READING AND WRITING
FROM LOW TECH TO HIGH TECH
FOR PEOPLE WITH LOW VISION OR
NO VISION

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Learning Objectives

• Reading and writing does not have to end with vision loss

• Three different methods of reading and writing with vision loss.

• Three different aids/devices for reading or writing with vision loss.
What is Low Tech or High Tech?
Low Tech for People with Low Vision

For Writing:
• Writing Guides
• bold line paper
• raised line paper
• 20/20 pens
Writing Tools

Bold line paper, Raised paper, and 20 20 pen.

Writing guides and signature guide.
Low Tech for people with Low Vision

For reading:
• Hand held magnifiers
• Stand magnifiers
Reading Tools

Top: Rectangular magnifier
Bottom: Round magnifier

Stand magnifier.
Importance of lighting

Low lighting
Lighting for Reading and Writing

Illuminated with I-Lite
High Tech for people with Low Vision

- Portable devices
- Desktop devices
Electronic Video Magnification Devices

Ruby HD Portable magnifier

Clearview desktop magnifier with Speech.

INDEPENDENT LIVING BLIND

Department of Rehabilitation
Low Tech for people with no Vision or useless vision

- Tactile aids/devices
- Audible aids/devices
Braille

- Braille is a system of 6 raised dots that can be read with the fingers by people who are blind or who have low vision.
- It was invented by Louis Braille.
- Braille symbols are formed within units of space known as braille cells.
- A full braille cell consists of six raised dots.
- They are arranged in two parallel rows each having three dots. The dot positions are identified by numbers from one through six.
- Sixty-four combinations are possible using one or more of these six dots.
- A single cell can be used to represent an alphabet letter, number, punctuation mark, or even a whole word.
Low Tech Aids/Devices for Braille

Using slate and stylus to create Braille

Perkins Brailer
High Tech Devices for Braille

Jaws PACmate

Humanware BrailleNote
Audible Technology

- When vision is not enough to use large print
- And Braille is not an option because you haven’t learned it
- Then audible devices are the solution
Digital recorders and players

The Wilson Recorder

VictorReader Stream
Another Digital recorder/player

Milestone Recorder
Stand Alone Reading Devices

IPal Reader
Perl and OpenBook Reading
software/hardware
How to access other various types of information?

- Product labels
- US currency
- Pictures or Personal folders
Various reading devices

Barcode reader reading soup can barcode

iBill reader reading five dollar bill
Various reading devices. Continued...

Label Wand
How to access computers

People with Low Vision will use magnification software:
  • ZoomText
  • Magic
  • SuperNova

People with no vision will use Speech Output software and Braille:
  • JAWS
  • WindowEyes
  • Guide
  • NVDA
  • VoiceOver
  • Refreshable Braille Displays
Magnification Software

ZoomText
MAGNIFIER/READER
VERSION 10

MAGic
Screen Magnification Software with Speech

Bring Your World A Little Closer With MAGic

Complete low vision access to the Internet, email and all desktop applications

Now includes ZoomText 10.1 for Windows 8
Speech Output Software
Speech Output and Magnification software both

- SuperNova
- Dolphin Guide
Refreshable Braille Displays

Focus 40 Blue

Humanware Brailliant
Braille Embosser
Reading Services

• Braille and Talking Book Library
• Sun Sounds of Arizona
• NFB Newsline
• BookShare
• Learning Alley
Reading Devices

Sun Sounds Radio
Special tip, no technology needed

PLEASE SIGN YOUR NAME