ThinkMap Visual Thesaurus | Web Tool | www.visualthesaurus. com | The Visual Thesaurus is an interactive dictionary and thesaurus with an igraphic display that visually demonstrates the relationships between words. |
| Ultimate Talking Dictionary | Premier Programming Solutions | www.readingmadeez.com | This talking dictionary can read aloud the definitions for over 250,000 words. There is also a fully integrated thesaurus for referencing synonyms and antonyms of all words. |
| Word Central's Student Dictionary | Web Tool | www.wordcentral.com | On line interactive dictionary that enables user to look up words or create their own customized dictionary. |
| WordSmyth | Web Tool | www.wordsmyth.net | Internet tools such as an on line electronic dictionary, thesaurus, and a software download that installs in Web browser to enable user to look up a definition of any word on any web page. |
| WordTalk PlugIn for MS Word | OATSoft | www.oatsoft.org | Works with all versions of Microsoft Word (from 97 – current) and provides auditory support within the writing environment. Text is highlighted and spoken simultaneously to support struggling students. |
| Write:Out Loud SE | Don Johnston Incorporated | www.donjohnston.com | Word processing software that offers customizable visual and auditory feedback and spell checker/dictionary. |
| Writer's Companion | Visions | www.writerscomp.com | Writer's Companion is a software application that provides students with different supports for a variety of writing purposes. Students can choose a template (either open- ended or for a particular purpose of writing) to note and organize their ideas. Writer's Companion provides text to speech support. |
| WYNN | Freedom Scientific | www.freedomscientific. com/LSG | Suite of built-in tools supporting reading, writing, studying, and Internet research, all with customized auditory and visual modifications. Import curriculum to be read; Web browsing with text extraction; listen to links aloud without activating; writing and study tools include dictionary, two spell checkers, word prediction, note-taking, voice notes, bookmarks, and study guide extraction. Easy to learn with simplified interface. |
| Yahoo Kids Dictionary | Web Tool | http://kids.yahoo.com/ reference | On line resource for reference materials, including a dictionary and encyclopedia. |

| No Tech / Low Tech | Possible Technology Tools |
|--------------------|---------------------------|
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |

Stages of the Writing Process: Editing

No Tech/Low Tech:

| Highlighter Pe | ns | Model Documents for comparison |
|----------------|----|--------------------------------|
|----------------|----|--------------------------------|

| Product Name | Manufacturer | Website | Description |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|---|
| Author's Toolkit | Sunburst | www.sunburst.com | Author's Toolkit is a software application that provides step by step cues to support students in their planning process. Some of the cueing tools include 'Purpose and Audience' and 'Structuremaker.' |
| AutoTextTyper | OATSoft | www.oatsoft.org | This menu plugin lets the person add commonly used text (email addresses, company names, etc.) to a list of items in a contextual menu. Those items can then be chosen from the menu and automatically typed into any application that supports contextual menus. |
| ClaroRead Plus | Claro Software | www.clarosoftware.com | This software application reads back text as it is typed. Text can also be highlighted and read back for editing/proofreading. The Plus version of the software can provide support for scanned documents and PDF documents. The Plus version also will echo back words or phrases dictated using Dragon NaturallySpeaking version 8 or 9. |
| ClaroRead Premium | Claro Software | www.clarosoftware.com | ClaroRead Premium is a software application that provides students with a variety of support. ClaroRead Premium contains a concept map generator to assist students in planning their writing. ClaroRead Premium provides text to speech support. |
| ClaroRead Standard | Claro Software | www.clarosoftware.com | This software application reads back text as it is typed. Text can also be highlighted and read back for editing/proofreading. |
| Clicker 5 | Crick Software | www.cricksoft.com | Clicker is a writing tool that enables users to write with whole words, phrases or pictures. Customized grids can be downloaded or developed to meet the specific needs of each individual. |
| Co:Writer SE | Don Johnston Incorporated | www.donjohnston.com | Provides grammar, and vocabulary support capabilities to any word processor or e- mail program. Incorporates topic dictionaries for curriculum specific vocabulary Offers Flex Spell to translate phonetic spelling and grammar support |
| Dana | AlphaSmart | www.alphasmart.com | Incorporates the Palm OS platform within a portable word processor Enter text with stylus, keyboard, touch screen |
| Intellitalk III | Cambium Learning | www.intellitools.com | Talking word processor software tool that provides users with a variety of tools to support writing. |
| KeyStone ScreenSpeaker | Words Worldwide | www.keyspell.com | This software tool works in cooperation with word processing tools (Microsoft Word, etc.) to provide auditory feedback during the writing process. |
| Key to Access | Premier Programming Solutions | www.readingmadeez.com | Small USB flash drive device with 8 pre-loaded programs. These programs can work on any computer by plugging into a USB port. The programs are: Premier Predictor Pro, PDF Equalizer, Scan and Read Pro, Universal Reader Plus, E-Text Reader, Ultimate Talking Dictionary, Talking Word Processor, PDF Magic, Text to Audio, Talking Calculator. |

| Kurzweil 3000 | Cambium Learning | www.kurzweiledu.com | Reads word & pdf documents and documents scanned into the computer. Offers customizable visual and auditory feedback. Break words into syllables, spell words aloud, looks up the definition of a word. Provides a built in Internet browser to read web pages aloud, and complete web searches. |
|--|--------------------------------------|----------------------------|---|
| Laser PC6 | Perfect Solutions | www.perfectsolutions.com | Compatible with PC platform. Includes typing tutorial using Herzog's abc progression, spreadsheet options, calculator. Offers optional features for word prediction and text-to-speech and infrared connection |
| MediaWeaver | Sunburst | www.sunburst.com | MediaWeaver is a word processor that utilizes both text and multimedia to support students throughout the process of writing (writing, revising, editing, illustrating and publishing. |
| Microsoft Word | Microsoft | www.microsoft.com | MS Word is a software application that serves as a word processor allowing students to plan their writing through the creation of hierarchical outlines. MS Word contains various templates which can be used to assist students in planning and organizing their writing. |
| Neo | Alphasmart | www.alphasmart.com | The Neo is a portable word processing device. It allows students to type, save and edit their work. Students can then transfer their work to a computer based word processor for finalization. The instructor has the option to enable planning outlines to guide students in their writing. |
| Picture It | Slater Software, Inc. | www.slatersoftware.com | Compose documents up to 500 words. Includes 6000 graphic both color and black& white. Import graphics and customize visual and auditory feedback. |
| PixWriter | Slater Software, Inc | www.slatersoftware.com | Utilizes a Picture based on-screen keyboard. Incorporates 1800 picture symbols. |
| QuickPAD IR | QuickPad | www.quickpad.com | Portable word processor that enables typing materials to be downloaded to any computer word processing program. Device can hold up to 250 named files and files can be transferred to computer via Infrared transfer. |
| QuickPAD Pro | QuickPad | www.quickpad.com | Portable word processor that enables typing materials to be downloaded to any computer word processing program. This device also has ability to transfer materials to optional Compact Flash memory cards or via USB port to a computer. |
| Spell Catcher | Rainmaker | www.rainmakerinc.com | This software tools has the ability to check spelling both an as-you-type and after- the-fact. The Shorthand Glossary feature lets you define your own abbreviations for commonly-used phrases. |
| Talking Word Processor | Premier Programming Solutions | www.readingmadeez.com | This word processing software tool provides auditory support throughout the writing process with the assistance of the following features: talking grammar check, text highlighting and extraction, talking word prediction and talking spell checker. |
| Text Help Read and Write Gold | TextHelp Systems | www.texthelp.com | This software provides a customizable toolbar that provides added functions to Microsoft Word. This includes voice output, word prediction, talking dictionary, spelling/homophone checker, and the ability to create MP3 audio files of materials. |
| Text Help Read and Write Gold Portable | TextHelp Systems | www.texthelp.com | This tool provides all the software features without having to install any software. The device plugs info any USB port and provides access to the following features: voice output, word prediction, talking dictionary, spelling/homophone checker, and the ability to create MP3 audio files of materials. |
| The Writer II | Advanced Keyboard Technologies | www.keyboardinstructor.com | Portable word processor that enables students to work on writing in any location. Files are organized through the Work Folder Filing System. |

| The Writer Fusion | Advanced Keyboard Technologies | www.keyboardinstructor.com | Portable word processor that enables students to work on writing in any location. Files are organized through the Work Folder Filing System. This device is also equipped with text to speech to provide auditory support throughout the writing process. |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|--|
| Ultimate Talking Dictionary | Premier Programming Solutions | www.readingmadeez.com | This talking dictionary can read aloud the definitions for over 250,000 words. There is also a fully integrated thesaurus for referencing synonyms and antonyms of all words. |
| Universal WriteAssist | SecondGuess | www.secongguessusa.com | This tool provides text to speech features in existing word processing programs. These features include the ability to hear words spoken and a auditory spell checker. |
| WordTalk PlugIn for MS Word | OATSoft | www.oatsoft.org www.wordtalk.org.uk/ | Works with all versions of Microsoft Word (from 97 – current) and provides auditory support within the writing environment. Text is highlighted and spoken simultaneously to support struggling students. |
| Write:Out Loud SE | Don Johnston Incorporated | www.donjohnston.com | Word processing software that offers customizable visual and auditory feedback and spell checker/dictionary. |
| Writer's Companion | Visions | www.writerscomp.com | Writer's Companion is a software application that provides students with different supports for a variety of writing purposes. Students can choose a template (either open-ended or for a particular purpose of writing) to note and organize their ideas. Writer's Companion provides text to speech support. |
| Writing with Symbols | Mayer Johnson | www.mayerjohnson.com | Provides 3800 picture symbols, 4000 rebus symbols and you can import your own graphics. Offers visual & auditory feedback and can be used with pictures or without as a talking word processor. |
| WYNN | Freedom Scientific | www.freedomscientific.com/L SG | Suite of built-in tools supporting reading, writing, studying, and Internet research, all with customized auditory and visual modifications. Import curriculum to be read; Web browsing with text extraction; listen to links aloud without activating; writing and study tools include dictionary, two spell checkers, word prediction, note-taking, voice notes, bookmarks, and study guide extraction. Easy to learn with simplified interface. |
| Zoho Writer | Web Tool | www.zoho.com | Zoho Writer is a free web based application that serves as a word processor. Zoho Writer provides templates to assist students in the idea generation and organization processes of writing. Zoho Writer also contains an outlining tool which may help students in the planning process. |

| No Tech / Low Tech | Possible Technology Tools |
|--------------------|---------------------------|
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |

Stages of the Writing Process: Publishing

No Tech/Low Tech:

| Tape Recorder / mp3 player for recording materials | Compile writings to create book |
|--|---------------------------------|
|--|---------------------------------|

| Product Name | Manufacturer | Website | Description |
|------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------------|---|
| Audacity | Sourceforge | http://audacity.sourceforge. net | Audacity is free, open source software for recording and editing sounds. It is available for Mac OS X, Microsoft Windows, GNU/Linux, and other operating systems. Users can create recordings of their writing for publication. |
| Blogger | Web Tool | http://www.blogger.com | Web site that enables users to publish their writing for free on the Internet. |
| Bloglines | Web Tool | http://www.bloglines.com | Web site that enables users to publish their writing for free on the Internet. |
| Blurb BookSmart | Blurb | www.blurb.com | Software tool that allows user to create bookstore quality books and order multiple copies. |
| BuildAbility | Attainment Company | www.attainmentcompany.com | Provides a user friendly format for creating simple point & click pages Offers sample activities, tutorials, and research documentation of vendor website |
| Hyperstudio | Hyperstudio | www.hyperstudio.com | Incorporates all multi-media options and has built in accessibility features such as scanning buttons for switch access users Offers a free player download to play presentations on any computer |
| Imagination Express | Edmark | www.riverdeep.com | Provides various titles range in grade levels from K – grade 8 Encourages students to create their own stories within the program with multi-media tools |
| Intellipics Studio | Cambium Learning | www.IntelliTools.com | Provides a user-friendly and student friendly format for creating multi-media interactive slideshows |
| Kid Pix | Riverdeep | www.riverdeep.com | Student friendly – multi-media authoring tool for students to create their own presentations |
| MP Express | Bytes of Learning | www.bytesoflearning.com | Provides a user-friendly format for creating multi-media interactive slideshows Has several built-in templates, graphics specifically for education to create cross platform presentations |
| My Own Bookshelf | SoftTouch, Inc. | www.softtouch.com | Is an easy to use electronic book-building program with universal access for students who cannot hold a book. Organizes books on bookshelves. |
| Poderator | Web Tool | http://www.poderator.com | Free web site that enables user's to publish their podcasts on the Internet. |

| PowerPoint | Microsoft Corporation | www.microsoft.com <u>http://office.microsoft.com/as</u> <u>sistance/preview.aspx?Asset</u> <u>ID=HP030784121033&CTT=</u> <u>98</u> | Incorporates all multi-media options and is a common tool in many schools and homes PowerPoint viewer. This free player allows the user to view created presentations on any computer |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|--|---|
| | | http://www22.brinkster.com/ji mluther/access.htm | Switch access template |
| PowerTalk Plugin for MS PowerPoint | Full Measure | http://fullmeasure.co.uk/powe rtalk/ | Is a free program that automatically speaks any presentation or slide show running in Microsoft PowerPoint for Windows. |
| Seed WIKI | Web Tool | www.seedwiki,com | Web site that allows users to create their own web presence in order to publish and collaborate on writing. |
| Storybook Weaver Deluxe 2004 | Riverdeep | www.riverdeep.com | Facilitates students to author and illustrate their own multimedia story with an easy- to-use word processor and variety of graphic tools. Provides story ideas ranging from fantasy adventures to personal events to historical fiction, and an extensive array of multicultural images from around the world. Offers students can word processing and text-to-speech features in either English or Spanish. |
| Storybook Maker | Tech4Learning | http://tech4learning.com/ | Create HTML storybooks including controllers, page backgrounds, recorded sounds, and text-to-speech. Uses XML format allowing for file use between Mac and Windows. |
| Wikispaces | Web Tool | http://wikispaces.com/ | A free wiki tool that allows users to create their own web presence in order to publish and collaborate on writing. |
| WIKIPages | Web Tool | http://wikipages.com | A free wiki tool that allows users to create their own web presence in order to publish and collaborate on writing. |

| No Tech / Low Tech | Possible Technology Tools |
|--------------------|---------------------------|
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |

Common Technology for Writing Categories

| Product Name | Manufacturer | Website | Description |
|----------------|-------------------------------|---------------------|---|
| Draft:Builder | Don Johnston Incorporated | www.donjohnston.com | Provides a visual structure and auditory feedback for students to step through creating a first draft: organizing ideas, taking notes and writing a first draft Allows students to generate, manipulate and connect ideas and information throughout each stage of the writing process. |
| Kidspiration | Inspiration Software, Inc. | www.inspiration.com | Intended for students kindergarten – grade 5. Provides students visual and auditory feedback to brainstorm ideas with pictures and words, organize and cateogrize information, create stories and descriptions and create webs and visual maps of ideas. |
| Inspiration | Inspiration Software, Inc. | www.inspiration.com | Intended for students grade 6 through adult. Provides an integrated diagramming and outlining environment for students to brainstorm, web, diagram, plan, map, organize and outline ideas for expression. |
| Microsoft Word | Microsoft Corporation | www.microsoft.com | Using the drawing toolbar, diagrams can be built with drawing objects, flowchart objects, shapes and/or arrow objects. Standard spell checking features within Microsoft Word can also be used with text added to objects from the drawing toolbar. Forms templates can also be created to step through outlines or web diagrams. |

Graphic Organizers/Outlining Tools

Multimedia Tools

| Product Name | Manufacturer | Website | Description |
|---------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|--|
| BuildAbility | Attainment Company | www.attainmentcompany.c | Provides a user friendly format for creating simple point & click pages. Offers sample activities, tutorials, and research documentation of vendor website. |
| Clicker 5 | Crick Software | www.cricksoft.com | Provides a user-friendly format for creating simple point & click pages and large graphic file. Incorporates accessibility features such as scanning for switch access. Sample pre-made grids available to download <u>http://www.learninggrids.com/us/</u> Vendor will provide a free 30-day trial CD. |
| Hyperstudio | Hyperstudio | www.hyperstudio.com | Incorporates all multi-media options and has built in accessibility features such as scanning buttons for switch access users Offers a free player download to play presentations on any computer |
| Imagination Express | Edmark | www.riverdeep.com | Provides various titles range in grade levels from K – grade 8 Encourages students to create their own stories within the program with multi- media tools |

© 2007 Texas Assistive Technology Network (TATN) www.texasat.net

| Intellipics Studio | Cambium Learning | www.IntelliTools.com | Provides a user-friendly and student friendly format for creating multi-media interactive slideshows Offers a free player download to utilize creations on any computer as well as sample activities and tutorials |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------|---|---|
| Kid Pix | Riverdeep | www.riverdeep.com | Student friendly – multi-media authoring tool for students to create their own presentations |
| MP Express | Bytes of Learning | www.bytesoflearning.com | Provides a user-friendly format for creating multi-media interactive slideshows Has several built-in templates, graphics specifically for education to create cross platform presentations |
| My Own Bookshelf | SoftTouch, Inc. | www.softtouch.com | Is an easy to use electronic book-building program with universal access for students who cannot hold a book. Organizes books on bookshelves. |
| PowerPoint | Microsoft Corporation | www.microsoft.com http://office.microsoft.com/ assistance/preview.aspx? AssetID=HP03078412103 3&CTT=98 http://www22.brinkster.co m/jimluther/access.htm | Incorporates all multi-media options and is a common tool in many schools and homes PowerPoint viewer. This free player allows the user to view created presentations on any computer Switch access template |
| Storybook Weaver Deluxe 2004 | Riverdeep | www.riverdeep.com | Facilitates students to author and illustrate their own multimedia story with an easy-to-use word processor and variety of graphic tools Provides story ideas ranging from fantasy adventures to personal events to historical fiction, and an extensive array of multicultural images from around the world Offers students can word processing and text-to-speech features in either English or Spanish |
| Storybook Maker | Tech4Learning | http://tech4learning.com/ | Create HTML storybooks including controllers, page backgrounds, recorded sounds, and text-to-speech Uses XML format allowing for file use between Mac and Windows |

Picture Word Processors

| Product Name | Manufacturer | Website | Description |
|-----------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------|--|
| Clicker 5 | Crick Software | www.cricksoft.com | Provides a user-friendly format for creating simple point & click pages and large graphic file. Incorporates accessibility features such as scanning for switch access. Sample pre-made grids available to download <u>http://www.learninggrids.com/us/</u> Vendor will provide a free 30-day trial CD. |
| Communicate: In Print | Widgit Software Ltd | . <u>www.mayerjohnson.com</u> | Creates inclusive classroom materials with illustrations, photos and symbol- supported text is easy with this intuitive program. Combines flexible desktop publishing tools designed specifically for the classroom with a powerful library of Widgit Literacy Symbols. |

© 2007 Texas Assistive Technology Network (TATN) www.texasat.net

| Communicate: By Choice | Widgit Software Ltd. | www.mayerjohnson.com | Adaptable early learning activities for students! With over 100 multiple choice and Q&A activities, Communicate: By Choice provides a fun and motivating learning experience. |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|--|
| Picture It | Slater Software, Inc | www.slatersoftware.com | Compose documents up to 500 words. Includes 6000 graphic both color and black& white. Import graphics and customize visual and auditory feedback. |
| PixWriter | Slater Software, Inc | www.slatersoftware.com | Utilizes a Picture based on-screen keyboard. Incorporates 1800 picture symbols. |
| Writing With Symbols 2000 | Widgit Software Ltd. | www.mayerjohnson.com | Provides 3800 picture symbols, 4000 rebus symbols and you can import your own graphics. Offers visual & auditory feedback and can be used with pictures or without as a talking word processor. |

Portable Word Processors

| Product Name | Manufacturer | Website | Description |
|-------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|
| AlphaSmart/Neo | AlphaSmart, Inc. | www.alphasmart.com | Compatible with both Mac and PC platforms and durable. Requires additional software be loaded to upload to a computer. Offer optional features for word prediction, typing tutorial and infrared connection. |
| Dana | AlphaSmart, Inc. | www.alphasmart.com | Incorporates the Palm OS platform within a portable word processor. Enter text with stylus, keyboard, touch screen. |
| PC-6 | Perfect Solutions | www.perfectsolutions.com | Compatible with PC platform. Includes typing tutorial using Herzog's abc progression, spreadsheet options, calculator. Offers optional features for word prediction and text-to-speech and infrared connection. |
| Quick Pad | Quick Pad Technology Corporation | www.quickpad.com | Offers Infrared connection to PC or MAC with no additional software. Includes typing tutorial and spell checker. |
| The Writer | Advanced Keyboard Technologies, Inc. | www.writerlearning.com | Compatible with both Mac and PC platforms. From the Work Folder Filing System, to a new Auto-Thesaurus, to the Good Writing Checklists; The Writer with WriterExpress is designed specifically by teachers to help students organize their work, expand their vocabulary, develop revision skills and express themselves more clearly and accurately. |
| The Writer Fusion | Advanced Keyboard Technologies | www.keyboardinstructor. com | Portable word processor that enables students to work on writing in any location. Files are organized through the Work Folder Filing System. This device is also equipped with text to speech to provide auditory support throughout the writing process. |

| Scan and | Read S | ystems |
|----------|--------|--------|
|----------|--------|--------|

| Product Name | Manufacturer | Website | Description |
|---------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|
| ClaroRead Plus | Claro Software | www.clarosoftware.com | This software application reads back text as it is typed. Text can also be highlighted and read back for editing/proofreading. The Plus version of the software can provide support for scanned documents and PDF documents. The Plus version also will echo back words or phrases dictated using Dragon NaturallySpeaking version 8 or 9. |
| Kurzweil 3000 | Cambium Learning | www.kurzweiledu.com | Reads word & pdf documents and documents scanned into the computer Offers customizable visual and auditory feedback. Break words into syllables, spell words aloud, looks up the definition of a word. Provides a built in Internet browser to read web pages aloud, and complete web searches. |
| Scan and Read Pro | Premier Assistive Technology | www.readingmadez.com | Supports 12 different languages. Provides customizable visual and auditory feedback, spell checker/dictionary/thesaurus. Reads what is presented on the computer screen, including scanned documents, prepared documents, and web pages. |
| Read&Write 8.1 GOLD | TextHelp Systems | www.texthelp.com | This software provides a customizable toolbar that provides added functions to Microsoft Word. This includes voice output, word prediction, talking dictionary, spelling/homophone checker, and the ability to create MP3 audio files of materials. |
| TestTalker | Freedom Scientific | www.freedomscientific. com/LSG | Is a test scanning tool which reads test questions aloud and allows students to input responses. |
| WYNN | Freedom Scientific | www.freedomscientific. com/LSG | Suite of built-in tools supporting reading, writing, studying, and Internet research, all with customized auditory and visual modifications. Import curriculum to be read; Web browsing with text extraction; listen to links aloud without activating; writing and study tools include dictionary, two spell checkers, word prediction, note-taking, voice notes, bookmarks, and study guide extraction. Easy to learn with simplified interface. |

Talking Word Processors

| Product Name | Manufacturer | Website | Description |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------|--|
| IntelliTalk 3 | Cambium Learning | www.IntelliTools.com | Offers customizable visual and auditory feedback and a free player download to utilize created activities on any computer. |
| ReadPlease and ReadPlease Plus | ReadPlease Corporation | www.readplease.com | There is a free download version and an inexpensive plus version. The free download version has a limit to the document size it can read. |
| Write:OutLoud SE | Don Johnston, Inc | www.donjohnston.com | Offers customizable visual and auditory feedback and spell checker/dictionary. |

Word Prediction

| Product Name | Manufacturer | Website | Description | |
|---|------------------------------|----------------------------|--|--|
| Aurora 3.0 | Aurora Systems, Inc. | www.aurora-systems. com | Incorporates a 100,000 plus word vocabulary, grammatical rules, customizable spell checking, spelling auto correction, phonetic spelling, speech output on any sound card, and spoken feedback while you type. Has the ability to read buttons and menus on the screen, keyboard and mouse controls. | |
| Co:Writer SE | Don Johnston Incorporated | www.donjohnston.com | Provides grammar, and vocabulary support capabilities to any word processor or e-mail program. Incorporates topic dictionaries for curriculum specific vocabulary. Offers Flex Spell to translate phonetic spelling and grammar support. | |
| SoothSayer Word Prediction | Applied Human Factors | www.ahf-net.com | Offers word prediction, speech feedback, abbreviation expansion and word completion. | |
| Read&Write Gold Read&Write 8, Read&Write Gold MAC | TextHelp Systems | www.texthelp.com | Provides advanced phonetic spell check, screen reading, word prediction, abbreviations, and homonym support. Reads Web pages and e-mail aloud and integrates seamlessly with all Windows programs. | |
| Word Q | Quillsoft. Ltd. | www.wordq.com | Intended to be used along with standard Windows word processing software. Offers advanced word prediction and text-to-speech feedback. | |
| WordSmith Version 3 | TextHelp Systems | www.texthelp.com | Provides easy installation into Word 2000. Incorporates scanning into Internet Explorer or Microsoft Word 97/2000/XP, advanced phonetic spell checker, a pronunciation tutor with syllabification, word prediction and a 180,000-word thesaurus. | |
| WriteAway 2000 | Information Sales, Inc. | www.is-inc.com | Incorporates text-to-speech, word prediction. Offers customizable word lists. | |

| Graphic Organizers | Multimedia Tools | Picture Word Processors |
|-------------------------|------------------|-------------------------|
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| Talking Word Processors | Word Prediction | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |

Assistive Technology Tutorials:

- Assistive Technology Training Online Project, University at Buffalo, Center for Assistive Technology, 515 Kimball Tower, Buffalo, New York 14214, 716.829.3141 <u>http://atto.buffalo.edu</u>
- Valdosta State University, Teacher Resource Bank, developed in collaboration with Georgia Project for Assistive Technology (GPAT) <u>http://www.teacherresourcebank.com</u> \
- Special Education Technology British Columbia: SET-BC Learning Centre <u>www.setbc.org</u>

References and Resources:

- All Kinds of Minds Understanding Differences in Learning Getting Thoughts on Paper <u>http://www.allkindsofminds.org/learningbasecategory.aspx?categoryid=3</u>
- Begin with Me, http://www.beginwithme.misd.net/
- CITEd Research Center "Using Assistive Technology to Support Writing" <u>http://www.cited.org/index.aspx?page_id=108</u>
- Education World Lesson Planning: Kids can W.R.I.T.E. Activities for every grade http://www.educationworld.com/a_lesson/lesson/lesson126.shtml
- Guide to Grammar and Writing http://grammar.ccc.commnet.edu/grammar/
- National Center for Technology Innovation <u>http://www.nationaltechcenter.org</u>
- National Writing Project "30 Ideas for Teaching Writing" <u>http://www.writingproject.org/cs/nwpp/print/nwpr/922</u>
- Poynteronline Roy Peter Clark's Fifty Writing Tools Quick List (includes podcasts of the first 25 tips!) http://www.poynter.org/column.asp?id=78&aid=103943
- Region 4 Education Service Center, Reading and Language Arts Products and Services, http://www.esc4.net/resources
- Resources for Writers and Writing Instructors <u>http://andromeda.rutgers.edu/~jlynch/Writing/links.html</u>
- SEAT Center http://www.seat.ilstu.org
- Teaching Expressive Writing to Students with Learning Disabilities http://www.ncld.org/index.php?option=content&task=view&id=520
- The Writing Site http://www.thewritingsite.org
- University of Delaware Writing Center Writing Techniques handouts http://www.english.udel.edu/wc/student/handouts/index.html

Technology and Writing Resources for Module:

- Baker, S., Gersten, R., & Graham, S. (2003). Teaching expressive writing to students with learning disabilities: Research-based applications and examples. Journal of Learning Disabilities, 36(2), 109-123.
- Berninger, V. W., & Amtmann, D. (2003). Preventing written expression disabilities through early and continuing assessment and intervention for handwriting and/or spelling problems: Research into practice. In H. L. Swanson, S. Graham & K. R. Harris (Eds.), Handbook of Special Education Research (pp. 345-363). New York: Guilford Press.
- Biancarosa, C., & Snow, C. E. (2006). Reading next: A vision for action and research in middle and high school literacy – A report to Carnegie Corporation of New York (2nd ed.).Washington, DC: Alliance for Excellent Education.
- Chapman, C., & King, R., (2002) Differentiated Instructional Strategies for Writing in the Content Areas. California: Corwin Press Inc.
- Englert, C. S., & Raphael, T., E. (1988). Constructing Well-Formed Prose: Process, Structure and Metacognitive Knowledge. Exceptional Children, 54(6), 513-520.
- Gersten, R., & Baker, S. (2001). Teaching writing to students with learning disabilities: A meta-analysis. The Elementary School Journal, 101, 251-272.
- Gersten, R., & Baker, S. (2003). The contemporary research base in learning disabilities on teaching writing, promoting higher order thinking, and enhancing selfconcept: Introduction to the special issue. Journal of Learning Disabilities, 36(2), 98-99.

- Graham, S., & Perin, D. (2007). Writing next: Effective strategies to improve writing of adolescents in middle and high schools – A report to Carnegie Corporation of New York. Washington, DC: Alliance for Excellent Education.
- Graham, S., & Harris, K. R. (2003). Students with learning disabilities and the process of writing: A meta-analysis of SRSD studies. In H. L. Swanson, S. Graham & K. R. Harris (Eds.), Handbook of Learning Disabilities (pp. 323-344). New York: Guilford Press.
- Graham, S., & Harris, K. R. (2005a). Improving the writing performance of young struggling writers: Theoretical and programmatic research from the Center on Accelerating Student Learning. Journal of Special Education, 39(1), 19-33.
- Graham, S., & Harris, K. R. (2005b). Writing better: Effective strategies for teaching students with learning difficulties. Baltimore: Paul H. Brookes.
- Graham, S., Harris, K. R., & Larsen, L. (2001). Prevention and intervention of writing difficulties for students with learning disabilities. Learning Disabilities Research and Practice, 16, 74-84.
- Harris, K. R., Graham, S., & Mason, L. (2003). Self-regulated strategy development in the classroom: Part of a balanced approach to writing instruction for students with disabilities. Focus on Exceptional Children, 35(7), 1-15.
- Hunt-Berg, M., & Rankin, J. L. (1994). Ponder the possibilities: Computer-supported writing for struggling writers. Learning Disabilities Research and Practice, 9(3), 169-178.

Resources

- MacArthur, C. A. (1996). Using technology to enhance the writing processes of students with learning disabilities. Journal of Learning Disabilities, 29(4), 344-354.
- MacArthur, C. A. (1999). Overcoming barriers to writing: Computer support for basic writing skills. Reading and Writing Quarterly: Overcoming Learning Difficulties, 15(2), 169-192.
- MacArthur, C. A. (2000). New tools for writing: Assistive technology for students with writing difficulties. Topics in Language Disorders, 20(4), 85-100.
- MacArthur, C. A., Ferretti, R., Okolo, C., & Cavalier, A. (2001). Technology applications for students with literacy problems: A critical review. Elementary School Journal, 101, 273-301.
- MacArthur, C. A., Graham, S., & Fitzgerald, J. (2006). Handbook of writing research. New York: Guilford Press.
- Newcomer, P. L., & Barenbaum, E. M. (1991). The written composing ability of children with learning disabilities: A Review of the Literature from 1980 to 1990. Journal of Learning Disabilities, 24(10), 578.
- Peterson-Karlan, G. R. (2007, July). Technology-based tools to support writing by learners with academic and learning disabilities: A review of evidence-based findings. Normal IL: SEAT Center, Illinois State University.
- Schwartz, S. S., & MacArthur, C. A. (1990). Creating a community of writers: The computers and writing instruction project. Preventing School Failure, 34(4), 9-13.