

SOFTWARE EVALUATION

Evaluator's Name: Sharon Eilts

Date of Evaluation: April 23, 2005

Product Title: Read Out Loud SOLO

Publisher: Don Johnston

Content/Subject: Cross-curricular reading content, reading comprehension

Instructional Design for Learners: This software addresses what type of learner needs?

LD, low cognitive, autism, AD/HD, VI

Program Design

- **Describe the learning objectives of this program.**
 - Text reader to support comprehension with modeling, scaffolding and practice
 - UDL for grade level curriculum exposure
- **Describe whether or not the program is age-appropriate.**
 - Graphics, vocabulary, and functions are multi-age appropriate.
- **What type of motivational techniques does the program employ?**
 - Auditory feedback
 - Highlighting
 - Note taking
 - User controls
- **Describe the types of skills this program helps develop.**
 - Written language
 - Writing mechanics
 - Vocabulary
 - Core content mastery
- **Special Features:**
 - eHighlighter – highlights important information
 - electronic notes –text-to-self connections
 - Locked text embedded in the Reading Guide
 - Franklin Dictionary
 - Adapt eText easily-add pictures, additional supporting text, change font size
 - Create or assign Supported Reading Guides to match individual student abilities
 - Set Individual student preferences to match the amount of support needed
 - Use testing accommodations mode to go beyond supporting daily assignments

Seilts

- View students' highlighted documents with completed outlines to see student progress

Measurable Goal

Write a measurable goal related to introducing this software title to a student/client for whom you think this might be appropriate.

By (date), (student) will complete teacher-generated (through Teacher Central component of software), comprehension assignment in core curricular area with 80% accuracy in 4 out of 5 trials.

The left screenshot shows the 'Teacher Central' interface. It features a 'Class' list on the left and a 'Document' list in the center. The 'Document' list has columns for 'Document' and 'Date'. The 'Saturn Facts' document is highlighted, and its content is visible in the main window. The text includes: '1. Saturn is large. It is the second largest planet in our Solar System. Only Jupiter is bigger. If you could line them up, more than nine Earths would fit across Saturn.' '2. Unlike Earth, Saturn is made mostly of hydrogen and helium. While it has heavier materials in the core, Saturn has no surface on which you could stand.' '3. Its beautiful rings are not solid either. They are made up of particles of ice and rock.'

The right screenshot shows the 'Saturn Facts' document in a web browser. The document title is 'Saturn Facts'. The text includes: 'Saturn is sometimes called "The Jewel of the Solar System." It is a fascinating planet that is nothing like our own. Humans have been up at Saturn and wondering about it for thousands of years. Here are some fun facts about the Ringed Planet.' Below the text is an image of Saturn's rings. The document is highlighted, and the sidebar on the right shows navigation options: 'Resource 1', 'Saturn Facts', 'Resource 2', 'NASA Web Site', 'Resource 3', and 'Project Cassini'. The sidebar also has a search bar and a 'What I LEARNED' section.

Graphics provided from Don Johnston website