



# Exploring LD and Assistive Technology

Sam Peters & Carolyn Phillips, Tools for Life

*With contributions from Christopher Lee, Liz Persaud & Ben Jacobs & Ben Satterfield*

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

*For Handouts: <http://www.gatfl.gatech.edu/tflwiki>*

IDA 2016

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





# Welcome to the Assistive Technology Revolution!

The world around us is evolving at an astounding rate. Assistive Technology developments have been foundational in this evolution and a catalyst for producing positive life-changing results for individuals with disabilities.

This session will take a closer look at:

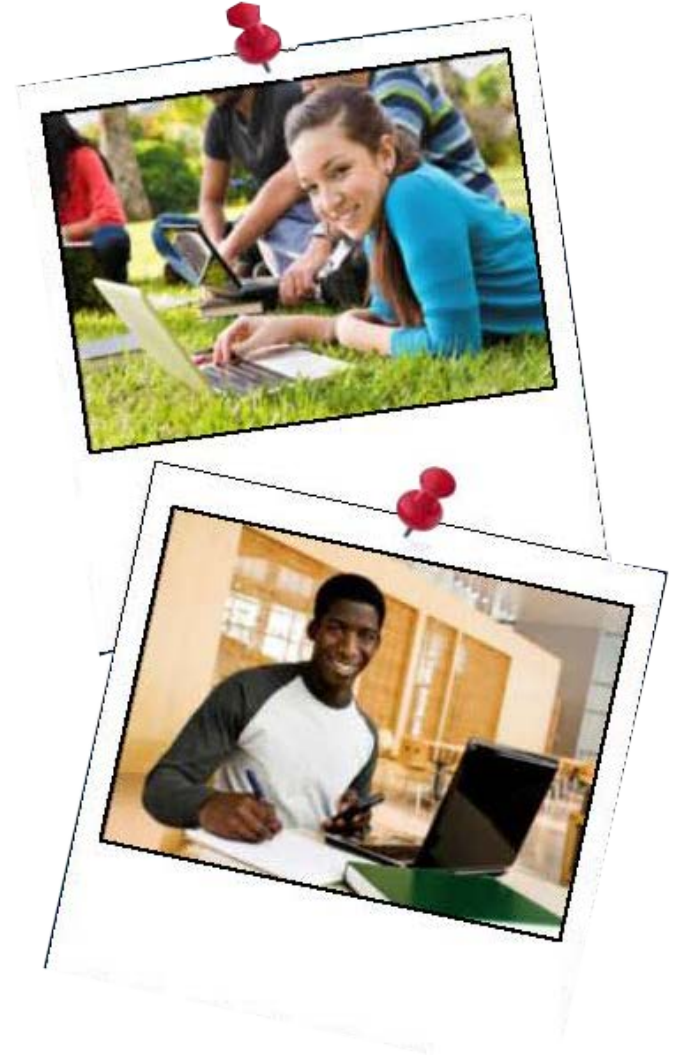
- AMAC | Tools for Life – AT Act Program
  - Advocacy & Knowing Your Rights
  - Making and LD Evaluation Your Action Plan
  - Understanding Assistive Technology
  - Using “Low/Light Tech” to inform “Mid/High Tech Solutions”
  - 5 Trends to Watch
  - where we are and perhaps, where we are going.
- ...all in 60 minutes!

For Handouts: <http://www.gatfl.gatech.edu/tflwiki>



# AMAC

AMAC Accessibility is a social change organization on a mission to create affordable services for governmental, private and non-profits organization working with individuals with disabilities. Services include e-text, braille, captioning, assistive technology, office management software and consulting.





# Accessibility Made Smart

AMAC creates practical solutions that work, with a focus on utility, ease of use, and high quality.

- **Accessibility Consulting** focuses on organizational accessibility needs with evaluation, technical assistance, customer support, and website accessibility solutions.
- **Braille Services** produces customized projects from both print materials and electronic text including partial books and chapters or graphics only using cutting-edge technology.
- **Captioning Services** makes classrooms, meetings, labs and other audio environments fully accessible for deaf or hard-of-hearing.
- **Professional E-Text Producers** provide high-quality e-text in many formats such as PDF, DOC, DAISY, and HTML.
- **Certified Assistive Technology team** provides on-site and remote assessments, demonstrations, training and technical assistance for education, work, and daily living environments.

For more information, please visit our website at [www.amacusg.org](http://www.amacusg.org)

# TFL AppFinder



**Georgia Tech TOOLS for LIFE**  
Georgia's Assistive Technology Act Program

HOME ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY TFL NETWORK CALENDAR OF EVENTS   Search our Site  Go

TRAINING  
FUNDING  
PUBLICATIONS  
TFL WIKI  
MEET THE TFL TEAM  
MEET THE ADVISORY COUNCIL  
DIRECTIONS/MAP  
JOIN OUR MAILING LIST  
SCHEDULE A TOUR

Welcome AT Services Try AT Get AT AT Guides Research

## Learn More about AT through Hands-On Demonstrations

• • • • •

**Welcome to Tools for Life**

Tools for Life, Georgia's Assistive Technology Act Program, is dedicated to increasing access to and acquisition of assistive technology (AT) devices and services for Georgians of all ages and disabilities so they can live, learn, work and play independently and with greater freedom in communities of their choice.

Tools for Life and the TFL Network work collaboratively together to accomplish our mission through:

**IDEAS CONFERENCE**

**JUN 2** Epworth by the Sea, St Simons Island

**WEBINARS**

**MAY 28** [Georgia's Leadership Model for Increasing Accessible ICT in State Government](#)

**JUN 25** [Learn More and Do More: Exploring Accessibility and Apps for Android](#)

**JUL 30** [Position for Work: A Closer Look at Workplace Accommodations & Assessments](#)

- Current Webinar Schedule
- Webinar Archives

**TOOLS FOR LIFE APPFINDER**



...for Living, Learning, Working, and Playing.

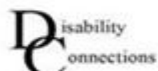
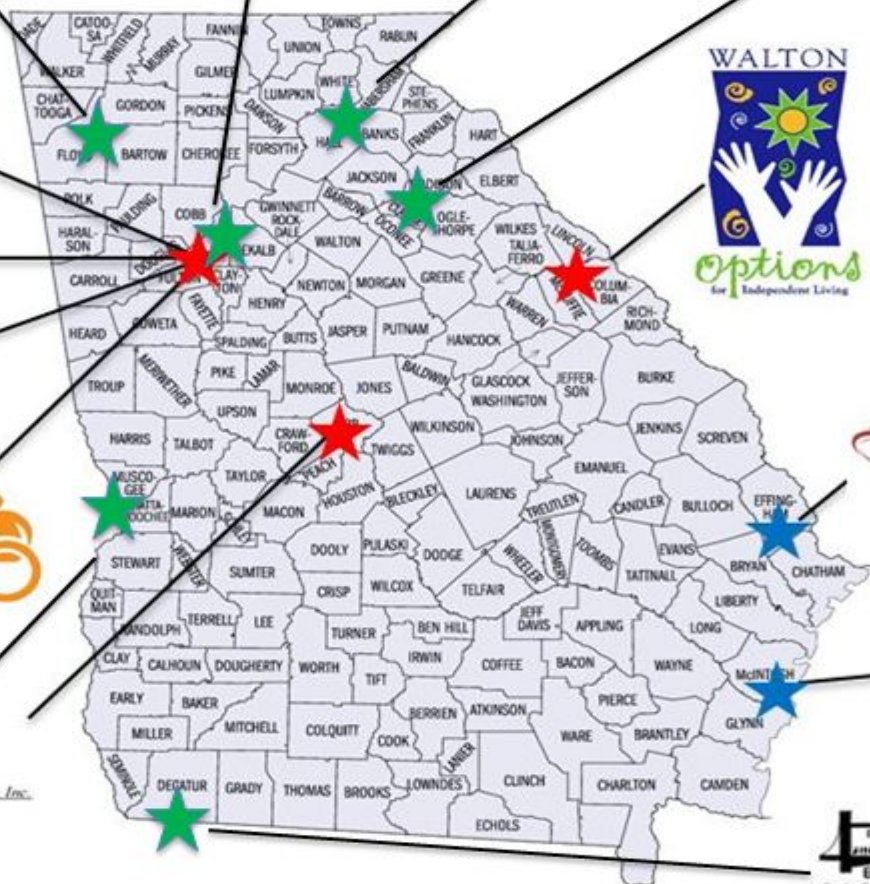
**AT ONLINE EXCHANGE**







# The TFL Network is Growing!



The Middle Georgia Center for Independent Living, Inc.



# AT Acquisition!

- Tools for Life endeavors to break down the barriers which prevent individuals with disabilities, their families, and service providers from acquiring and effectively using Assistive Technologies to gain greater independence.
- To insure that AT products are available to Georgians with disabilities
- Eliminate Funding Barriers





# Join us for Webinars and Visit our Archives!

## Tools for Life Online Professional Development

- Tools for Life offers online professional development to help you learn more about assistive technology strategies and solutions as well as the most recent information on AT devices and disability related issues and trends.
- Webinar content and materials are developed and presented by one of the Tools for Life team members along with other regional and national leaders in the assistive technology community.
- To join the TFL mailing list to receive our email announcements, visit [www.gatfl.gatech.edu](http://www.gatfl.gatech.edu)



# Why Assistive Technology?

- For a person without a disability, technology makes things easier....
- For a person with a disability, technology makes things possible.
- **TIP: USE AT. I have yet to meet a successful student with disabilities who doesn't use Any AT.**



# Future

- Level out the playing field
- The Future is Contextual
  - GPS apps
  - Ads on Internet
  - Smart watches
  - Social Media





# What is an AT Service?

## Assistive Technology Services

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

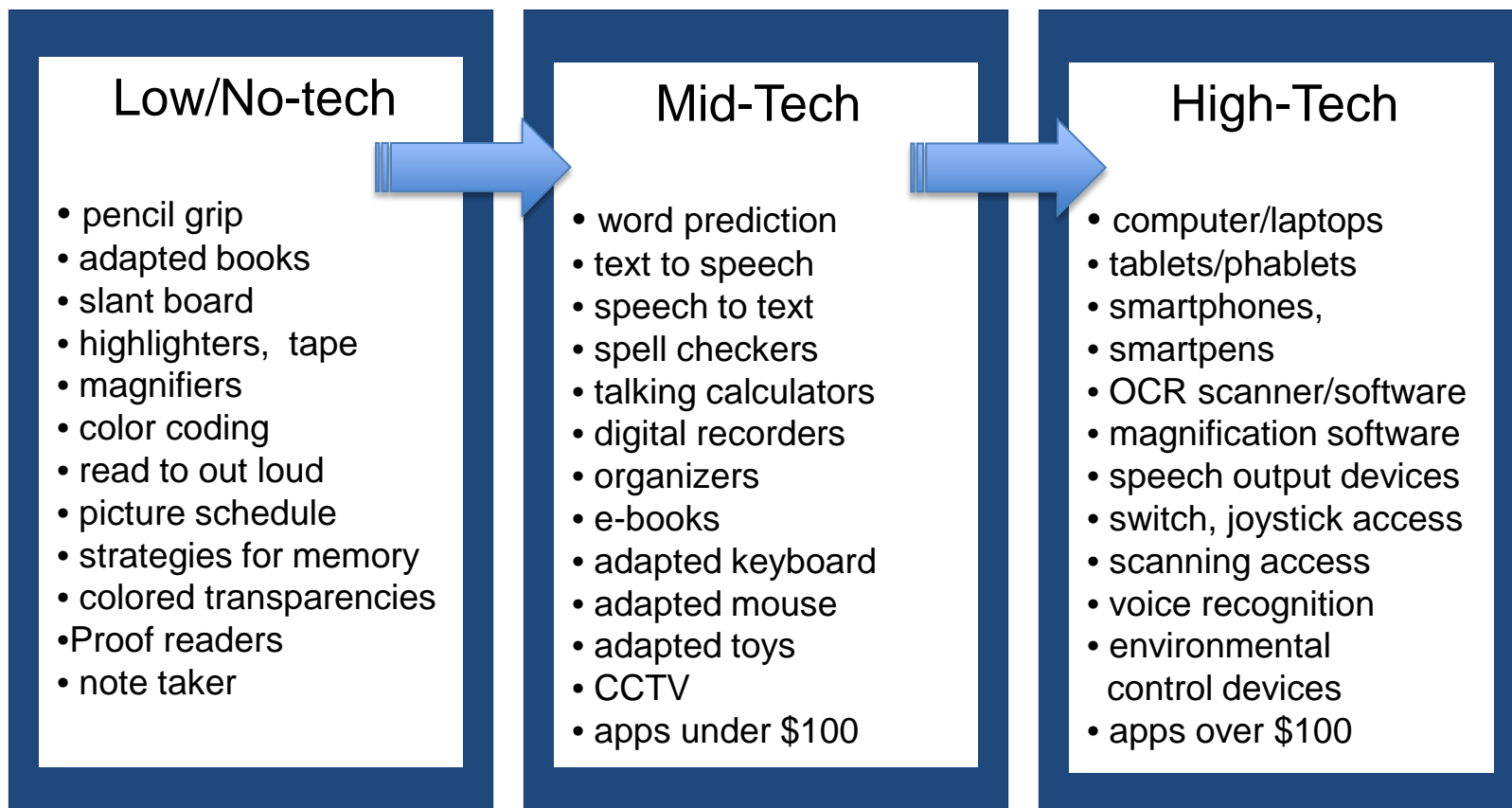
Includes:

- Evaluating
- Providing devices
- Selecting, Designing, Customizing
- Maintaining, Repairing
- Coordinating
- Training/Technical Assistance –student, family and school service providers

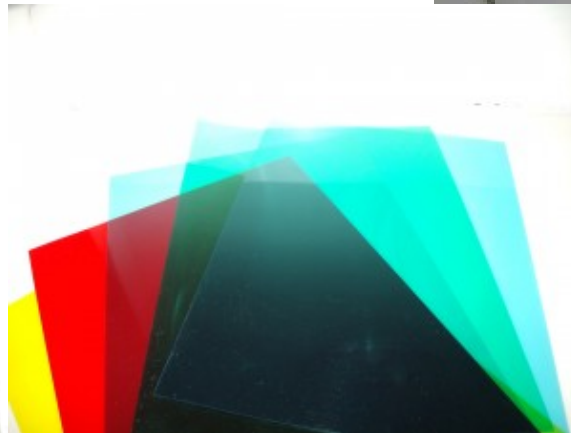
- Public Law 105-394 [29 USC 2201]

## Observations & “Hanging out with Intent”

Assistive Technology is a **continuum of tools, strategies, and services** that match a person’s needs, abilities and tasks.



# Low Tech AT Solutions





# Low Tech Solutions

## Writing Solutions:



- “The Penagain takes a novel ergonomic approach to ink pen design. The body of the pen is shaped like a "Y" creating a cradle for the index finger to rest in.”

<http://ergonomics.about.com/od/buyingguide/fr/frpenagain.htm>



- Wide barrel pens can make it easier for some people to write due to their contoured shape. With a Fat Ergonomic Pen there's more surface area to grip which makes it easier to write.

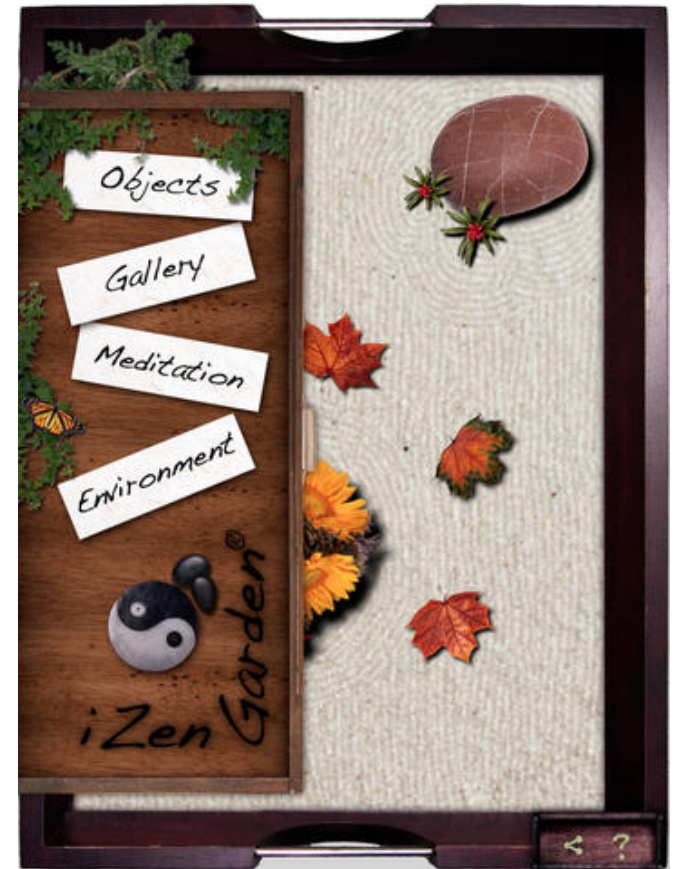


# Low Tech Solutions

- Built up grips
  - Variety
  - Create your own using tennis balls
- Larger / thicker pencils
- Electronic Spellers
  - Franklin Spellers



# Considering No/Low Tech to High Tech



# Live Scribe Pen

- Records what it hears and what you write
- Uses specific paper for playback
- Connects to computer by USB for saving
- Tap on note and playback from there
- Jump forward and back in notes
- Dictionary
- Translation Apps
- Purchase Apps online
- [Demo](#)





# Moving from Information to Action

## **Evaluations for Learning Disabilities**

- ☐ One to one assessment
- ☐ Comprehensive battery of tests
- ☐ Detailed report with recommendations for support in work and/or learning
  
- What did You learn in your LD Evaluation?
- Moving from Information to Action
  - Using your Evaluation results as an Action Plan for AT





# Moving from Information to an AT Action Plan

## Auditory Processing Disorder (APD)

- “Also known as Central Auditory Processing Disorder, this is a condition that adversely affects how sound that travels unimpeded through the ear is processed or interpreted by the brain. Individuals with **APD do not recognize subtle differences between sounds in words, even when the sounds are loud and clear enough to be heard.** They can also find it difficult to tell where sounds are coming from, to make sense of the order of sounds, or to block out competing background noises.”
- What does this information tell us regarding our AT Action Plan?



# Moving from Information to an AT Action Plan

## **Dyscalculia**

- “A specific learning disability that affects a person’s ability to understand numbers and learn math facts.
- Individuals with this type of LD may also have:
  - poor comprehension of math symbols,
  - may struggle with memorizing and organizing numbers,
  - have difficulty telling time, or
  - have trouble with counting.”
- What does this information tell us regarding our AT Action Plan?

<http://ldaamerica.org/types-of-learning-disabilities/>



# Moving from Information to an AT Action Plan

## Dysgraphia

- “A specific learning disability that affects a person’s handwriting ability and fine motor skills.
- Problems may include illegible:
  - handwriting,
  - inconsistent spacing,
  - poor spatial planning on paper,
  - poor spelling, and
  - difficulty composing writing as well as thinking and writing at the same time.”
- What does this information tell us regarding our AT Action Plan?  
<http://ldaamerica.org/types-of-learning-disabilities/>



# Moving from Information to an AT Action Plan

## Dyslexia

- A specific learning disability that affects reading and related language-based processing skills. Dyslexia is sometimes referred to as a Language-Based Learning Disability.
- The severity can differ in each individual but can affect:
  - reading
  - fluency,
  - decoding,
  - reading comprehension,
  - recall,
  - writing,
  - spelling, and
  - sometimes speech and can exist along with other related disorders.
- What does this information tell us regarding our AT Action Plan? <http://ldaamerica.org/types-of-learning-disabilities/>



# Moving from Information to an AT Action Plan

## **Visual Perceptual/Visual Motor Deficit**

- A disorder that affects the understanding of information that a person sees, or the ability to draw or copy. A characteristic seen in people with learning disabilities such as Dysgraphia or Non-verbal LD, it can result in:
  - missing subtle differences in shapes or printed letters,
  - losing place frequently,
  - struggles with cutting,
  - holding pencil too tightly, or
  - poor eye/hand coordination.
- What does this information tell us regarding our AT Action Plan?



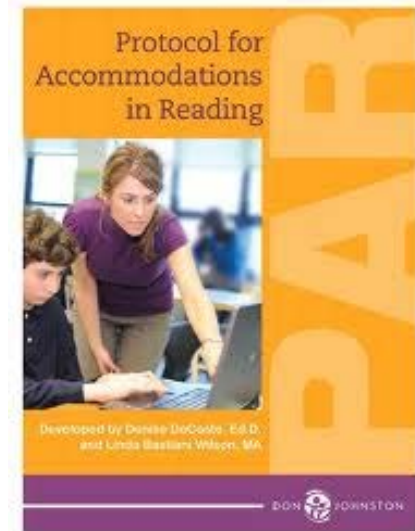


# Moving from Information to an AT Action Plan

- What does this information tell us regarding our AT Action Plan?
- Avoid the temptation of a “cookie-cutter approach”
- Customize approach – No 2 individuals are the same. We all have different strengths and Abilities to build upon.

# PAR: Protocol for Accommodations for Reading

- Don Johnston
- Assist with accommodations for reading
- 3 Steps
  - 1) Student's Oral Reading
  - 2) Adult Reader
  - 3) Text Reader
- How did the student like?
- Help with adding in AT for reading solutions





# The “FAST” Track

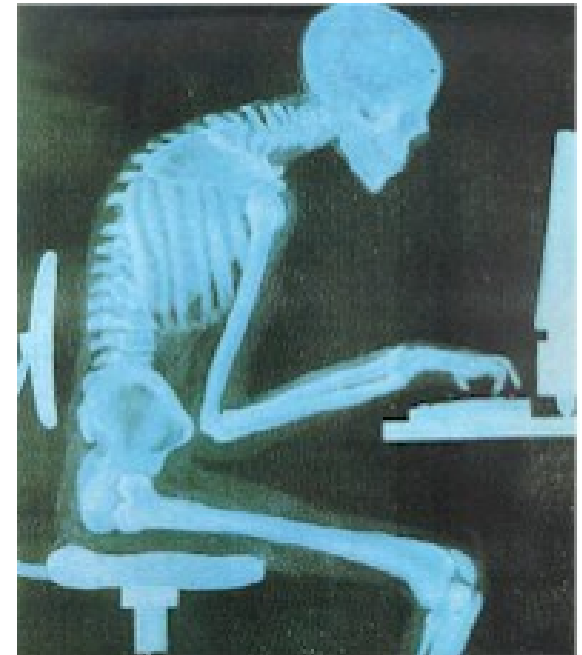
- **Frustration**
- **Anxiety**
- **Stress**
- **Tension**

# Human Activity Technology (HAAT) Model

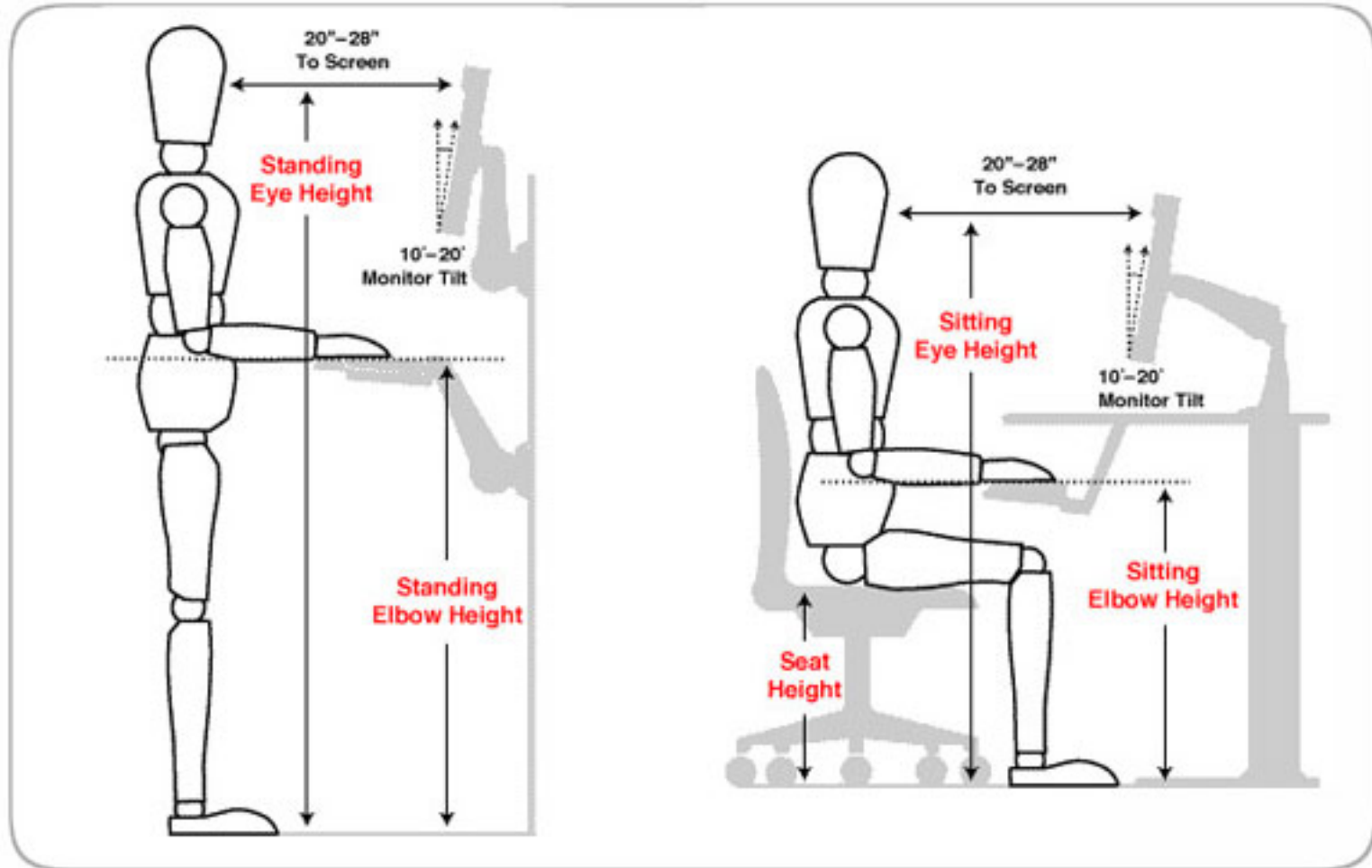
- Human: represents the skills and abilities of the person with a disability
- Activity: a set of tasks to be performed by the person with a disability
- Context: the setting or social, cultural and physical contexts that surround the environment in which the activity must be completed
- Assistive Technology: devices or strategies used to bridge the gap between the person's abilities and the demands of the environment

# Ergonomics

- Inhibits blood flow
- Creates muscle shortening
- Stresses back muscles and compresses spine
- Can inhibit learning
- Compresses diaphragm
  - Affects breathing
  - Voice quality



# Ergonomics in the Classroom





# Lumo Lift

- Lumo for back and head/shoulders
- Sends gentle vibration alert when posture needs to be corrected



# Know Your Tablets

# Microsoft Surface

- Windows 10
- Slim and has a USB port
- Moveable Tiles
- Built-in Accessibility
  - Speech-to-text
  - Narrator
  - Magnifier
  - High contrast
- Thin pressure sensitive cover that doubles as a keyboard
- Starts at \$499



# Samsung Galaxy Tab 4



- Android System
- 7, 8, 10, 12 or 18" in screen
- Camera
- Micro card
- Wi-Fi
- USB for computer
- Some built-in accessibility app
  - Download others
- Starts at \$149.99

# Apple iPad Pro/Air/Mini

- Multi - touch screen
- Smart Keyboard with iPad Pro
- New iOS 9
- Millions of apps
- Surf web
- iTunes
- HD Video
- Organization
- Accessibility
- Books
- Photos
- Speakers
- 5.0 megapixel camera



# Built-in Accessibility Features

- VoiceOver
- Zoom
- Large Text
- Invert Colors
- Speak Selection
- Speak Auto Text
- Mono Audio
- Assistive Touch
- Guided Access
- Home-Click Speed
- Switch Access
- Braille Displays



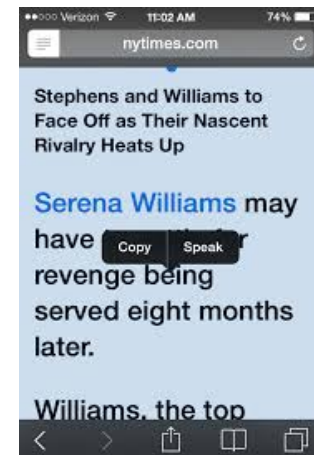


# Creating Keyboard Shortcuts

- Go to General => Keyboard and make sure Shortcut is turned on
- Go to Add New Shortcut
- Put in your Phrase
- Create Short Cut
- Example:
  - Phrase : Martha E. Rust, MS CRC ATP
  - Shortcut is: MER
  - So when MER is typed it will put in the above Phrase
  - OMW => On My Way!

# Apple: Read Text Out Loud

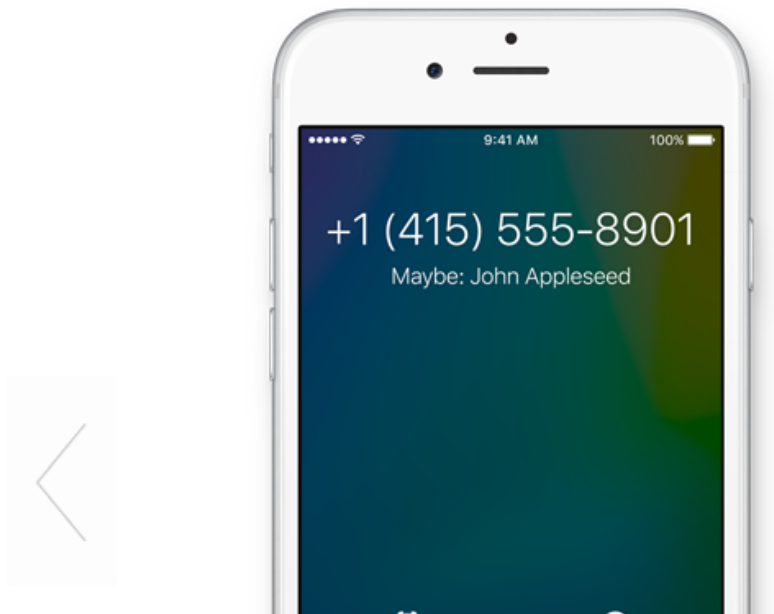
- Open the Settings app on your home screen.
- Tap the General tab.
- Scroll down and tap the Accessibility tab.
- Tap the Speak Selection option (it should be set to off, currently).
- Tap the toggle switch to turn it on. You
  - can also adjust the rate of speech as well.
- Highlight any text like you would if you were going to copy it but tap the "Speak" button instead.
  - This option will change to "Pause" while the text is being spoken so you can stop it at any point.
- Can choose to highlight as it reads



# iOS 9 More Powerful Siri

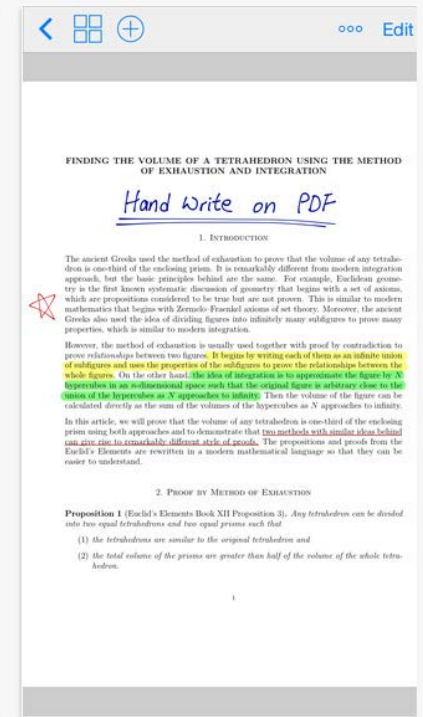
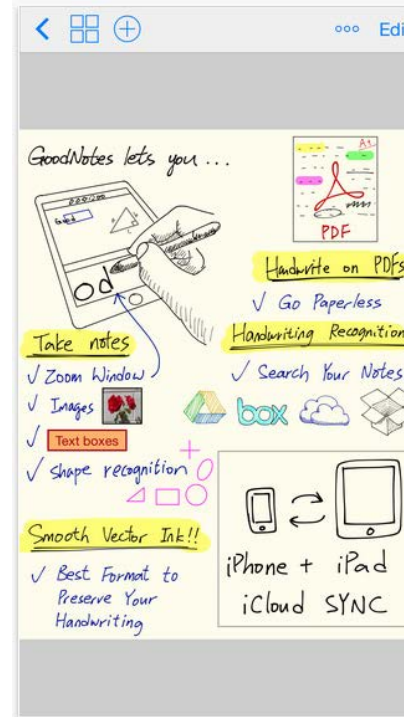
Meet your proactive assistant.

Based on the apps you commonly use and the time of day you use them, you'll get intelligent suggestions for what you might want to do next — even before you ask.



# GoodNotes 4 - Notes & PDF

- Handwriting & text
- Handwriting recognition to clipboard
- Search handwritten notes
- Insert images, draw perfect shapes, and PDF
- docs inside a notebook
- Annotate PDFs
- Zoom window for handwriting to shrink
- Variety of paper types
- Folder organization
- Backup documents to Dropbox, Box, Google Drive
- \$7.99

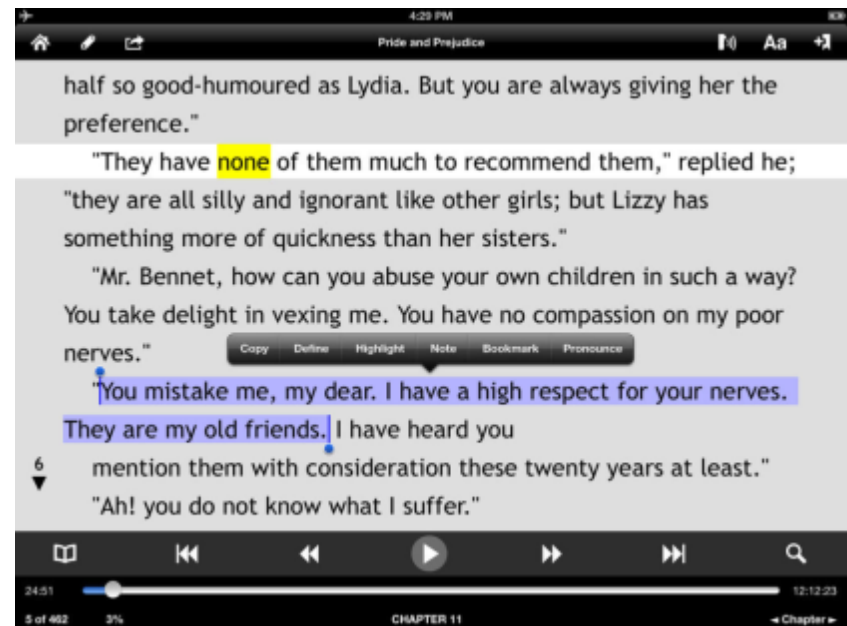




# Voice Dream

- Text to Speech
- Highlights as it reads
- Import
  - Bookshare
  - Dropbox
  - Gutenberg
  - Word Doc
  - PDFs
- Buy different voices
- Change rate of speed

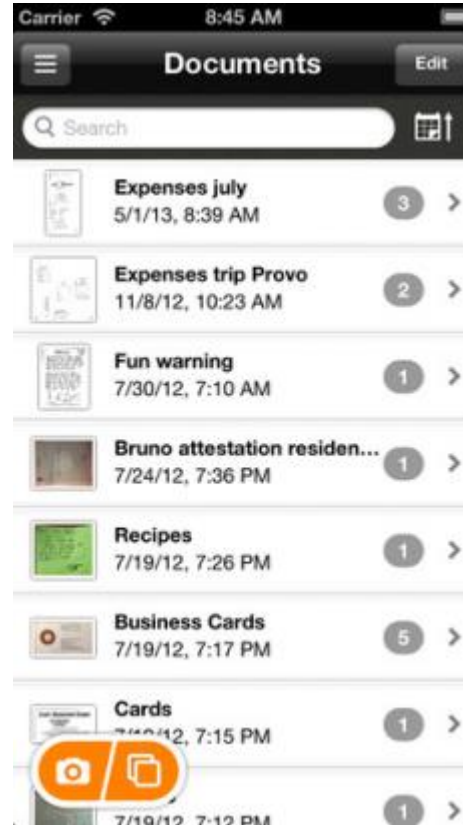
- Download for later reading
- \$9.99



# Genius Scan



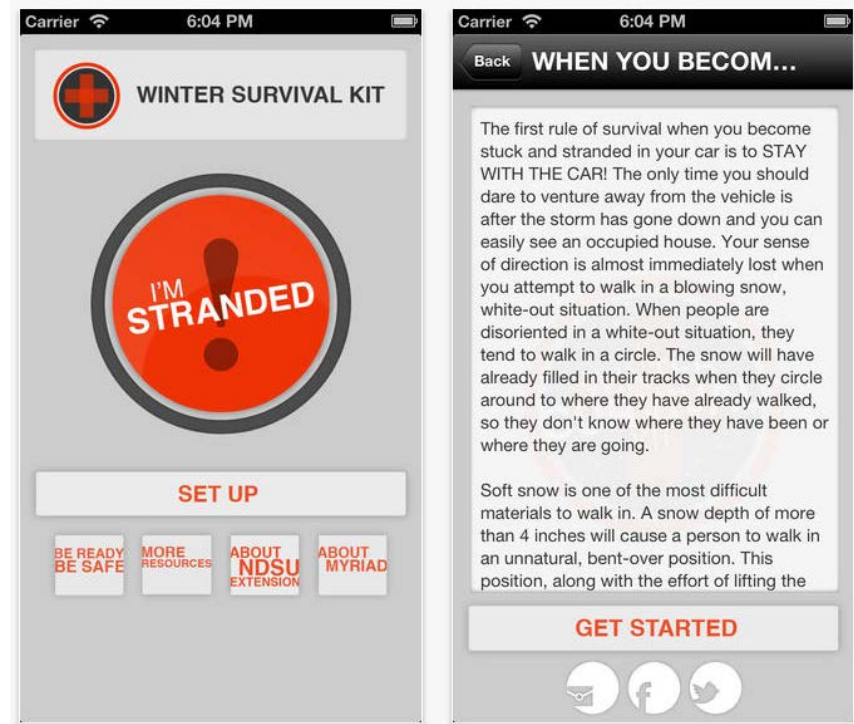
- Scan documents or handwritten notes
- Email the scans as JPEG or PDF
- Free
- Genius Scan Plus (\$2.99) allows upload to Dropbox, Skydrive or Evernote



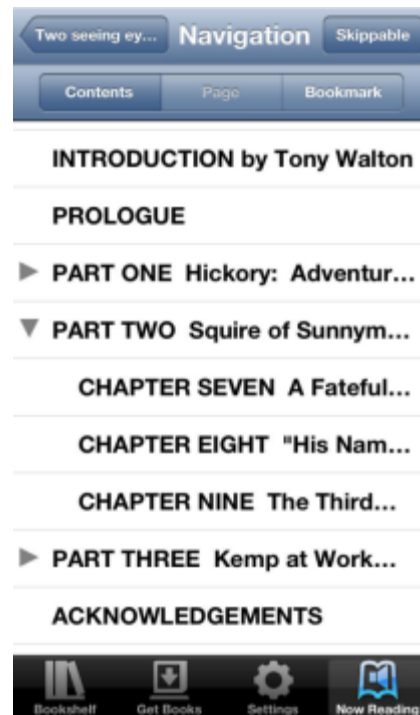


# Winter Survival Kit

- help you find your current location
- call 911
- notify your friends and family
- calculate how long you can run your engine to keep warm and stay safe from carbon monoxide poisoning
- alert you every 30 minutes to remind you to periodically turn off your engine and to check your exhaust pipe for snow buildup



# BARD Mobile



- Access directly to the National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (NLS)
- Must be registered
- Settings
- Can use with braille display
- <http://www.loc.gov/nls/find.html>
- Free



# Refurbished Tablets

- If you do not need the latest and greatest consider an older models for a discount
- Want to make sure that refurbish tablets have been certified
- Look for at least 1 year warranty
- Many places now sell
  - Apple
  - BestBuy
  - Amazon



# Microsoft: Trade-in Your Ipad

Save some  
**green**



Trade in old devices or games  
for a Microsoft Store gift card

Find a Microsoft Store near you

 Enter a city and state or postal code

## Don't throw away free money. Trade in before you upgrade.

To get started, simply bring your laptop, tablet, phone or games to your local Microsoft retail store and check out our competitive trade-in program. If your device or game has value, we'll provide you with a Microsoft retail store credit so you can trade up to the latest device or hottest game titles.\* If it doesn't have value, we will wipe it of all data and safely recycle it for you. It's fast, easy, and free of charge.



# Microsoft Surface

## Compare Surface Models

If you're looking for

If you're looking to:

Screen size and weight



### Surface Book

Starting at  
\$1,499.00

[Shop now >](#)

The most powerful Surface laptop to handle any task.

Experience all the activities on a Surface Pro 4 and Surface 3 plus:

- Shoot video and edit in Premiere Pro with amazing fluidity and smoothness
- With a discreet GPU, run professional-grade software—Adobe Creative Cloud, AutoCAD, or Visual Studio—without compromise

13.5" 3.34 lbs (1516g)  
PixelSense™  
Resolution: 3000 x 2000



### Surface Pro 4

Starting at  
\$799.00

[Shop now >](#)

The perfect balance of size and power for working on the go.

- Run desktop software just like a laptop
- Stream music and movies
- Write and draw directly on your screen
- Organize and enhance photos
- Make music with professional grade apps
- 3D modeling with Auto Cad (i7 models only)

12.3" 1.73 lbs (786g)  
PixelSense™  
Resolution: 2736 x 1824



### Surface 3

Starting at  
\$499.00

[Save \\$150 >](#)

The smallest and most compact member of the Surface family

- Run desktop software just like a laptop
- Stream music and movies
- Write and draw directly on your screen

10.8" 1.37 lbs  
Full HD Display  
Resolution: 1920 x 1280



# Surface – Ease of Access

## Ease of Access options for Surface

- **Narrator:** This tool reads the text on your screen aloud. For more info, see [Hear text read aloud with Narrator](#).
- **Magnifier:** This tool enlarges your screen or parts of it to make words and images easier to see.
- **High contrast:** This option lets you use a high-contrast theme that makes items easier to read on your Surface. Here's how to use a high-contrast theme:
  - Under **Choose a theme**, select a high-contrast theme, select a color for the text or background, and select **Apply**.
- **Closed captions:** This tool lets you control fonts and other features related to closed captions.
- **Keyboard:** This tool lets you control your Surface by using a touch keyboard.
- **Mouse:** This option lets you change the size and color of the mouse pointer and use the numeric keypad to control the mouse.
- **Other options:** These options make your Surface easier to use.
  - **Play animations in Windows:** To see animations whenever you open and switch apps, select **On**.
  - **Show Windows background:** To see a background image instead of a black background on the Desktop, select **On**.
  - **Show notifications for:** If notifications appear and disappear too quickly, choose a time (5, 7, 15, or 30 seconds; 1 or 5 minutes) to change how long they're visible.
  - **Cursor thickness:** If the curser is too hard to see, you can change its thickness.
  - **Show visual feedback when I touch the screen:** To see a gray animation wherever you touch the screen, select **On**.
  - **Use darker, larger visual feedback (ideal for presentations):** To see a larger, darker animation wherever you touch the screen, select **On**.



# Speech Recognition

Windows

Windows 10

Devices

Apps+games

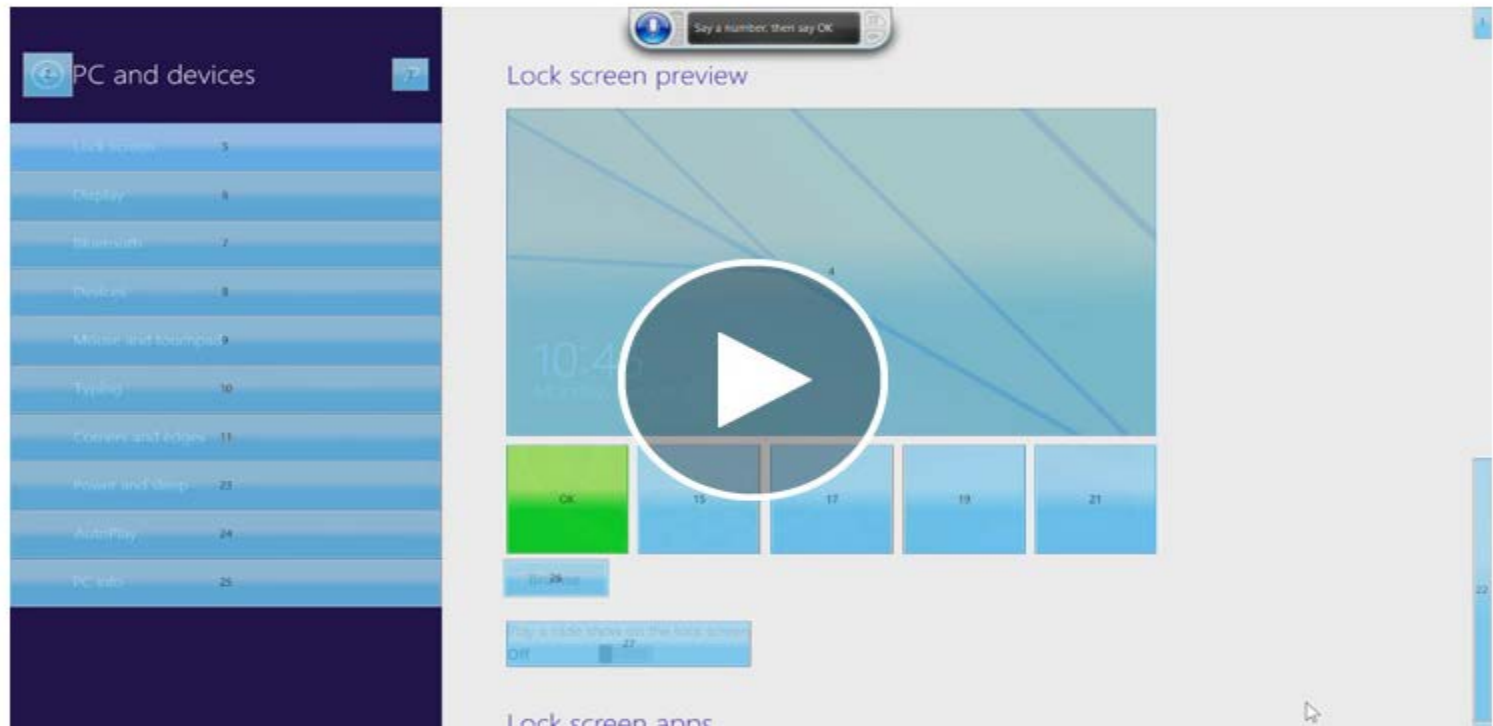
Downloads

How-to

Great things

Windows 10 Windows 10 Mobile Previous versions

## How to use Speech Recognition



PC and devices

- Lock screen
- Display
- Mouse and touchpad
- Typing
- Connect to a network
- Power and sleep
- AutoPlay
- PC info

Lock screen preview

10:41 AM

OK 15 17 19 21

23 25

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# Microsoft Apps

## Apps for Windows

There are thousands of education apps in the Windows marketplace, from early learning games to study aids and even apps that will help you manage the classroom, with more available every day.



[Guide: Top 100 education apps by subject and grade](#)



[Find education apps for Windows](#)

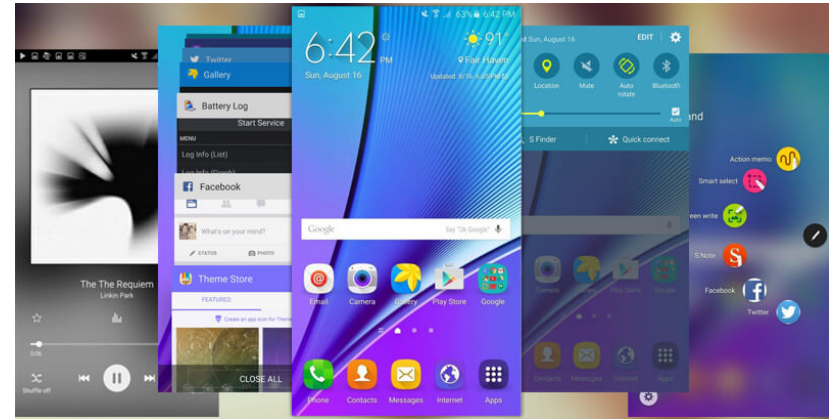


# Surface Resources

- <http://www.microsoft.com/surface/en-us/support/personalization-and-ease-of-access/ease-of-access-features>

# The World's Most Popular Mobile OS

- Android powers over 1,675,450,000 phones and tablets around the world. 355,000 Android phones are activated daily.
- It's customizable, yet easy to use, and since it's made by Google, it works seamlessly with all your favorite Google apps.





# Smartphone Users Pick Android

79% of People Use Android  
Smartphones

14.2% of People Use iPhones

6.8% Use Other Smartphones

# Samsung Galaxy Tab S2



- 8.0 or 9.7 inch Super AMOLED screen
- 5.6 mm thin, 265-392 grams
- 8 Megapixel Rear Facing Camera, 2.1 Megapixel Front Facing
- Quick Connect and Sidesync allow for easily connecting to other devices.
- \$399 - \$449



# Samsung Galaxy Note 5

- S-pen is a built in stylus that allows you to easily access your phone in an intuitive way.
- Wireless charging is built in! Place the device on a charge pad, just grab and go!
- Camera allows video to be recorded in 4K Ultra High Definition
- Ultra Power Saving Mode
- \$696 off contract





# Kindle Fire HD/HDX Features

- Download Books and Movies
- Access to Amazon
- Front Facing Camera
  - Skype
- Can Read Books out loud
  - If book has this feature enabled
  - Check on product details page
  - Whispersync for Voice
  - Immersion Reading
- Mayday Button
- Can Change:
  - Font
  - Line Spacing
  - Text Size
  - Background color

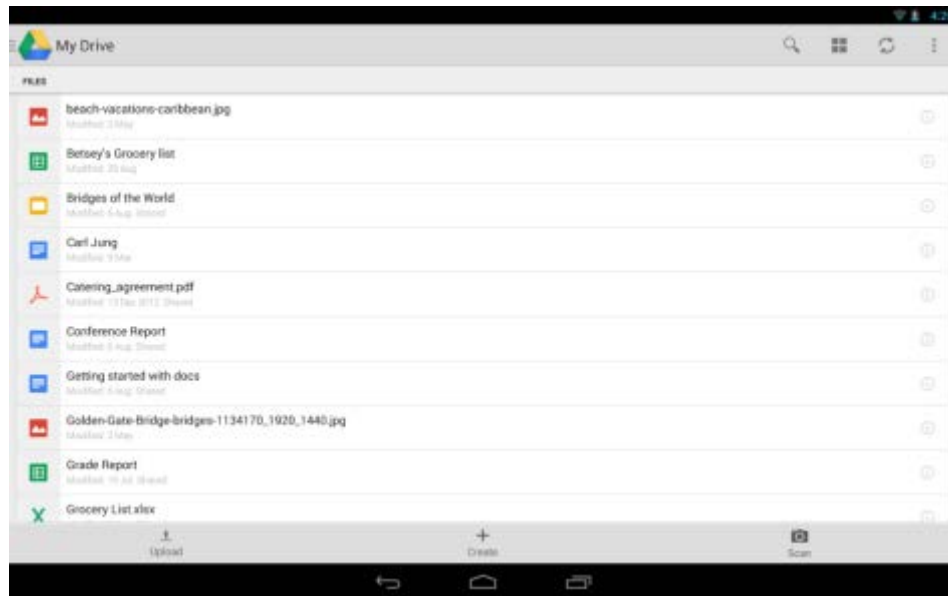


# Easy Mode

- In Settings under Home Screen Mode
- Has three home screens
- The main home screen has non removable widgets for the time, date, and weather. You will also find six apps to choose from that have much larger icons
- The left home screen is dedicated to calling
  - Can select up to nine contacts
- The right home screen includes 9 apps that you can customize to whatever you want
- Still have an app drawer
  - All apps are spelled out and in alphabetical order.
- The settings menu and camera interface is also simplified



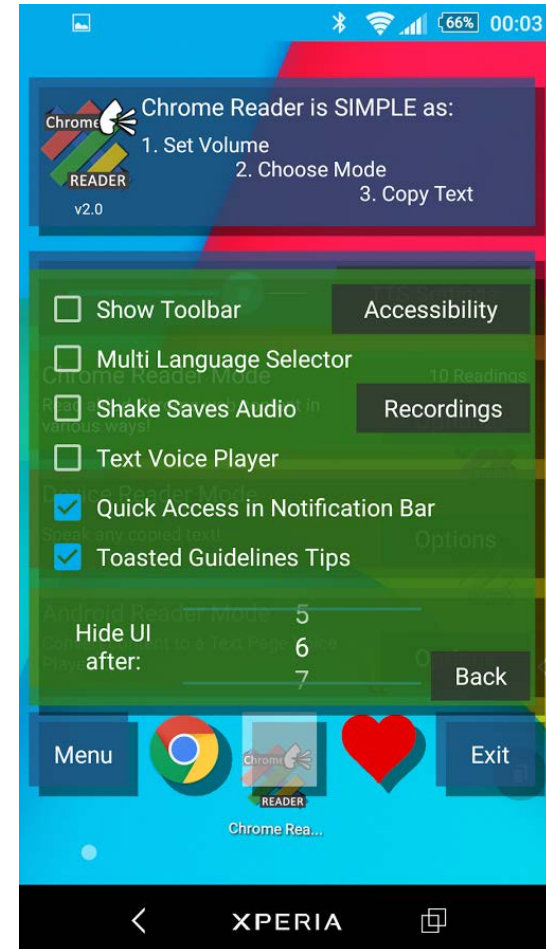
# Google Drive



- Upload photos, videos, documents, and other files and access wherever you go
- Share photos and files
- Make files available off-line
- Scan documents with device camera
- Up to 15 GB of storage
- Free

# Browser Reader for Chrome

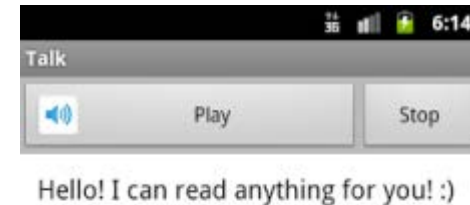
- Open Google Chrome Browser
- Copy any text from the webpage
- Put your device down and listen
- Shake device to stop the voice reading and save it as audio content.
- Highlight the text and press the 'select all' button which is left to the 'cut', 'copy' & 'paste' buttons and then copy the text to read the whole webpage





# Talk Text to Voice

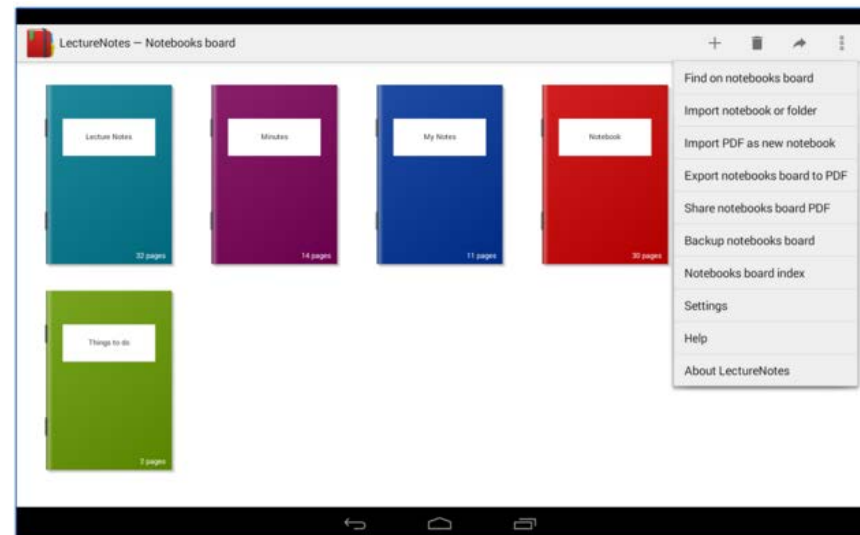
- Convert text to voice using the Text-to-speech engine on your smartphone
- Allows importing web pages directly from the browser to listen to them
- Can also import selected text from other apps





# LectureNotes

- handwriting on the screen, in particular with a stylus
- Free trial; \$3.59
- Created for the college student
- Create notebooks
- Share
- Import videos



# Resources

- <http://www.android.com/about/>
- [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Android \(operating system\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Android_(operating_system))
- [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Android version history](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Android_version_history)
- <http://www.google.com/landing/now/#whatisit>
- <http://www.statista.com/topics/876/android/>
- [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Google Play](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Google_Play)
- <http://getvera.com/controllers/veralite/>
- <http://www.google.com/glass/start/>



# RealPad

- Ready to use out of the box
  - Toolbar with large graphics
  - Light weight
  - 16gb of storage
  - Rear and Front facing camera
  - \$99 with 1 year warranty
- Free 24/7 Customer Services



# Mobile Tablets/ eReaders

- What do I need?
- Does it read out loud?
- Do I need Apps?
- Change colors?
- Change line spacing?
- Textbooks?
- Fun Reading?





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# Tools for Life AppFinder

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# TFL AppFinder

**Search by:**

✓ **App Name**

✓ **Categories**

- Book
- Education
- Environmental Adaptations
- Hearing
- Cognition, Learning, Developmental
- Navigation
- Personal Care and Safety
- Productivity
- Communication
- Therapeutic Aids
- Vision





# TFL Gaming Initiative

- There are many benefits to playing games
  - Improved Hand/Eye coordination
  - Increased problem solving and cognitive function
  - Better handle stressful environments
  - Social outlet
- Tools for Life has recognized the importance of play and is starting an initiative dedicated to gaming with disabilities. Some objectives of the program are:
  - Demonstrate the accessibility of gaming
  - Build relationships with developers and aid in creating more accessible games
  - Increase public awareness of the importance of accessibility in games

# Pixie

- Maps all of the digital things in your life
- Place a pixie chip on any device and map will tell you it's precise location
- <https://www.getpixie.com/>

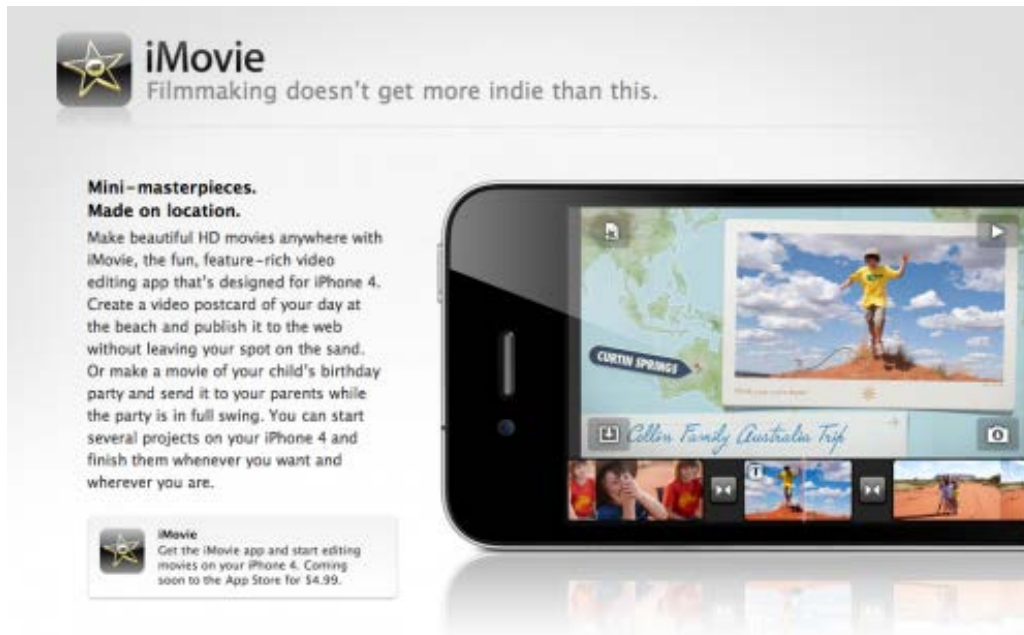


# iBeacon Technology

- Estimote Beacons
  - Wireless sensors that attached to any location or object
  - Broadcasts radio signals to smartphone
  - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lwnmx-5mBLM>







**iMovie**  
Filmmaking doesn't get more indie than this.

**Mini-masterpieces. Made on location.**  
Make beautiful HD movies anywhere with iMovie, the fun, feature-rich video editing app that's designed for iPhone 4. Create a video postcard of your day at the beach and publish it to the web without leaving your spot on the sand. Or make a movie of your child's birthday party and send it to your parents while the party is in full swing. You can start several projects on your iPhone 4 and finish them whenever you want and wherever you are.

**iMovie**  
Get the iMovie app and start editing movies on your iPhone 4. Coming soon to the App Store for \$4.99.

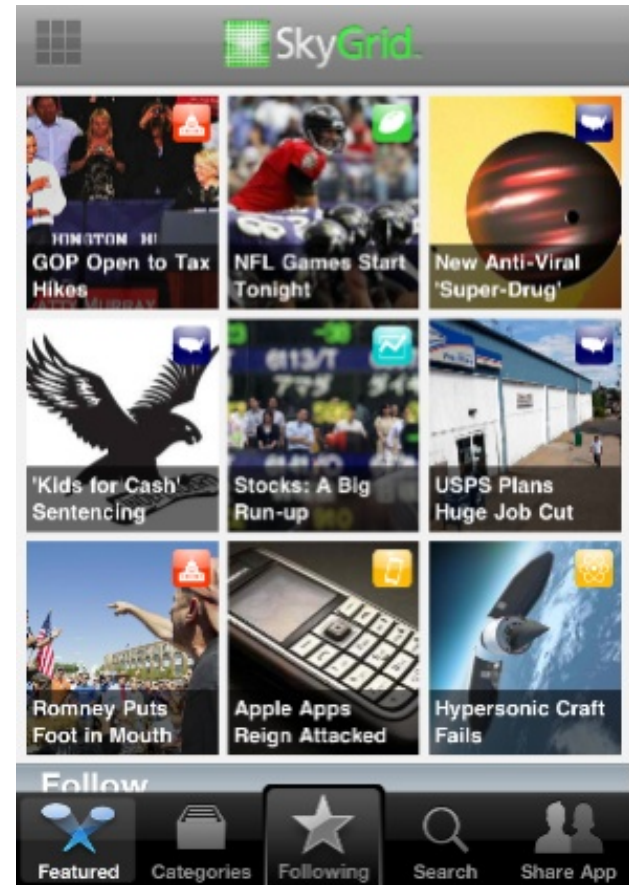
The screenshot shows the iMovie app interface on an iPhone 4. It displays a map of Australia with a location marker for 'CURTIN SPRINGS'. The main video preview shows a person in a yellow shirt standing on a rock. Below the preview is a timeline with several video clips. The title 'Cotton Family Australia Trip' is visible at the bottom of the preview area.

- Share information via Facebook, Twitter, Email, or SMS
- Upload photos

# SkyGrid



- Personalize news events by categories
- Simple interface
- Free
- [www.skygrid.com](http://www.skygrid.com)



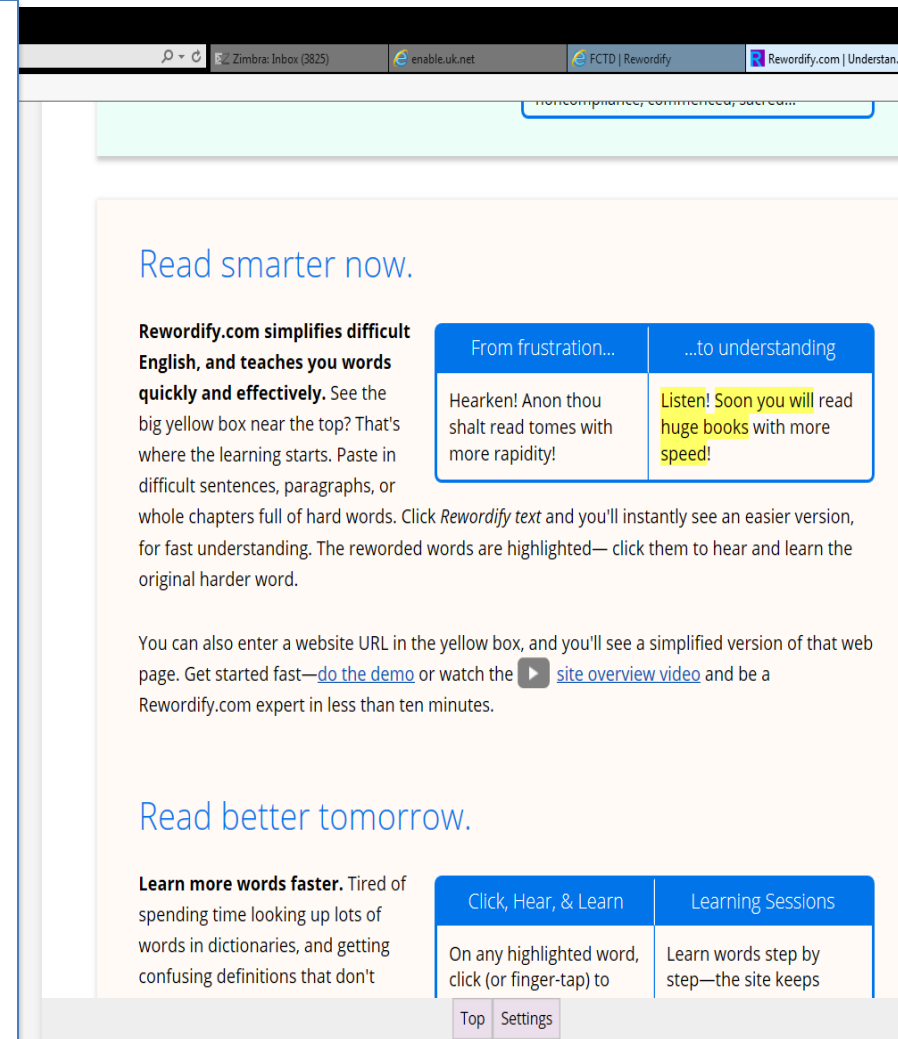


- Choose from 100s of objects, plants and creatures to place in your garden
- Rake the sand and share your creations
- Helps you to center your mind, relax your psyche and relieve your stress

# Rewordify.com

“Rewordify is a free website that makes English easier to read. In some ways it is similar to a thesaurus, but allows users to enter not just single words, but entire sentences, pages, and even websites, for clarification. Passages are preferred, as difficult words are 'rewordified' using the context of the sentence. For example, paste in "The tempest raged outside while the throng huddled inside.", and it is 'rewordified' into, "the storm raged outside while the crowd huddled inside.”

Students can use this tool to make passages more understandable. Simplified words are highlighted for quick comparison with the original word(s).”



The screenshot shows the Rewordify.com website. At the top, there's a navigation bar with links like 'Zimbra: Inbox (3825)', 'enable.uk.net', 'FCTD | Rewordify', and 'Rewordify.com | Understand...'. Below this is a search bar. The main content area has a heading 'Read smarter now.' followed by a paragraph explaining the tool's purpose: 'Rewordify.com simplifies difficult English, and teaches you words quickly and effectively.' It includes a table comparing 'From frustration...' with '...to understanding' using the example sentence 'Hearken! Anon thou shalt read tomes with more rapidity!' vs 'Listen! Soon you will read huge books with more speed!'. Below this, it says 'You can also enter a website URL in the yellow box, and you'll see a simplified version of that web page. Get started fast—do the demo or watch the site overview video and be a Rewordify.com expert in less than ten minutes.' The bottom section is titled 'Read better tomorrow.' and includes a table for 'Click, Hear, & Learn' vs 'Learning Sessions'. At the very bottom, there are 'Top' and 'Settings' buttons.

**Read smarter now.**

Rewordify.com simplifies difficult English, and teaches you words quickly and effectively. See the big yellow box near the top? That's where the learning starts. Paste in difficult sentences, paragraphs, or whole chapters full of hard words. Click *Rewordify text* and you'll instantly see an easier version, for fast understanding. The reworded words are highlighted—click them to hear and learn the original harder word.

From frustration...	...to understanding
Hearken! Anon thou shalt read tomes with more rapidity!	Listen! Soon you will read huge books with more speed!

You can also enter a website URL in the yellow box, and you'll see a simplified version of that web page. Get started fast—[do the demo](#) or watch the [site overview video](#) and be a Rewordify.com expert in less than ten minutes.

**Read better tomorrow.**

Learn more words faster. Tired of spending time looking up lots of words in dictionaries, and getting confusing definitions that don't

Click, Hear, & Learn	Learning Sessions
On any highlighted word, click (or finger-tap) to	Learn words step by step—the site keeps

Top Settings

# Victor Reader Stream (new generation)

- Handheld media player by Humanware
- Plays DAISY books, MP3, MP4, EPUB
- Records voice and media
- Two built-in, human-sounding voices
- Built-in wireless networking capability
- \$369



# Reading Pens

- Scans text,
- Hear it spoken aloud
- Obtains definitions and correct pronunciation within seconds
- Variety of types
  - Wizcom
  - C-Pen Reader
  - IRISPen
  - PenPower
  - Video Touch Pen by MoralRegion





# AnyBook Anywhere

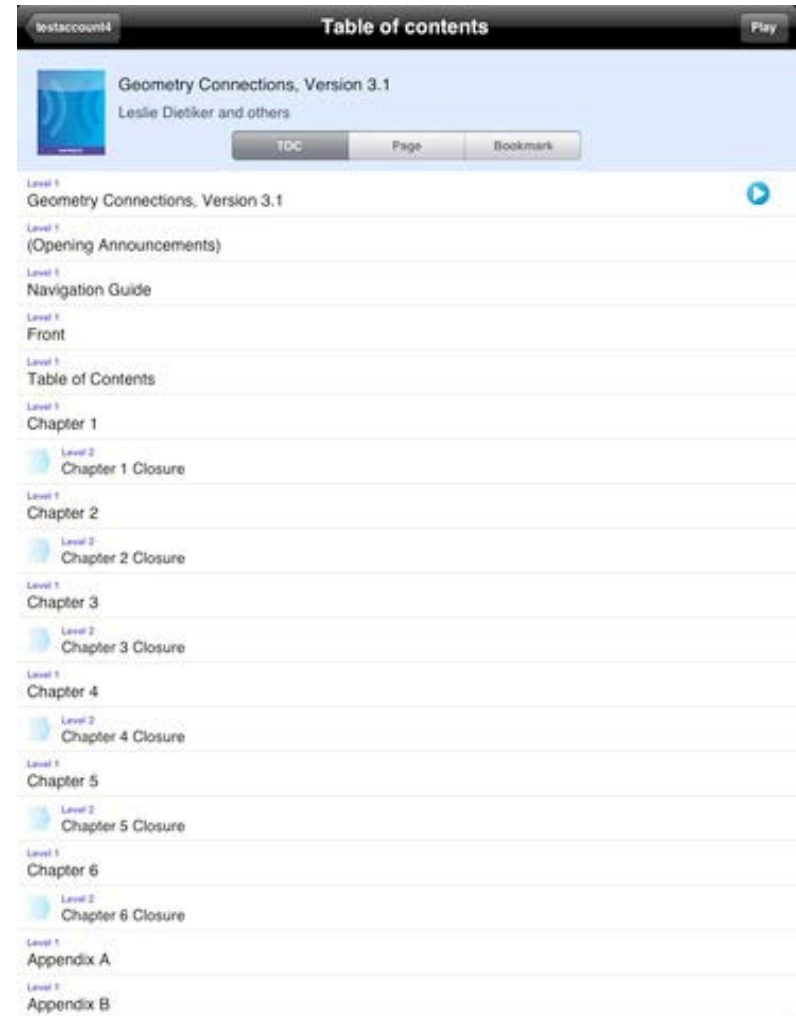
- Use to record your voice reading the story
- 200 hours of recording
- Works with any book
- Store recordings on a virtual library
- Share collections with friends
- \$49.99
- Amazon.com





# Learning Ally

- Learning Ally
  - [DAISY](#)
  - Membership required
  - over 75,000 audiobooks, audio textbooks, and other recorded books
  - Free Trial



testaccount4 Table of contents Play

Geometry Connections, Version 3.1  
Leslie Dietiker and others

TDC Page Bookmark

Level 1  
Geometry Connections, Version 3.1

Level 1  
(Opening Announcements)

Level 1  
Navigation Guide

Level 1  
Front

Level 1  
Table of Contents

Level 1  
Chapter 1

Level 2  
Chapter 1 Closure

Level 1  
Chapter 2

Level 2  
Chapter 2 Closure

Level 1  
Chapter 3

Level 2  
Chapter 3 Closure

Level 1  
Chapter 4

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Chapter 4 Closure

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Chapter 5

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Chapter 5 Closure

Level 1  
Chapter 6

Level 2  
Chapter 6 Closure

Level 1  
Appendix A

Level 1  
Appendix B

# Bookshare

- Online Accessible Library
- Free membership to qualified students and schools
  - Textbooks if school is member
- 389,675 titles
- Serves individuals with:
  - Vision disabilities
  - Physical disabilities
  - Learning disabilities

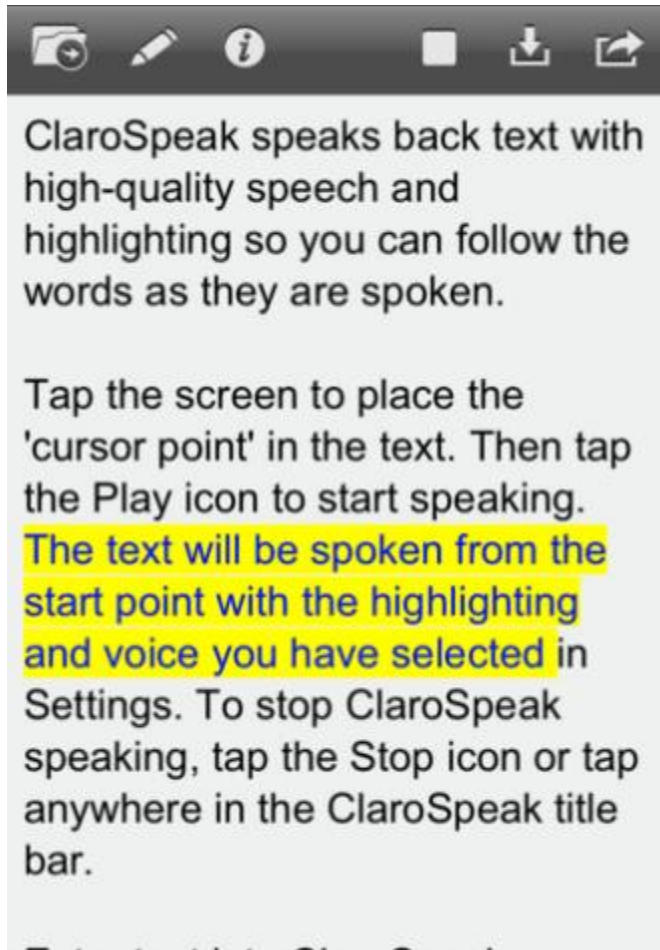


# Audible.com

- Digital audiobooks
- Read by Hollywood stars, authors, and professional narrators
- Listen anywhere
- Over 180,000 titles
- Membership
  - \$14.95/ month for one book



# ClaroSpeak US



- Text-to-Speech
  - import documents and PDFs into ClaroSpeak from apps such as Mail, or import PDF, Word, Pages and other files directly from Dropbox using
- Change font and color
- Save text as an audio file
- Visual Tracking
- Send Text

# ClaroRead

- Reads text as it highlights
- Moveable tool bar
- Can read doc, PDFs, internet, and more
- 7.0
  - Add audio notes
  - Save as mp3 file
  - Save as video
- Can change highlighting colors
- [www.claroread.com](http://www.claroread.com)



# Kurzweil 3000

- Text-to-Speech software
- Helps improve reading speed and comprehension
- Note taking capabilities
  - Different color highlighters
- firefly
  - Access many features of Kurzweil through the internet
  - [firefly demo](#)
- Free download trial
  - [www.kurzweilededu.com](http://www.kurzweilededu.com)
  - [Kurzweil 3000 Demo](#)



# TextHelp

- Text-to- Speech software
- Helps improves reading skills
- Built in text and picture dictionaries
- Study skills highlighter
- Has a Google Chrom version
- [www.texthelp.com](http://www.texthelp.com)





# WYNN

- What You Need Now
- Internet Features
- Freedom Scientific
- Scanning and Reading software
- Highlights text as spoken
- Icon friendly
- Built in study tools



# Voice Input Solutions

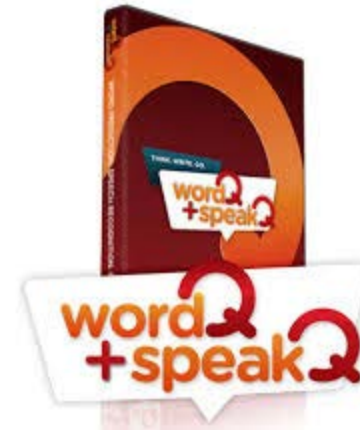
# Speech Recognition Software

- Turn spoken words into text
- Connect with the timing of your thoughts
- Dictation speed 70 to 100 words per minute



# Word Q/ Speech Q

- Software that has built-in word prediction
- Suggests words
- Spoken feedback to hear what was written
- Speech Q is a plugin for Speech Recognition
- 30 day free trial  
<http://www.goqsoftware.com/trial/>



# Ginger

- Online grammar and spell checker
- Can see corrections as you type or use Ginger Proofreader to scan the entire document for mistakes
- Will read corrections out loud
- Has a mobile Android, iOS and Windows
- Works inside Word and emails
- Text to Speech
  - Read emails and docs
  - Can choose voice and accent
- [Ginger Demo](#)



# Inspiration

- Mind Mapping software
- Allows User to “connect” ideas together
- Add in pictures and hyperlinks
- Can produce an outline form
- Better organization of essays
- \$27.96
- App \$9.99





# **What's New In AT!**



# Typing made Easier

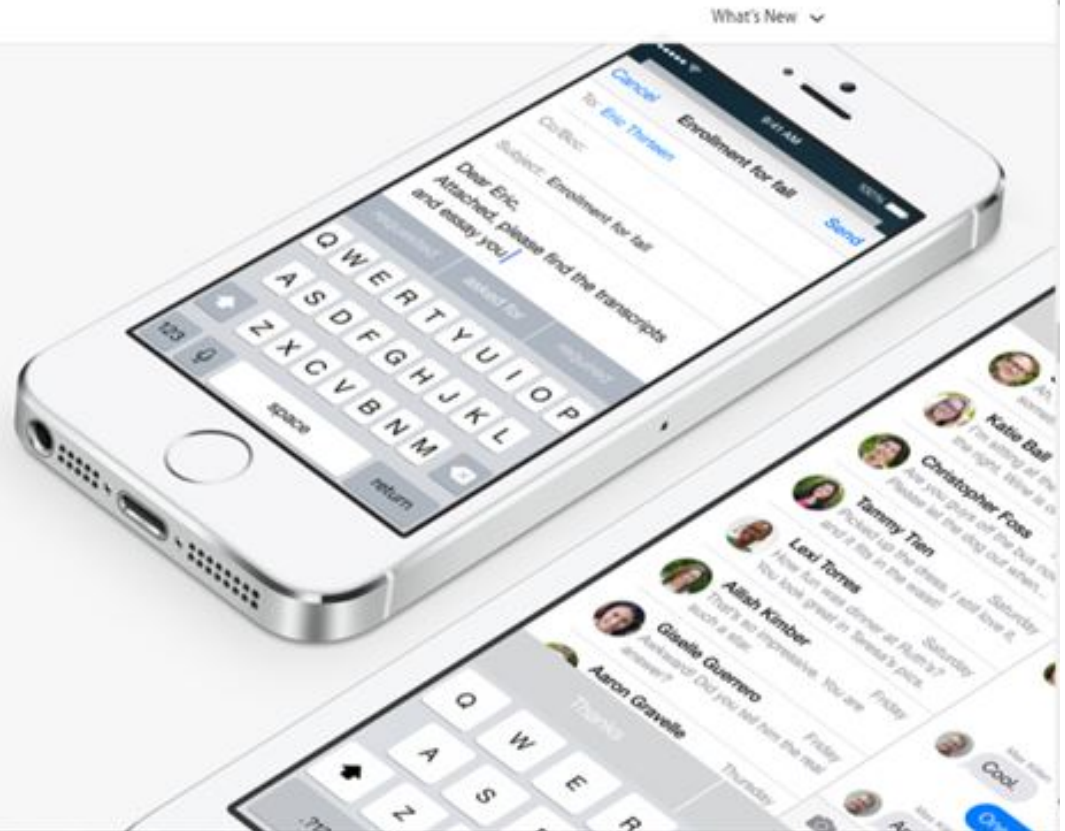
iOS 8 Preview



Our smartest  
keyboard ever.

iOS 8 makes typing easier by suggesting contextually appropriate words to complete your sentences. It even recognizes to whom you're typing and whether you're in Mail or Messages. Because your tone in an email may be different from your tone in a message.

[Learn more >](#)





# Reminders



- Built-in App
- Works with VoiceOver
- Organize your reminders
- Siri
- iPad

# TapTapSee

- Designed to help people with low vision identify objects they encounter in their daily lives.
- Double tap the screen to take a photo of anything, at any angle, and hear the app speak the identification back to you.
- Requires VoiceOver to be turned on.



# Pixie

- Maps all of the digital things in your life
- Place a pixie chip on any device and map will tell you it's precise location
- <https://www.getpixie.com/>



# iBeacon Technology

- Estimote Beacons
  - Wireless sensors that attached to any location or object
  - Broadcasts radio signals to smartphone



# Apple Watch

- Receive Calls and texts
  - “Inner Circle”
- Apps
- Can be used for fitness
  - Heart Rate Monitor
  - GPS
  - Accelerometer
- “Hey Siri”
- Haptic feed back
- Calendar
- \$499



# FitBit

- Fitness tracker
- Variety of styles and colors
- Track Activity
- Track Food
- Track Sleep
- Track Heart rate
- Works with other Apps
- New Smartwatch



 fitbit.  
Discover a whole  
new world of fitness.





# Microsoft Band

- Works across all platforms
- Receives calls and texts
- Uses Cortana
- Keep tracks of steps
- Keeps track of Sleep
- Keeps track of UV
- Keeps track of heart rate
- Choose apps
  - Facebook
- \$199



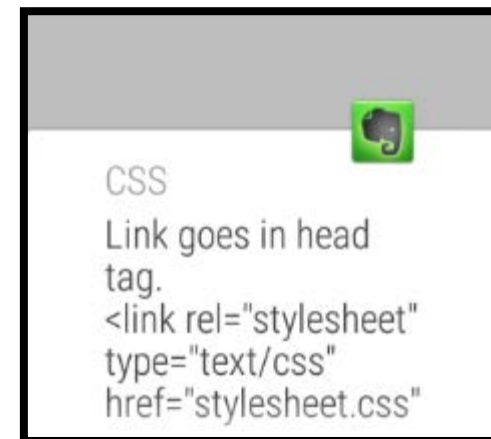
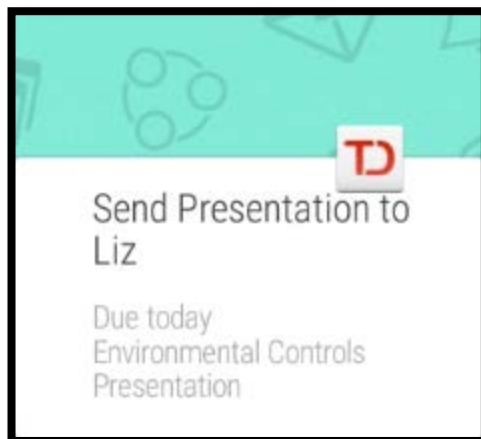
# Moto 360 by Motorola

- Runs Android Wear, Google's operating system for smartwatches.



# Moto 360 by Motorola

- Classroom Applications:
  - Todoist for Android Wear allows me to quickly view my homework assignments and check them off as I complete them.
  - Evernote for Android Wear allows me to study my notes on the go.



# Mobile Payment Applications



- Looking forward towards my transition to college, I realized that I would need a way to easily pay for things at stores without having to handle physical money or credit cards.
- I began researching mobile payment applications that utilize Near Field Communication (NFC) technology.
- NFC technology allows users to pay for things by simply typing in a PIN number or scanning their fingerprint and holding the back of their phone up to a credit card terminal that accepts NFC.

# Mobile Payment Applications

- Examples of these applications include:
  - Google Wallet (for Android, will be replaced by Android Pay soon)
  - Apple Pay (for iPhone 6, iPhone 6 Plus, & Apple Watch)
- Paying with NFC is A LOT more secure than paying with a normal credit card.
- In the future, I hope to see more stores accept NFC as a payment method and to see NFC technology included in more wearable devices.



# T. Jacket

- Wearable technology vest
  - Provides customizable deep touch pressure
    - Uses adjustable air pressure compression controlled via smartphone app
    - <http://www.mytjacket.com/>



# Amazon Echo



- Speech-controlled speaker system
- Voice recognition - further distances
- Timers, news, information
- Invitation only
- \$199, \$99 Prime members





# Breathe2Relax

- Portable stress management tool
- Detailed information on the effects of stress on the body
- Instructions and practice exercises to learn the stress management skill called diaphragmatic breathing



# Visit the LDA AT Solutions Lab

# AT for Calming

## **b-Calm**

- Products for adult and children
  - (\$109 -\$205)
- Preloaded audio sedation tracks
  - Acoustic masking signals work to make typically distracting noises unapparent to the user
  - Audio recordings to help with relaxation and focus

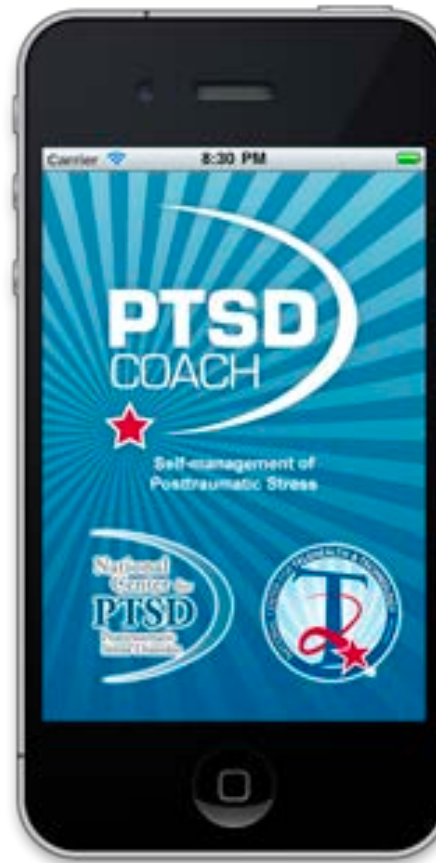


# PTSD Coach

## FREE!

## Android & iOS

- PTSD Coach was designed for Veterans and military Service Members who have, or may have, Posttraumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). This app provides users with education about PTSD, information about professional care, a self-assessment for PTSD, opportunities to find support, and tools that can help users manage the stresses of daily life with PTSD. Tools range from relaxation skills and positive self-talk to anger management and other common self-help strategies. Users can customize tools based on their preferences and can integrate their own contacts, photos, and music. This app can be used by people who are in treatment as well as those who are not. PTSD Coach was created by VA

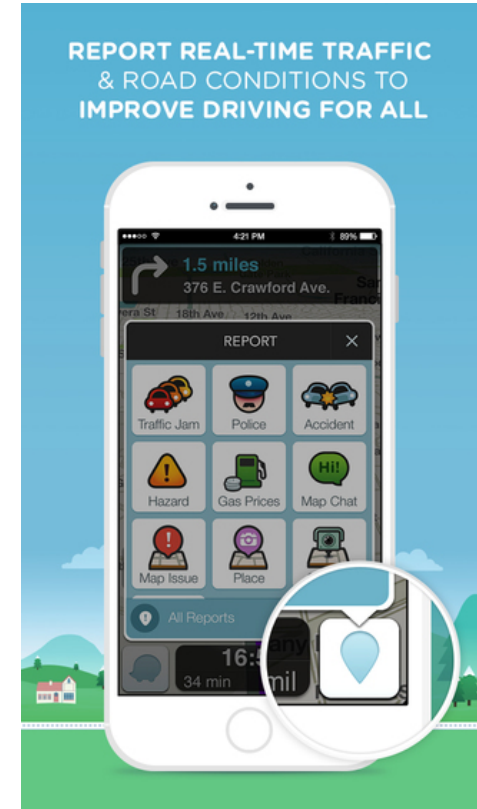
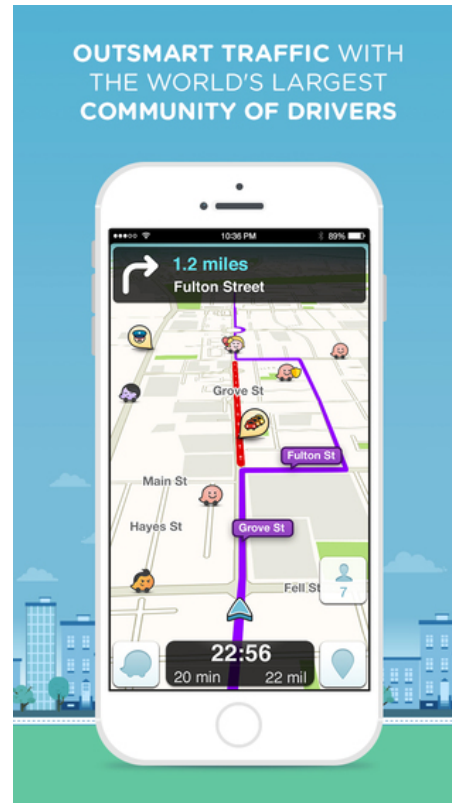


# WAZE

FREE!

iOS

- Waze is the world's largest community-based traffic and navigation app. Join drivers in your area who share real-time traffic & road info to save time, gas money, and improve daily commuting for all.



# Key Ring App

FREE!

iOS and Android

- All those loyalty cards are hard to keep track of. Key Ring puts all your cards on your phone, so they're there when you need them. Scan and store grocery cards, gym cards, library cards, gift cards... you name it. Loyalty cards scan straight from your phone at the checkout counter, saving you money instantly



# Get Out of Stress

## FREE!

## Android

- Modern life is full of deadlines, frustrations, and demands. For many people, stress is so commonplace that it has become a way of life. You can protect yourself by recognizing the signs and symptoms of stress and taking steps to reduce its harmful effects. This Application gives you complete idea about Stress , its symptoms and stress management in simple and efficient way.

The Application Includes

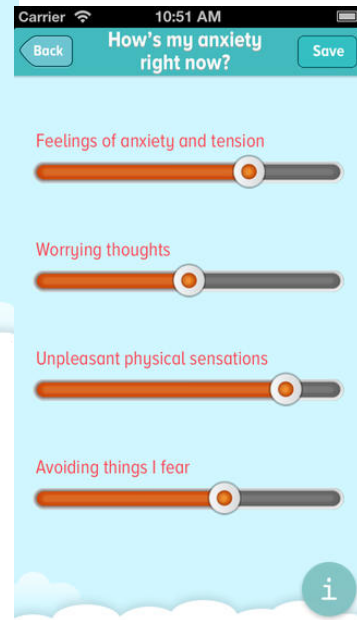
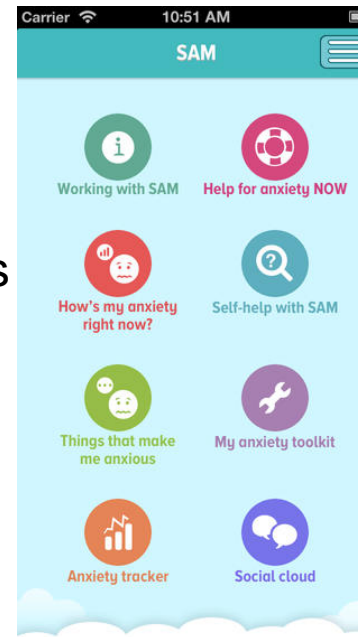
- \*\* What is stress
- \*\* Symptoms of short term stress
- \*\* Symptoms of longterm stress
- \*\* Ways to avoid stress
- \*\* Ways to overcome Stress
- \*\* Yoga for Stress





# APPS for Mood/Emotion Management

- Self-Help for Anxiety Management(SAM) (free iOS, Android)
  - Tell the app how you're feeling, how anxious you are, or how worried you are.
  - app's self-help features walk you through some calming or relaxation practices.
- iZen garden (\$4.99, iOS)
- Koi Pond (\$1, iOS)

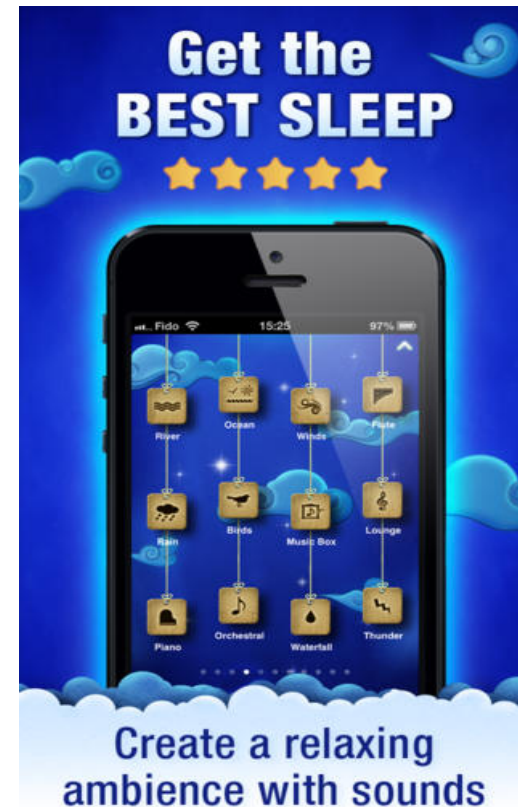


# Relax Melodies: Sleep & Yoga

## FREE!

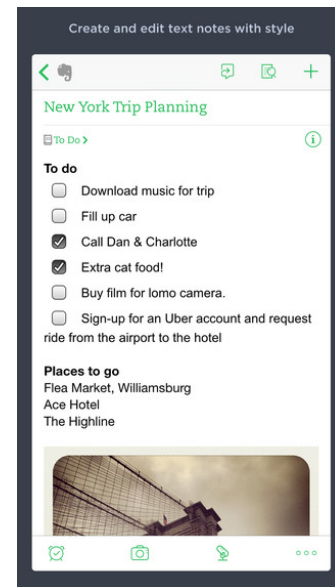
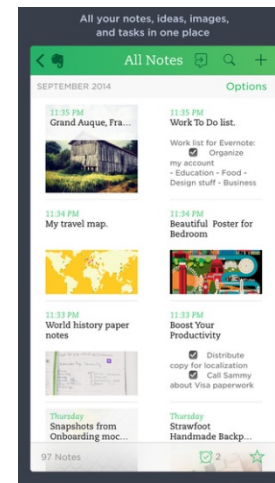
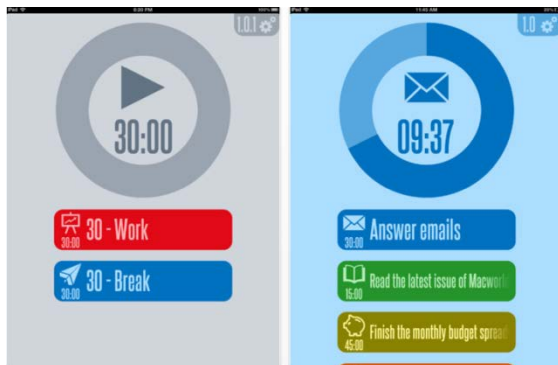
## iOS and Android

- Relax Melodies is the LEADER in personalized relaxation and sleep assistance. No more lacking of sleep or insomnia for you! The sleep that you need and want is waiting for you. Relax Melodies and its many features such as high quality white noise sounds, music melodies and complete customizable mixes will help you sleep like never before!
- Here's how it works :
  1. Create a sleep mix by selecting sounds and music that you like.
  2. Slip naturally into a relaxed state or a deep sleep...!
  3. Awake, feel refreshed and happier
  4. Do it again, anytime!
- Use it also in many other situation such as while exercising, during your yoga meditation sessions, while massaging, during a quick nap or even to help your baby fall asleep faster!



# Task Management

- Evernote (free, iOS, Android, Windows)
  - allows you to store text, photos, and audio notes on your device of choice. Create "notebooks" and categorize notes for meetings and to-do lists. Notes are tagged with geo-location for mapping or search. Keep all info in one place
- 30/30 (free, iOS, Android, Windows)
  - Set up tasks and time needed to complete
  - App will tell you when to move onto next task



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### LDA ANNUAL CONFERENCE

**FEB  
19**Disneyland Resort & Hotel in  
Anaheim, California

### INTEGRATING UDL AND AT TO CLOSE

#### THE ACHIEVEMENT GAP

**FEB  
25**Griffin RESA  
440 Tilney Avenue, P O Drawer  
H  
Griffin, GA 30224

### ATLANTA ABILITIES EXPO

**Abilities  
EXPO****MAR**Georgia World Congress  
Center  
Hall G4



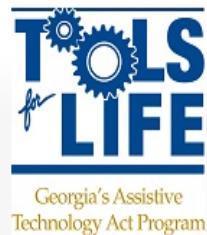


# TFL Wiki

Tools For Life

You

www.gatfl.gatech.edu/tflwiki/index.php?title=Main\_Page



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## Main Page

Welcome to the Tools for Life [wiki](#). Tools for Life, Georgia's Assistive Technology Act Program, gives more options for greater freedom by increasing access to and acquisition of assistive technology (AT) devices and services for Georgians of all ages and disabilities so they can live, learn, work, and play independently in communities of their choice.

### Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

- [What is Assistive Technology?](#)
- [Where can I learn about Assistive Technology devices?](#)
- [Where can I access TFL webinar archives?](#)

### Recent Presentations and Activities

- 2015 ATIA Orlando - January 29-31, 2015 - Orlando, FL [↗](#)
- Visiting Nurse Health System, Exploring AT Services in Georgia - December 18, 2014 - Atlanta, GA [↗](#)
- 2014 Decoding Dyslexia - December 13, 2014 - Georgia Tech, Atlanta, GA [↗](#)
- 2014 SILC and TFL Atlanta Town Hall - December 9, 2014 - Atlanta, GA [↗](#)
- 2014 GATE Seminar - December 5, 2014 - Georgia Tech, Atlanta, GA [↗](#)
- 2014 GSU Rehabilitation Counseling Improving Independence through AT - November 12, 2014 - Atlanta, GA [↗](#)
- 2014 LeadingAge Georgia Conference - November 6, 2014 - Atlanta, GA [↗](#)
- Gwinnett Technical College - October 30, 2014 - Atlanta, GA [↗](#)
- 2014 High School High Tech - October 23, 2014 - Dublin, GA [↗](#)
- 2014 Georgia College & Career Readiness Institute - September 25-26, 2014 - Macon, GA [↗](#)
- LDA Webinar: AT 101 - Understanding and Advocating for Assistive Technology - September 18, 2014 - Webinar [↗](#)
- 2014 GPA Annual Conference - September 3-5, 2014 - Savannah, GA [↗](#)

### Connect with Us

- [Tools for Life Website](#) [↗](#)
- [Tools for Life on Facebook](#) [↗](#)
- [Tools for Life on YouTube](#) [↗](#)

### Helpful Tools & Resources

- [Tools for Life AppFinder](#) [↗](#)
- [Dollars & Sense Funding Guide](#) [↗](#)
- [gTrade Georgia's Online Equipment Exchange](#) [↗](#)
- [Tools for Life Community Partners](#) [↗](#)

### News

- June 3-6, 2013 Tools for Life co-hosts IDEAS Conference in St. Simons Island, GA [↗](#)
- April 2013 Tools for Life AppFinder makes program spotlight on AT Connects website [↗](#)
- April 2013 Our Favorite Apps spotlight on AT Program News [↗](#)

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## **Success with Assistive Technology and Advocacy begins with the Individual**

- Explore & USE Assistive Technology that can Help You
- Begin with the End in Mind
- Try – Fail & Try again...
- Evaluate and Evolve
- Celebrate your Successes! Success Breeds Success.
- AND Visit Us at the LDA & AMAC AT Solutions Lab in Chicago!

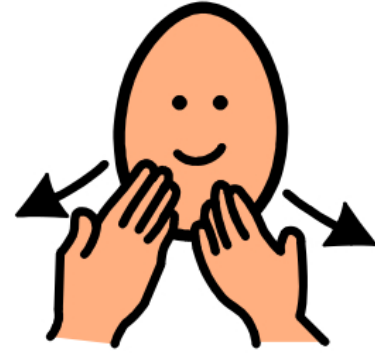


**My Question to You:  
What have You Learned today?**



Thank You!

thank you



# The TFL Team



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*Disclaimer*

*This presentation is produced by Tools for Life which is a result of the Assistive Technology Act of 1998, as amended in 2004. It is a program of the Georgia Institute of Technology, College of Architecture, AMAC Accessibility Solutions and Research Center and was made possible by Grant Number H224C030009 from the Administration for Community Living. Its contents are solely the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official views of HHS.*

# And Maria Kelley!



#### *Disclaimer*

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