

# Guide to Low-Cost / No-Cost Online Tools for People with Disabilities 2005



Developed by  
**Northern Illinois Center for Adaptive Technology**

In cooperation with  
**Alliance for Technology Access**

With support from  
**CTCNet**  
**ILCTC**

## **Table of Contents**

Page 3	Introduction/Purpose
Page 4-5	Funding Options
Page 6	Accessibility
Page 7	At-Risk Students, LD/MI
Page 8	Deaf-Related
Page 10	Demos
Page 11	Downloads
Page 14	Early Learning
Page 15	English Language Learners
Page 16	Information
Page 18	Literacy
Page 20	Practice Tests
Page 21	Vision-Related

# **Guide to Low-Cost / No-Cost Online Tools for People with Disabilities - 2005**

## **Introduction**

The amazing advancements in technology have opened many doors for some people with disabilities and have great potential for many more. Access to emerging technologies is critical to a level playing field in the modern world. Many in traditionally underserved communities do not have this access, with people with disabilities being the most disenfranchised and least likely to have access. Common factors for this include: 1) lack of knowledge about what technology exists; 2) awareness of their rights under current education, rehabilitation and civil rights legislation; and 3) limited personal resources.

Organizations such as the Alliance for Technology Access and our partners in community technology centers are working to impact all three of these factors. The Alliance for Technology Access is a national network of Resource Members (Centers and Consultants), Associates, and Vendors working to connect people with disabilities to the tools they need. This is accomplished through demonstration, training, consulting, outreach and advocacy activities.

[www.ATAccess.org](http://www.ATAccess.org)

Community technology centers, regional organizations such as ILCTC, and the national Community Technology Centers' Network (CTCNet) are working in mainstream community organizations and environments to ensure that everyone who might benefit becomes aware of available technology and has the information needed to obtain and use it successfully.

[www.ILCTC.org](http://www.ILCTC.org)

[www.CTCNet.org](http://www.CTCNet.org)

## **Purpose**

This guide was written to provide technology resources that increase access to computers for people with disabilities. The focus here is on low-cost and no-cost on-line resources, organized by category. We believe they will be extremely useful for multiple audiences, primarily: 1) community-based organizations wanting to provide access to technology for people with disabilities; 2) individuals with disabilities or their family members; 3) service providers working with assistive technology.

The resources included here are easy to obtain and can provide options for people with disabilities. Testing these tools can give people an idea of what they can do with technology. For some people, these options will be enough to provide the access they need. For others, these tools will not be sufficient. They will need more sophisticated access tools in order to use a computer.

There are laws and funding channels designed to provide assistive technology tools and services within the education, rehabilitation, social security, and insurance systems. Many people with disabilities are eligible for services within one or more of these systems and we encourage people to check into all appropriate options.

Below are some useful information resources on how individuals can acquire technology. A few are relevant for organizations, as well.

### **Funding for Assistive Technology**

For school-age children, funding can often be addressed through the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). For more information on IDEA visit the Families and Advocates Partnership for Education web site:

[www.fape.org](http://www.fape.org)

An excellent handbook on funding assistive technology through Medicaid, private insurance, and Social Security can be found at:

[www.trace.wisc.edu/archive/fintech/fintech.html](http://www.trace.wisc.edu/archive/fintech/fintech.html)

Some ATA Centers accept donations of used computers then refurbish and distribute them to adults with disabilities and to families of children with disabilities. Some community technology centers also recycle equipment to people in their communities. For a listing of all ATA Centers and CTCs visit the web sites of their national organizations:

[www.ATAccess.org](http://www.ATAccess.org)

[www.CTCNet.org](http://www.CTCNet.org)

Lions Club, Elks Club, Easter Seals, church groups, and local charitable organizations may provide support for the purchase of these technologies. Information on some of these groups can be found at:

[www.elks.org/lodges/default.cfm](http://www.elks.org/lodges/default.cfm)

[www.easterseals.com](http://www.easterseals.com)

[www.lionsclubs.org](http://www.lionsclubs.org)

Another good resource for families when considering an assistive technology purchase is the PLUK Family Guide to Assistive Technology found on the web at:

[www.pluk.org/AT1.html](http://www.pluk.org/AT1.html)

Med-Sell is an organization that helps people buy and sell USED equipment. The majority of this is medical equipment, but computer and assistive technology devices may be found.

[www.kansas.net/~cbaslock/classifi.html](http://www.kansas.net/~cbaslock/classifi.html)

Information on used equipment, product information, and funding is available at the Iowa Program for Assistive Technology on the web at:

<http://www.uiowa.edu/infotech>

Organizations can find help locating technology for their libraries or for distribution to consumers through the National Cristina Foundation, an organization that accepts donations of computer equipment and donates them to tax-exempt organizations or public agencies specializing in working with the special needs population in the areas of education and training.

[www.cristina.org](http://www.cristina.org)

Grant monies to obtain assistive technology for individuals and for non-profits that serve children with disabilities are available from the Disabled Children's Relief Fund. Additional information on the program and how to apply can be found at:

[www.dcrf.com](http://www.dcrf.com)

Funds may also be available from GiveTech.org, found on the web at:

[www.givetech.org/assistance](http://www.givetech.org/assistance)

The Jim Mullen Foundation provides computers to people with disabilities as well as technology to eligible organizations. More information is available at:

[www.jimmullen.com](http://www.jimmullen.com).

If you need assistance finding technology for yourself or for a family member with a physical, cognitive, or sensory impairment, check out the resources listed here, and then start networking. Talk to parents through early childhood programs, school events, or advocacy groups. Find out who provides disability-related services in your community and schedule an appointment to discuss your needs. Call your local newspaper to find service organizations that may assist with purchasing adaptive equipment. Technology can enhance the quality of life of people with disabilities and improve the educational and career opportunities available. Become an advocate for yourself, a family member, or for others and search for ways to bring this technology to life.

## **Accessibility**

<http://rbx.de/big-cursors/>

This site offers the ability to download large, thick, black versions of Windows pointers and timers. This is useful to those with limited visual acuity or for those with motor impairments who need a larger icon to manipulate.

[www.anicursor.com/special.html](http://www.anicursor.com/special.html)

On this site, the user can download a variety of cursors: large-size, different colors, left-handed, and animated. These are helpful for people with visual or motor impairments and attention disorders, plus they are more engaging for young children to use.

[www.qiat.org](http://www.qiat.org)

QIAT stands for **Quality Indicators for Assistive Technology Services** in School Settings. This site offers indicators for schools to follow in providing, choosing, integrating, and determining compliance related to assistive technology services. These indicators are helpful for both educators and parents during the IEP process.

[www.microsoft.com/enable](http://www.microsoft.com/enable)

This site offers information on Microsoft products and their built-in accessibility features. It includes tutorials, shortcuts, and information for businesses to assist in implementing accessibility for employees and consumers.

[www.internet4classrooms.com](http://www.internet4classrooms.com)

Information is provided for teachers to help them integrate technology into their classroom curriculum. This information is intended to help teachers utilize computers effectively with all their students and especially to aid them in delivering accessible content to their students with disabilities.

[www.accessingenuity.com](http://www.accessingenuity.com)

Information is provided on products for all types of disabilities, with descriptions, uses, prices, and ordering information. Free resource guides and demo CDs of various devices can be ordered through this website.

[www.publisherspipeline.com](http://www.publisherspipeline.com)

Software is sold at a discount through this site. Available titles *sometimes* include accessible software such as voice-input programs in addition to Microsoft software and games.

[www.inference.phy.cam.ac.uk/dasher](http://www.inference.phy.cam.ac.uk/dasher)

Visitors to this site can order *Dasher* software, a text-entry and pointing program used in place of a full-size keyboard, at no cost. This software is especially useful for one-handed users or for those who cannot use their hands at all. It can be used with a mouse, head pointers, and eyetrackers. Many links to other hardware products are also provided.

[www.rjcooper.com](http://www.rjcooper.com)

This website offers free downloads of trial versions of special needs software. Visitors can order a free demo CD of all RJ Cooper products including software and hardware such as trackballs, touch screens, augmentative communication, scanning, joysticks, and onscreen calculator and other math aids.

[www.lakefolks.com](http://www.lakefolks.com)

*Click-N-Type*, a FREE on-screen virtual keyboard for anyone with a physical disability, is available at this website. It is especially useful for navigating the Internet and using Email.

### **At-Risk Students - LD/MI**

[www.ronn.com/kidstuff1.html](http://www.ronn.com/kidstuff1.html)

Check out links to websites with educational and TV-related games, information, arts and crafts, homework helpers, stories and more. The site is appropriate for teachers, children, and parents.

[www.funbrain.com/](http://www.funbrain.com/)

This site offers educational games to improve math, grammar, and writing skills. It also includes homework helpers and aids/activities for teachers.

[www.ccel.org](http://www.ccel.org)

Parents and teachers will find classic Christian stories that are compatible with text-reading software. This is meaningful for students with learning and reading disabilities who could not otherwise participate in independent learning activities at their churches, Christian schools, or at home.

[www.the-tech.mit.edu/Shakespeare/works.html](http://www.the-tech.mit.edu/Shakespeare/works.html)

Visitors will find the complete works of William Shakespeare for use with text-reading programs. This is helpful for students with learning and reading disabilities so that they can access the same literature at the same level as their classmates.

[www.hti.umich.edu/p/pd-modeng/](http://www.hti.umich.edu/p/pd-modeng/)

This site offers literary classics for use with text-reading programs. This is essential for the high school student with learning or reading disabilities who wants to remain competitive with his peers and access the same materials at the same level.

[www.publishing.wsu.edu/copyright/public\\_domain\\_resources](http://www.publishing.wsu.edu/copyright/public_domain_resources)

Check out these links to websites offering free books-on-line, graphics for use on websites or in presentations, downloadable music and videos, and much more. These are appropriate for students who use the Internet to explore art and entertainment due to limitations on mobility or reliance on computer-based access.

[www.donjohnston.com](http://www.donjohnston.com)

Visitors will find free downloads of the *BuildAbility Player* and accompanying Stories for literacy levels from emergent to intermediate. They will also find downloads of *CoWriter*, a word-prediction program, and *DraftBuilder*, a writing template program plus lots of other good product information.

[www.laureatelearning.com](http://www.laureatelearning.com)

This site offers a free demo CD of programs that train students with mental impairments on cause and effect, turn-taking, early vocabulary, syntax, cognitive concepts, auditory processing, and reading. The Laureate Learning product catalog is also available for download.

[www.lburkhart.com](http://www.lburkhart.com)

Teachers will find tips on integrating technology and the Internet into elementary and middle schools. Special attention is given to making adaptations for children with disabilities.

## **Deaf – Related**

[www.cpcweb.com](http://www.cpcweb.com)

Anyone interested in creating original videos can download a demo of a software program that can be used for captioning videos to ensure access to the hearing-impaired population.

[www.pics4learning.com](http://www.pics4learning.com)

This site provides pictures in a variety of categories. One of the categories presents pictures of a hand demonstrating the sign language alphabet and numbers. It is appropriate for adults and children to use as basic instruction.



<http://download.com.com/3000-2051-10030201.html?legacy=cnet>

Anyone interested in learning sign language can download software that teaches finger spelling and recognition of the hand shapes. The user can then focus on developing speed and accuracy. The site also offers finger spelling games.

[www.deaflibrary.org](http://www.deaflibrary.org)

The library includes online materials plus links to websites that offer sign language instruction, resources including national organizations and schools for the deaf and for deaf education, magazines, deaf culture events and information, and much more for deaf kids and their families.

[www.listen-up.org/sign.htm](http://www.listen-up.org/sign.htm)

This site includes links for kids to animated signing websites and links for parents to locate and purchase deaf-related products, learn sign language, and find other information and resources.

[www.deafkids.com](http://www.deafkids.com)

This site is designed for deaf students and includes a chat room for deaf kids ages 17 and under. The site declares the chat room to be safe and secure for children to use, although this claim cannot be guaranteed. The site is sponsored by Deaf Life magazine, a reputable company with a long history of service to the deaf population.

[www.where.com](http://www.where.com)

This site features an on-line sign language dictionary, finger spelling activities, and finger spelling quizzes to test the user's skills. Click on the sign language link at the bottom of the page and ignore the other links because they are either not working or not suitable for children.

[www.vocaldevelopment.com](http://www.vocaldevelopment.com)

This website offers information and listening activities for parents of children with hearing impairments or speech delays. The activities are helpful for parents who want to understand their child's language difficulties and support their child's vocal development.

[www.hearingexchange.com/newsletters](http://www.hearingexchange.com/newsletters)

Parents and deaf education teachers will find on-line newsletters on a variety of deaf-related issues. Teachers with mainstreamed deaf children will also benefit from this information.

[www.fldb.k12.fl.us](http://www.fldb.k12.fl.us)

This is the official website for Florida School for the Deaf-Blind. Click on *professionals*, then *services*, scroll down to *Outreach: research and technology*, click on *technology resources*. The user will find good overviews and descriptions of the many programs and equipment that are

available for deaf and blind students at this school and ideas that could be useful in other settings with deaf-blind students.

## **Demos**

[www.polital.com/pnc](http://www.polital.com/pnc)

*Point-N-Click* is a free stand-alone on-screen virtual mouse designed for anyone with a disability that makes it difficult or impossible to click a computer mouse. As long as they can move a mouse, trackball or other pointing device, they can send mouse clicks to virtually any Windows application.

[www.calculator.org/](http://www.calculator.org/)

Get a free trial of *Calc98*, an engineering, scientific and financial calculator for Windows with functions for statistics, use of different number bases, metric units conversions, and physical properties and constants. The program also offers financial functions including investment, loan and savings calculations, time functions and a stopwatch feature. This program can be used 90 days and then registered free for continued use.

[www.thinkingpublications.com](http://www.thinkingpublications.com)

Check out this website specializing in speech/language resources for people with communication disorders. Visitors will find two free demo CDs available – one on spelling, language, and literacy, and the other on handling emotions and learning concepts.

[www.rjcooper.com](http://www.rjcooper.com)

Visitors will find free downloads of trial versions of special needs software. A free demo CD can be ordered featuring all R J Cooper products including software and hardware such as trackballs, touch screens, augmentative communication, scanning, joysticks, onscreen calculator and math aids, plus much more.

[www.aboutonehandtyping.com](http://www.aboutonehandtyping.com)

This site offers a free demo of one-handed typing, plus a product guide, free typing tutorials and testing. Visitors can also find information on kid-sized and one-hand only keyboards.

[www.ahf-net.com](http://www.ahf-net.com)

Visitors to this site can access free demos of *REACH*, an on-screen keyboard that comes with a vast assortment of assistive technology tool,; *SoothSayer*, a word prediction software program, and *ScanBuddy*, a full screen scanning tool that allows one to quickly and easily position the mouse using one switch, two switches, or keys on the computer keyboard.

[www.synapseadaptive.com/demosite/demosite.htm](http://www.synapseadaptive.com/demosite/demosite.htm)

Anyone with a disability or who lives or works with someone with a disability will find this site especially useful. It offers free 30-day evaluations of speech recognition software including *JAWS*, *ZoomText*, *OutSpoken*, *Dolphin*, *Inspiration*, *WiVik*, *OpenBook*, and *Connect OutLoud*.

[www.colligo.us](http://www.colligo.us)

Free demos of scan and read programs for low vision and learning disabilities including dyslexia are offered. Also available is a demo of the new *Rite N Talk* software which reads handwriting back to the writer.

[www.primarymath.org](http://www.primarymath.org)

This site offers onscreen demos of math programs for students, teachers, and home-schoolers. Links to other sites with educational games are also provided.

[www.HenterMath.com](http://www.HenterMath.com)

Check out a free trial download of *Virtual Pencil* software, a math program for students who have difficulty using a pencil to perform math functions. The user must register to receive information needed for accessing the Software.

[www.PictureExpressSoftware.com](http://www.PictureExpressSoftware.com)

*Picture Express* offers an easy and inexpensive way of producing quality, contemporary picture materials. A user simply clicks on the Blue Balloon to download a free 30-day trial or to order a free trial CD. A 10% discount is offered if purchase is made after completing the trial.

## **Downloads**

[www.intellitools.com](http://www.intellitools.com)

IntelliTools offers products for students who face challenges ranging from learning disabilities to significant physical disabilities. Products include *IntelliKeys*, a programmable alternative keyboard that enables users with physical, visual or cognitive disabilities to easily type, enter numbers, navigate on-screen displays, and execute menu commands. It also includes software to help students meet standards in math and language including *IntelliPics Studio*, *IntelliMathics*, and *IntelliTalk*, a talking word processor. Visitors can download product players and activities to use with them.

[www.leithauserresearch.com/nokeys.html](http://www.leithauserresearch.com/nokeys.html)

Try *No-Keys* software, an on-screen keyboard that allows typing through a mouse, trackball, or pointing device and a scanning option. Users can try it free for 60 days. Site cautions this program is NOT for Windows XP.

[www.adders.org/freeware/](http://www.adders.org/freeware/)

This site offers free games and educational programs such as puzzle makers, word games, counting games, and dinosaur facts. It also offers utilities such as data base, drawing program, address book; categories of wallpaper for a website or classroom presentation, and a greeting card maker.

[www.trace.wisc.edu](http://www.trace.wisc.edu)

This is an information-loaded site from University of Wisconsin-Madison. Click on the *Computers* link to find information on software development and computer access, plus links to computer access resources. There are also free downloads of software toolkits, which offer accessibility options based on the disability being addressed.

[www.riverdeep.net/edmark](http://www.riverdeep.net/edmark)

At this popular site, visitors can download demos of popular software in the areas of math, science, critical thinking, language arts, and social studies for all age groups, plus links to free online activities.

[www.sunmoonusa.com/TryAI.htm](http://www.sunmoonusa.com/TryAI.htm)

Parents or teachers of younger children can download *AI Bunny's Typing Class*, a keyboarding game that introduces youngsters to the computer keyboard.

[www.beacon-ridge.com](http://www.beacon-ridge.com)

K-12 teachers will find free monthly class projects and curriculum aids on this website. It's a good resource for teachers looking for themed projects.

[www.speakingofspeech.com](http://www.speakingofspeech.com)

Teachers, support staff, and parents will find themed desktop wallpaper and calendars, tech tips and a message board, as well as links to games and downloads. The site offers a \$25 demo CD. There's also a link to download the Meriam-Webster Dictionary and Thesaurus.

[www.readplease.com](http://www.readplease.com)

Visitors can download free text to speech software for reading text and for navigating the Internet. One version of *ReadPlease* is free, the deluxe version plus *Reading Bar for Internet* is available for free for a limited time and then a serial number must be purchased. Languages other than English are available.

[www.clippix.com](http://www.clippix.com)

Teachers will find free downloadable images, some that are animated, for enhancing their school websites or to use in classroom presentations.

[www.christmasgifts.com/clipart.html](http://www.christmasgifts.com/clipart.html)

Teachers and parents will find free downloadable Christmas images for use on websites, in classroom activities, or to supplement learning at home.

[www.inclusive.co.uk/downloads/downloads.shtml](http://www.inclusive.co.uk/downloads/downloads.shtml)

This site offers free downloads of music and music games, an animated switch access program called *Talking Faces*, and a free onscreen CD player which will appeal to older students.

[www.vatc.freesevers.com/windows.html](http://www.vatc.freesevers.com/windows.html)

Visitors will find programs which assist people with disabilities in using Microsoft Windows 95/98. The site also provides links to free and low-cost products to provide computer access for people with disabilities.

[www.e-bility.com/links/software.php](http://www.e-bility.com/links/software.php)

This site offers downloads of accessibility features such as text reading and magnification for use at school or at home.

[www.webfreebees.net/software.html](http://www.webfreebees.net/software.html)

Parents and teachers will find free downloads of educational and entertainment games plus some accessibility features for enjoyment of computer games and to enable browsing.

[www.7GT.com](http://www.7GT.com)

This site offers a free software download that can be used for converting / creating PDF files, including synthesized speech.

[www.gamco.com](http://www.gamco.com)

Visitors can request a free demo CD or download demos from this site. The site includes educational software for students and tools for teachers related to assessment and creating curriculum aids.

[www.talk-to-me.net](http://www.talk-to-me.net)

Teachers and parents can download a trial version of talking software that provides different screen characters to choose from, appropriate for any age.

[www.tichnut.de/quikinfo](http://www.tichnut.de/quikinfo)

This site offers free downloads of games plus an icon reader program for students or adults who are visually impaired.

[www.arts-letters.com](http://www.arts-letters.com)

Visitors can get a free download of *Arts & Letters EXPRESS*, which offers freehand drawing tools, clip art, templates and fonts for creating fundamental art. The program also includes advanced desktop publishing tools for creating increasingly sophisticated artwork.

[www.newbreedsoftware.com](http://www.newbreedsoftware.com)

Parents and teachers can download open source games and activities including arcade and educational games for use in the classroom or at home.

[www.cs.uu.nl/~markov/kids/](http://www.cs.uu.nl/~markov/kids/)

Visitors can download games and activities which include a game maker, drawing tools, beginning programming skills, and animation.

## **Early Learning**

[www.kidsdomain.com](http://www.kidsdomain.com)

Parents and teachers will find educational games to play online plus games and activities that they can download for free.

[www.adaptedstories.com](http://www.adaptedstories.com)

This site is geared toward teachers and parents of young children. To download stories, there is a license fee of \$100 each, but there are some freebies on the site such as storytime tricks, tips for parents on adapting books, and downloads of IntelliPics player and activities to use with it.

[www.priorywoods.middlesbrough.sch.uk](http://www.priorywoods.middlesbrough.sch.uk)

Another site for teachers offers online games or downloads of teacher tools. Go to the KIDS ONLY link for more activities; *Senswitcher* is a complete teaching package for children who are learning to operate a computer with switches and it's FREE.

[www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/funandgames/](http://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/funandgames/)

Parents and preschool teachers will appreciate these online learning games for little children including nursery rhymes and the TeleTubbies.

[www.edmark.com](http://www.edmark.com)

Teachers will find online educational activities. First click on *Students*, then click on *Puzzles and Games* to find a variety of activities for all ages.

[www.kidsmartearlylearning.org](http://www.kidsmartearlylearning.org)

This is a multi language site with separate sections for parents and teachers. There is information about using technology in the home and in the classroom, including how to use it, how to include it in the daily routine, and how to ensure accessibility for all children.

[www.literacycenter.net](http://www.literacycenter.net)

This multi language site is full of basic literacy curriculums, including letters, shapes, numbers, colors, and spelling.

### **English Language Learners**

[www.topics-mag.com](http://www.topics-mag.com)

This is actually an online magazine with topics of interest to those learning English or those helping them learn. It is suitable for a variety of ages.

[www.diccionarios.com](http://www.diccionarios.com)

This online dictionary allows the user to search several languages, including Spanish.

[www.pdictionary.com/spanish](http://www.pdictionary.com/spanish)

Teachers and students will enjoy this picture dictionary with games, activities, and self-tests.

[www.onlinetrans.com](http://www.onlinetrans.com)

Anyone can type in a word to get a translation in many languages. This is useful for translating into English or from English into a different language.

[www.aulaclit.org/sql/f\\_sql.htm](http://www.aulaclit.org/sql/f_sql.htm)

This site offers computer training program in Spanish. The program is useful for students learning how to use a computer, but can also be used in computer training centers to help adults learn to use the computer and gain skills for searching and obtaining jobs.

[www.gcfaprendagratis.org/es/main/community.asp](http://www.gcfaprendagratis.org/es/main/community.asp)

An online career and computer training program in both Spanish and English, this can be used in schools and in adult training programs to prepare participants for job searches and to provide job skills.

[www.freetranslation.com](http://www.freetranslation.com)

Schools, businesses, and individuals can use this website to translate text or websites. There is no cost to use the site.

[www.translation2.paralink.com](http://www.translation2.paralink.com)

Schools, businesses, and individuals can use this site to translate text or websites at no cost to the user.

[www.systranbox.com](http://www.systranbox.com) or [www.systranet.com](http://www.systranet.com)

Businesses can use this website to translate the content of their websites or to help users translate any website.

[www.manolo.net](http://www.manolo.net)

This is a Spanish language website on Assistive Technology. Lots of information is provided but it is not current (last update 2003).

[ctc.aspira.org/Toolkits\\_span.html](http://ctc.aspira.org/Toolkits_span.html)

This site offers a Spanish language curriculum on computer operation, internet, e-mail, web page design, and Microsoft programs, plus games to play.

[www.jwor.com](http://www.jwor.com)

Teachers and access a free reading assessment in English and Spanish. A *Language Tune-up Kit* is available for purchase at \$149.00.

## **Information**

[www.ataccess.org](http://www.ataccess.org)

The Alliance for Technology Access (ATA) is a network of community-based Resource Centers, Developers, Vendors, and Associates dedicated to providing information and support services to children and adults with disabilities, and increasing their use of standard, assistive, and information technologies

[www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/kids/default.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/kids/default.htm)

This site offers activities for children of every age to help them become aware of disabilities.

[www.fctd.info](http://www.fctd.info)

The **F**amily **C**enter on **T**echnology and **D**isabilities offers a resource library, newsletter, links to other resources, professional training, and reviews of disability resources in print or online.

[www.washington.edu/doiit](http://www.washington.edu/doiit) -

This site offers links to many different resources related to disabilities and technology. The information is suitable for consumers as well as professionals.



[www.schwablearning.org](http://www.schwablearning.org)

Parents and teachers can find information on learning disabilities plus interviews, newsletters, resources, and links to other parents. The site includes a Spanish version of all the information.

[www.pluk.org](http://www.pluk.org)

This is the official website of **P**arents **L**et's **U**nite for **K**ids. It offers disability resources and information and a regularly published newsletter.

[www.ease.ocps.net](http://www.ease.ocps.net)

ESE stands for **E**xceptional **S**tudent **E**ducation. The site offers newsletters, parent support, information and support for IEPs, and links to other information.

[www.assistivetech.net](http://www.assistivetech.net)

Visitors will find links to Assistive Technology sites, including vendors of assistive technology products.

[www.rit.edu/~easi/itd.html](http://www.rit.edu/~easi/itd.html)

This site includes links to online training on accessible technology, including adaptive devices and software and web accessibility.

[www.teacherweb.com](http://www.teacherweb.com)

This site provides information on how to create a website for teachers to communicate with students, parents, and other teachers.

[www.abilitynet.org.uk/content/factsheets/Factsheets-list.htm](http://www.abilitynet.org.uk/content/factsheets/Factsheets-list.htm)

Visitors will find fact sheets on accessibility issues, assistive technology, funding, communication, and the Microsoft Windows accessibility pack.

[www.atstar.org/at\\_daily\\_living.htm](http://www.atstar.org/at_daily_living.htm)

This website offers information on technology to help with daily living and controlling the environment plus links to information on terminology, legislation, and funding.

[www.treehouses.org](http://www.treehouses.org)

This is the website of a nonprofit organization that designs and builds accessible tree houses for children with disabilities.

[www.premier-programming.com](http://www.premier-programming.com)

Visitors to this site will find information on products for vision, cognitive, mobility, and learning challenges, plus information related to literacy and English language learners. Free trials and a demo CD are available.

[www.c-cad.org](http://www.c-cad.org)

Center for **C**omputer **A**ssistance to the **D**isabled provides evaluation, information, referrals, and training concerning adaptive technology for computer access and other disability related products.

[www.surpluscdrom.com](http://www.surpluscdrom.com)

Teachers and parents can find educational software at discount prices.

[www.suelebeau.com](http://www.suelebeau.com)

This is a resource site with links for kids and teachers on technology, reading, writing, science, math, and seasonal activities, plus a section just for parents.

[www.easi.cc/consult](http://www.easi.cc/consult)

Visitors will find information on consulting services for technology related to disabilities. The site also offers access to archived educational webcasts related to technology and disabilities.

[www.rit.edu/~easi/itd.htm](http://www.rit.edu/~easi/itd.htm)

**E**qual **A**ccess to **S**oftware and **I**nformation is an organization with resources related to information technology and disabilities.

## **Literacy**

[www.nifl.gov/lincs/about/about.html](http://www.nifl.gov/lincs/about/about.html)

This site offers information on adult and family literacy plus literacy kits and other professional resources.

[www.learningladder.org/fccp/front.htm](http://www.learningladder.org/fccp/front.htm)

Teachers will find reading and writing curriculums. They must sign up to obtain a password but there is no cost.

[www.bartleby.com](http://www.bartleby.com)

Students can read books online. The site offers mostly classic works and reference materials.

[www.digital.library.upenn.edu/books/index.html](http://www.digital.library.upenn.edu/books/index.html)

Anyone can download books from this site. Over 20,000 titles are available.

[www.gigglepoetry.com](http://www.gigglepoetry.com)

Kids can learn to read and write poems, enter poetry contests, and learn about the poets. The site offers activities for teachers, also.

[www.childrenstory.com/tales/index.html](http://www.childrenstory.com/tales/index.html)

Parents, teachers, or children can read classic fairy tales from this website. The site offers an option to have the stories read aloud.

[www.underthesun.cc/Classics](http://www.underthesun.cc/Classics)

Students can find information to cite as research but there are no downloads available. The font on this site can be changed in size or style to accommodate any vision difficulties.

[www.freeology.com/graphicorgs/](http://www.freeology.com/graphicorgs/)

This site offers tools to help educators teach reading and writing.

[www.readingmadeeasy.com](http://www.readingmadeeasy.com)

Teachers and disability professionals can find demos of reading software and a complete suite of products that address reading, writing, and information transfer needs for individuals with visual, cognitive, and mobility challenges.

[www.infomotions.com/alex/](http://www.infomotions.com/alex/)

*Alex Catalogue of Electronic Texts* is a collection of public domain documents from American and English literature as well as Western philosophy that can be downloaded at no charge.

[www.kidpad.org](http://www.kidpad.org)

Children's authoring software is offered as a free download for teachers and parents.

[www.myfreesoftware.com/pro/typetutor.htm](http://www.myfreesoftware.com/pro/typetutor.htm)

Schools and parents will find free typing software to order although there is a charge for shipping.

[www.mindplay.com](http://www.mindplay.com)

Teachers will find a free reading assessment at this site. There are also games and demos to download for free.

[sunsite.berkeley.edu/OMACL/](http://sunsite.berkeley.edu/OMACL/)

This website offers free onscreen access to text of medieval and classical literature through its online library.

[www.dltk-teach.com](http://www.dltk-teach.com)

Parents and teachers will find mini-books to create plus activities to incorporate when reading favorite children's books.

[www.janbrett.com](http://www.janbrett.com)

This website offers printable literacy activities and classroom helpers including alphabet, math, seasonal, recipes, and calendars.

[www.mit.edu/storyfun/list](http://www.mit.edu/storyfun/list)

Visitors will find *Mad Libs* on this website. Users choose a topic, fill in the blanks, then submit to read a funny story. The activities are suitable for all ages.

## **Practice Tests**

[www.testprepreview.com/cbest\\_practice.htm](http://www.testprepreview.com/cbest_practice.htm)

This website provides practice tests for all subject areas at several different skill levels. Students of all ages can take the tests online and receive a “grade”, all at no charge.

[www.eduplace.com/kids/mhm/](http://www.eduplace.com/kids/mhm/)

Students in grades 1-6 can take math tests online at no charge. They will get a “grade” and an evaluation of their mistakes. The site also includes test-taking tips and a “brain teaser” section.

[www.lkwdpl.org/gr4test/reading6.htm](http://www.lkwdpl.org/gr4test/reading6.htm)

This site offers an evaluation of reading skills related to comprehension and vocabulary at the 6<sup>th</sup> grade level.

[www.doyourmath.com/all\\_tests.asp](http://www.doyourmath.com/all_tests.asp)

Students of all ages can test their math abilities at all levels including calculus. Online testing is free and students receive an evaluation of their score.

[www.4tests.com](http://www.4tests.com)

High school students and adults preparing for college exams can take practice tests including ACT, SAT, and IT tests for certification. Adults returning for a GED can take practice tests to prepare them for their GED exams.

[www.number2.com/index.htm](http://www.number2.com/index.htm)

This site offers tutorials and information about testing related to college entrance exams and certification tests.

[www.ets.org/prep.html](http://www.ets.org/prep.html)

High school students preparing for college entrance exams, education and technology students preparing for certification testing, and students of English as a foreign language can take practice tests online.

## **Vision Related**

[www.underthesun.cc/Classics](http://www.underthesun.cc/Classics)

Visitors search for information to cite as research although it cannot be downloaded. The font can be changed in size or style to accommodate any visual impairment.

[www.afb.org/accessworld](http://www.afb.org/accessworld)

**American Foundation for the Blind** offers this free Web publication, published every other month. Visitors can access current issues by clicking the issue date in the upper left corner or find back issues in the upper right corner of the screen.

[www.freebsoft.org/projects](http://www.freebsoft.org/projects)

Free downloads of software are available for vision impaired individuals. A website management tool is included.

[www.wssb.org](http://www.wssb.org)

**Washington State School for the Blind** offers free downloads of educational software for teachers, parents, and students.

[www.blindsoftware.com](http://www.blindsoftware.com)

This site offers free trial demos of many programs. *Funk in the Trunk* is a free full-version download of a virtual car stereo, which teens will love.

[www.gamesfortheblind.com](http://www.gamesfortheblind.com)

Visitors can download free 15-day demos of gaming software such as blackjack, free cell, memory, and word plays. Each software product is available for sale at \$20.00 or less.

[www.low-vision.org/electronic-aids.html](http://www.low-vision.org/electronic-aids.html)

This site offers descriptions of software and hardware products available to aid people with low vision, including voice recognition software, scanning, and text-to-speech programs.

[www.filesland.com/download/low-vision.html](http://www.filesland.com/download/low-vision.html)

Visitors can download the *Key2Speak* program which reads anything typed on the keyboard. The cost is \$19.95.

[www.allaboutvision.com/lowvision/computers.htm](http://www.allaboutvision.com/lowvision/computers.htm)

Visitors will find descriptions of low-vision aids including magnifiers and voice recognition software.

[www.freedomscientific.com](http://www.freedomscientific.com)

This site offers a free demo of *MAGic 9.0*, a screen magnification program.