

Assistive Technology for individuals with dyslexia.

Closing the Gap.
Access to All Things.

Have a Growth Mindset!

In a growth mindset, you keep up your confidence by always pushing into the unfamiliar, to make sure you're always learning.

Accept and embrace that you will use different technology throughout your journey.

What is Dyslexia and
Dysgraphia.

Video on Embracing
Dyslexia.

Dyslexia defined.

<https://youtu.be/zafiGBrFkRM>

Dysgraphia defined.

<https://www.understood.org/en/learning-attention-issues/child-learning-disabilities/dysgraphia/the-difference-between-dysgraphia-and-dyslexia>

Embracing Dyslexia.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8OtW8pKWYyk&sns=em>

Why are we here to discuss Assistive Technology?

AT levels the playing field!

Your child needs to use Assistive Technology in order to gain access to grade level curriculum.

All children should be offered the same curriculum content regardless of how it's delivered.

Dyslexia/ Stress and Anxiety

One way to alleviate the anxiety and stress is to empower them by using technology.

The U.S. Department of Education says that many kids with behavior or learning issues are intellectually capable, but are underperforming academically simply because they are not being provided with appropriate interventions and supports.

Parents and children should practice advocating. For example, practice telling a substitute teacher that they ear-read instead of eye-read.

Dyslexia is not a quick fix!

Yale PSA

Once you have a diagnosis of dyslexia and/or dysgraphia, the intervention is a journey that can take place over a period of years.

Kids with dyslexia might need from six months to three years of tutoring to be able to read fluently.

Therefore, implementing assistive technology into your intervention game plan, is a vital step.. These kiddo's are bright! You can't let the educational gap widen.

This is where technology helps to level the playing field.

Assistive
Technology will
evolve as your child
grows.

Learn more about what types of technology work best for your child at their particular age and grade.

Please visit the following web site for a wide variety of products categorized by device:

www.atdyslexia.com

Kinder to 3rd grade,
students are learning to read.

4th grade on,
students are reading to learn.

If technology is not in place, your child is at risk of missing grade level curriculum because they are unable to access the information they need to master and the gap will be growing wider.

Request an Assistive Technology evaluation.

If your school provides intervention
...Request and receive an Assistive Technology
evaluation.

If you provide your own intervention
outside of the school.....
Hire someone to teach you and your child
assistive technology that makes sense for that
school year.

Or, make sure to update and review it annually
as a family.

Intervention online!

By choice, our son receives his intervention outside of school. One way to work that into our day is to have a tutor that meets online. Every morning from 7:30 - 8:30 they work together using Zoom technology.

Assistive Technology for Reading

Bookshare

Make sure your child is listening to grade level chapter books that help to build vocabulary and confidence.

It's important that they feel equal to their peers when discussing authors or the latest book.

Learning Ally (chapter books and textbooks)

Bookshare (chapter books and textbooks)

Audible (chapter books)

OverDrive (chapter books)

Assistive Technology for Writing

Co:Writer is a program that was recommended by our school and was listed on Garrett's 504 plan. Training was provided for him, his teacher and for me. The program was loaded onto a device and Garrett took that device to and from school each day.

Take pictures of worksheets and then type directly onto the sheet. Email to the teacher when done! We use Claro PDF

Students should be comfortable using their iPad to take photo's of all tests and worksheets.

Assistive Technology instead of Writing.

Instead of writing a report, ask if an iMovie would work.

When given the option, our son chose to do a science project instead of build a Mission.

Here's where his curiosity took him.

<https://youtu.be/wVOiJ5p42JE>

Assistive Technology for math!

https://youtu.be/mYrH9LwCp_Y

Mod Math is an excellent tool for lining up the numbers on grid paper but it's online. This is a free app for the iPad!

Here is a video my son created using finger tricks to learn the multiplication facts.

So, if your child has difficulty memorizing math facts (most dyslexic kiddos do!) use a tool like this to keep up with math as you learn. Often, the students that cannot memorize the math facts get left behind and this is where the math gap begins. Please visit our web site to learn more about using your fingers to help learn and teach math. It's spearheaded by Stanford professor, Dr. Jo Boaler.

www.graspthefacts.com

What Assistive Technology looks like in the classroom?

In 2nd grade...our son used Learning Ally to ear-read. Garrett would eye-read at his reading level (which was below grade level) but would ear-read books that were at grade level. He also began to keyboard.

In 3rd grade... Garrett began to use Speech to Text to get his thoughts onto paper. He also began to use a writing program called Co:Writer. His teacher frequently recorded his tests onto his iPad so he never had to leave the classroom in order to have a test read to him.

In 4th grade...our son completed a science report. He made a movie in iMovie and then turned it in

How to use Text-to-Speech

3-Minute Tutorial:

How to Use Text-to-Speech on a Mobile Device

Go to:

Settings - General - Accessibility - Speech - Turn on Speak Selection and Speak Screen

https://l.facebook.com/l.php?u=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.understood.org%2Fen%2Fschool-learning%2Fassistive-technology%2Fassistive-technologies-basics%2Ftext-to-speech-on-phone&h=ATNZYB4ZVkzI8Wkk9tGrokHXSAVc0vaXqKQ1FBRgO9SZZ_4Y1Ac7DyoH3US4hE8ERh_dDhTAAAdOku-zjdYLUMbcHHlwf4sr2PlvMXTJy1w&s=1&enc=AZNMeaRReKGblAEgwzPK3bJkEk7j7AtXPj1Ob5vxuFQb5X1TXwPa_EQezF6ZBmlyMxvQTOkPWKRn8oWTlmsWFiV

How to use Speech-to-Text (Dictation)

Dictation technology can be a great tool for kids who struggle with handwriting or spelling, and for kids who think faster than they write.

For dictation technology to work properly, kids have to speak clearly and use various commands.

Several types of dictation tools are available on computers, mobile devices and Chrome devices.

Apple MacBook Example:

Go to Apple menu - System Preferences - keyboard - dictation - Turn on Dictation

What Assistive
Technology looks like
outside the
classroom.

Homework should not be stressful. Another great reason to use AT daily!

Classroom divisions create a gap in the curriculum offered and learned when AT is not used..

AT should be used to offer your child equal access to the grade level curriculum. Often, teachers create groups of students within the classroom and offer them the subject at their scored level.

Watch for chapter books that might be offered to your child that are below grade level. Use ear-reading! Charlotte's Web vs. Hatchet.

Wordly Wise has an online option that can read it to the student.

Scholastic News also has an online option that can read it to the student.

Spelling tests with lower leveled vocabulary.

Spelling list example



End of school year requests.

At the end of each school year, we request a copy or name of each textbook from the school, that will be used in the following school year. This includes chapter books. This way we are prepared on day one!

For example, over this past summer, Garrett read several chapter books that were from a published booklist from Laguna Blanca. Some of the books also had a movie that could be watched after the book, just for fun. He read *The Invention of Hugo Cabret* using Audible and then watch the movie *Hugo* after. He preferred the book! Now he's ear-reading *Wonder* and he will watch the movie when it's released.

A few days before school...

Meet with or email the teacher to review the apps and programs your child be using. If they have not been trained adequately on each program, contact your school administration in writing.

Make a plan. Ask the teacher where they would like Speech to Text time to take place? It's important to have clear instructions for your child so they go into the classroom environment confident. For example, Garrett had a system with his teacher that whenever there was writing time and he needed to use Speech to Text, he would quietly leave the classroom and sit at a table nearby. This gave him the privacy he needed.

Designate a spot where they take pictures of a worksheet?

Practice the new programs with your child! Give them a copy of a QuickCard for reference.

State Testing

State Testing takes place each spring. Please make sure that all Universal Tools and Designated Supports are ordered in the fall.

The practice test will come out in early spring and you can test the ordered tools. Make sure that practice testing is scheduled and observed to make sure the student is comfortable using it.

Contact the California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP) should you have further questions.

Dyslexia apps and recommendations:

Please visit the following web site for a wide variety of products categorized by device:

www.atdyslexia.com

Make sure AT is
being used in the
classroom.

Once you have AT listed on the 504 plan or on an IEP,
Check in with your child daily and ask:

Did you use Co:Writer today?

Did you take a picture of a worksheet today?

Did you ear-read today?

Did you use Speech to Text today?

AT should be used every single school day. Practice
makes perfect. With practice, students will become
more confident and independent.

Have students cc you on emails of homework.

Your child needs to use AT to gain access to the grade
level curriculum.