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Modifications for Students with Learning Disabilities

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Assistive Technology Devices

- Any item, piece of equipment, or product system, whether acquired commercially off the shelf, modified, or customized, that is used to increase, maintain, or improve functional capabilities of individuals with disabilities

Assistive Technology Services

Any service that directly assists an individual with a disability in the selection, acquisition, or use of an assistive technology device

- Evaluation of Needs
- Acquisition of devices
- Selection, design, customization, repair
- Coordination of services
- Training and/or technical assistance

Assistive Technology Considerations

- IDEA requires:
  - Teachers consider whether or not the student requires AT devices and services
- When considering AT there are only 4 general conclusions that can be reached
  - Current interventions are working and nothing new is needed
  - AT is being used and is working
  - IEP team may conclude that new AT should be tried
  - IEP team doesn't know enough to make a decision and more information needs to be gathered (e.g., resources, AT evaluation, call for help).

Simon Sounds it Out

- Simon S.I.O. is the multi-level phonics instruction program. Students learn sounds, build words, practice, discriminate and recall words. Students master decoding skills and increase word recognition fluency so they can continue on to successful reading experiences.

- http://www.donjohnston.com/catalog/simonsio.htm

- $149.00 per level

WordMaker

- This program provides phonics, phonemic-awareness and spelling activities to build students' **core reading strategies**.

- http://www.donjohnston.com/catalog/wordmaker.htm

- $149.00

Pix Writer

- A beginning writing program with text, pictures, and speech!
www.slatersoftware.com
  - $180.00

Co:Writer

- A talking word prediction program used to speed up typing
  - www.donjohnston.com
  - $325.00

Write:Outloud

- A word processing program that supports the writing process by reading text out loud as students write.
  - www.donjohnston.com
  - $99.00

WYNN & WYNN Wizard

- A word processing program with multiple features including:
  - Text to speech
  - Word prediction
  - Universal design access
  - Study tools
  - Ability to read the internet
  - And much more!
- http://www.freedomscientific.com/LSG/products/wynn.asp
- $425.00/$995.00

Overview of
Written Expression Software

- Inspiration
  - A visual learning tool that helps 6th to 12th grade students strengthen critical thinking, comprehension and writing skills across the curriculum. Students build graphic organizers to represent concepts and relationships and use the integrated outlining capability to further organize ideas.
  - www.inspiration.com
  - $ 69.00

Kidspiration

- Kidspiration, created for K-5 learners, provides an easy way to apply principles of visual learning. Students build graphic organizers by combining pictures, text and spoken words to represent thoughts and information.
- www.inspiration.com
- $69.00

Start-to-Finish Reading Series

- High interest low reading level literacy software based on popular and classic literature.

- http://www.donjohnston.com/catalog/corecontent/index.htm

- $69.00 per title

  - Also available – supplemental materials and bundle pricing

Neo, AlphaSmart 3000, & DANA

- Portable word processors
  - www.alphasmart.com
  - Neo – $229.00
  - AlphaSmart – $337.00
  - Dana – $339.00

Lottie Kit

- The LoTTIE (Low Tech Tools for Inclusive Education) Kit is a collection of low and mid tech tools designed for teachers, classroom aides, and support professionals to use with students who have special needs.
  - www.onionmountaintech.com
  - $425.00

Helpful Website Resources

- www.ldonline.com