

Technology for the Special Education Student in My Classroom

- Each year the number of special education students supported through inclusion increases.
- There are many categories of special education and many combinations of learning characteristics and styles, which present an exponential number of individual learning plans.
- Technology provides us with a wealth of tools that allows us to implement individual educational plans, through the use of hardware, software, customized programs, web 2.0 tools, and multimedia.

Tools to Support Individual Student Needs

Need	Tool and Description	Website
Manage Assignments and Track Due Dates	Shoshiku Simple, yet powerful tool to help students manage assignments, quizzes, and test due dates. Notification sent via email or SMS.	http://www.shoshiku.com
Assistance with Collaboration, Communication	Engrade Online grade book and classroom management tool. Posted grades help teachers, students and parents.	http://www.engage.com
Help with Preparation and Completion of Homework	Schoolnotes Web pages for educators. Place to post homework and messages. Flash card quizzes available for online quizzing.	http://www.schoolnotes.com
Assistance with Organization and Note Taking Skills	OneNote Easy-to-use note taking and information-management program. Capture thoughts and ideas in electronic notebooks. All notes are searchable.	http://office.microsoft.com/en-us/onenote/default.aspx
Support with Class Notes	Wikispaces Assign a student to upload notes and make updates. This can be a win-win: advantageous to the student responsible for posting and advantageous to the student who needs the notes. Provide partial outline of class notes to be filled in by students. Supports those who struggle with note taking	http://www.wikispaces.com
Accessibility Issues	Apple and Microsoft Both companies provide solutions to accessibility issues.	http://www.apple.com/accessibility http://www.microsoft.com/ENABLE http://www.abilitynet.org.uk/myway PC Accessibility Wizard
Visual Support and Aid in Directing Attention	Document Cameras This piece of equipment (from a variety of companies) not only gives students the opportunity to see magnified images but also allows the teacher more flexibility in class lessons.	Some sources: AverMedia, Canon, Elmo as well as others
Present or Reinforce a Lesson	YouTube and Teacher Tube Both are video sites. Make a video and post it. Could be a classroom demonstration, presentation by an outside speaker, or a variety of other learning opportunities. Kevin Honeycutt's You Tube link has several videos suitable for classroom use.	www.youtube.com http://www.youtube.com/user/kevinessdack www.teachertube.com

Need	Tool and Description	Website
Support Lesson Presentation in Video Format and Lesson Review	Discovery Education and C-Span On-line, web-based video services. Students can log in from home. Full-length videos or clips.	Discovery Education http://discoveryeducation.com Comcast/C-Span http://www.c-span.org/Default.aspx
Create and Post your own Presentations for Pre- and Post-Lesson Review	Flip Digital Video Camera and You Tube Create presentations and review lessons on video and easily download to a computer. Post on YouTube for viewing.	http://www.theflip.com Teachers: http://www.digitalwish.com/dw/digitalwish/product?id=4310 http://www.youtube.com
Needs or Benefits from Audio	Audacity Free download for easy-to-create audio. Multiple tracks (audio, music, sounds). Export as mp3, wav and add to web page.	http://audacity.sourceforge.net/download/windows
Attention Getter	Blabberize Animate faces by uploading a picture then adding sound. Able to be shared.	http://www.blabberize.com
Audio/Visual Calculator	Talking Calculator An easy-to-use solution. Every button and edit area talks.	http://www.readingmadeez.com/products/talkingcalculator.htm
Audio/Visual Support for Reading	Read Please Simple, text-to-speech reader. Able to adjust voices, speed, colors.	http://www.readplease.com
Assistance Selecting Books to Read	Lexile Book selection by reading level, grade level, fiction/non-fiction, genre. Find it in the library using worldcat.org.	http://www.lexile.com
Group Presentation That Supports All Learning Styles	Voice Thread Presentations can be created, shared and edited. Text and voice may be added.	http://www.voicethread.com
Visual Organization	Bubbl.us Brainstorm online, share and work with friends. Create colorful mind maps online. Email, print, or embed in blog or website (image file).	http://bubbl.us
Tool to Add Structure to Group Work	Wallwisher Brainstorm on a "wall" which is easily shared. Good for personal note taking, to-do lists, feedback, or anything that might need input from a lot of people. Embed a URL in your website.	http://www.wallwisher.com
Direct Focus by Limiting Choices	Google Custom Search Controlled search that allows focus by limiting choices and decision making. Allows teachers to zero in on specific information or keep students off of sites that are unproductive.	http://www.google.com/cse/
Lesson Review and Skill Reinforcement	Quizlet Flashcard sets available for use or make your own Share with friends.	http://quizlet.com