

The Assistive Technology Continuum

Devices to try if a student has problems with

Tasks

reading
writing
spelling / grammar
communication
worksheet completion
math
mapping
note-taking
organization / planning
learning another language

Needs

faster work
legible, understandable work
comprehension
same work as everyone else
modified, shortened, parallel work
visual / graphic / auditory presentations
independent work
fine motor practice
sharing of knowledge
correct grammar / spelling

Environments

classroom
resource / study hall
therapy
home
community

Problems



Success

Independence

Low Tech Tools

specialized pens / pencils / crayons / markers / grips
specialized erasers, correction tapes
raised line paper, grid paper, colored papers
highlighters, highlighter tapes
color coding
Post-It notes, flags, arrows
colored filters, page overlays (clear acetate sheets)
NCR paper
reading / writing guides
slanted surfaces, dycem, copy holder
white board, markers, crayons
magnetic letters, tactile letters
magnifiers
rubber stamps, labels
specialized measuring and cutting tools

Mid Tech Tools

tape recorders
digital recorders
calculators
spell checker, dictionary / thesaurus (talking)
dedicated word processor
electronic organizer
audio books
music (tapes / CDs)
electronic eraser, stapler
mini-book lights
switch operated toys and appliances

High Tech Tools

alternative keyboard / alternative cursor control
word processing
word prediction
brainstorming, graphic organization
spell checker, grammar checker
word banks (on-screen, overlays)
text readers
on-screen math, computer calculators
communication devices / software
internet access
CD reference (maps, encyclopedias)
CAI
environmental control devices