

Independent / Self-Directed Reading for Students with Disabilities: Finding & USING Books!

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Goals of Independent Reading: Emergent Readers

- Support in learning about book handling and print knowledge (front, back, turning pages, print holds meaning)
- Developing a love of reading
- Gaining exposure to a wide range of book types

Did You Know?

Hatch (2009) found that:

Students with severe disabilities showed measureable gains in just 6 weeks when given the chance to read from a wide collection of materials that were:

- Interesting
- Age- and ability-appropriate

This was true even before these students were able to read or understand printed words

Hatch, P. (2009). Wide text exposure for adolescents with moderate to severe intellectual disability. Unpublished doctoral dissertation, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Goals of Self-Directed Reading: Conventional Readers

- The key goal is successful silent reading practice
- By a beginning 2nd grade level, students can read 30 minutes more words per minute **faster** reading silently than reading orally
- Thus, silent reading will support student's reading **fluency**

See Erickson (17) for more information

Self-Directed Reading: Conventional Readers

- Erickson (17) summarizes research in the use of self-directed reading to support skills such as reading fluency, understanding of syntax, and listening comprehension for students with and without disabilities
- It is crucial to have a wide, diverse library of books that are age- and ability-appropriate

Before / During / After

● Before:

- Find out what interests your students
- Be sure you have set up bookshelves with age- and ability-appropriate texts, whether print or digital
- Support students in accessing texts

● During:

- Leave students alone to explore / read!

● After:

- Have an informal conversation about the books – NO TESTING!!! NO book reports!

Choosing Reading Topics

Using AAC Devices!

- Students went to 'animals'
- Go to categories & let them pick the animal
- Student says 'sports' – open sports page so s/he can pick
- Student goes to favorites page and says 'rollercoasters'

Choosing Reading Topics

Using the Alphabet!

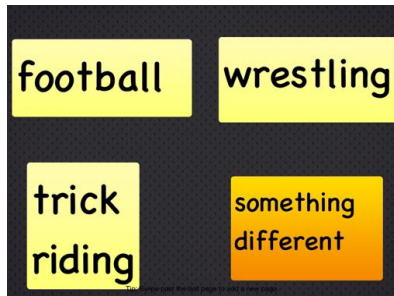
- Student found the first letter (R for rollercoaster) on his alphabet board
- For online books, enter the letter R to search



What If Students Don't Initiate Topics?

Choicemaking

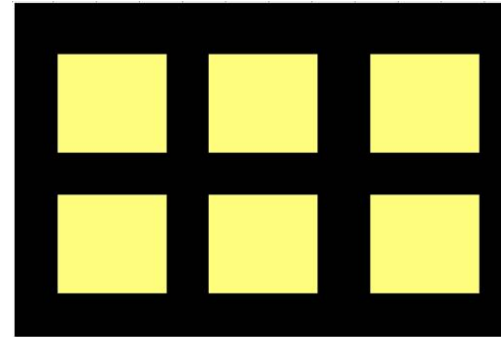
- Several choices
- Include 'something different'



Sticky app

What If Students Don't Initiate Topics?

Choicemaking: Use Wipe Off Post-It Board



www.aacintervention.com 2016, Tip # 3

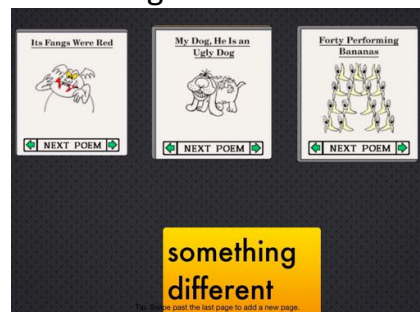
Problem-Solving Motor Access

Choicemaking Access

- Book cover pics in album (LT or on iPad)
- Partner assisted scanning
- Switches
- Eye Gaze



Sticky app



But My Students Don't Have the Skills Required for Book Handling!

- There is a huge growth in electronic books
- Try to find books with a **'bookshelf'** so that students can choose their own books
- Many sites and apps now have **'favorites'** so:
 - Adults can pre-select age- and ability-appropriate books
 - Students can go back to books they love

Problem-Solving Motor Access

Print Book

Access

- Adapted light tech books (page 'fluffers')
- Book easels can really help!



Access Tools: Computer Switch Interfaces



- Switch Interfaces: Need one with multiple switch ports
- USB Switch Interfaces: plug in & go!
 - Don Johnston Switch Interface (www.donjohnston.com)
 - Ablenet Hitch Switch Interface (www.ablenetinc.com)
 - Quizworks Switch Interface (www.quizworks.com)
- Reprogrammable Switch Interfaces
 - RJ Cooper (www.rjcooper.com)
 - Crick Software, (www.cricksoft.com)



Slide from Dr. Gretchen Hanser

Your New Best Friends: Commonly Used Key Equivalents for Books

- Right arrow
- Left arrow
- Space
- Enter
- 2, 3
- Click



Slide from Dr. Gretchen Hanser


Students Who Use Switches CAN Access Books on the iPad Using “Recipes”

- “Recipes” feature built into iOS 9 (and above) in Switch Control
- Can program multiple switches
- Can customize a switch to do
 - Tap Middle of Screen
 - Right to Left Swipe
 - Left to Right Swipe
 - OR Custom Gesture
- To setup for iPad books-just need to have consistent location of book buttons



APPLICATOR
Inclusive Technology
www.inclusivetlc.com

Blue2™
Ablenet
www.ablenetinc.com



Switches?
No Problem!


- Download single page text version
- Use iPad switch interface
- Recipe = Turn Pages

Recipes for Switch Control
 Tip # 2, 2016
www.aacintervention.com

Did you know . . .

• 'good' 1st grade teachers have more than 1500 books in their **classroom** libraries!

So What??



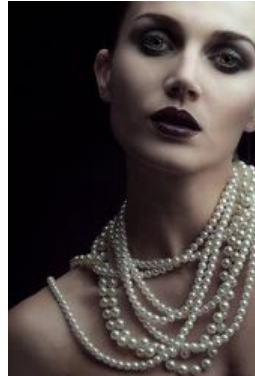
TAR HEEL READER: GET A BOOK-NOW!

from University Of North Carolina, Chapel Hill








- Developed by Gary Bishop & Karen Erickson
- Free resource for easy, easy, easy books
- Appropriate for beginning readers, especially those who are older
- Accessible via switches and Intellikeys
- Authoring tool for teachers

www.tarheelreader.org

Fashion A-Z
rainierw



Save Your Faves – Topic Related!

American Bison by Ben SLES Ben  6	Pioneers to the West Jessica Forste  11	Buffalo by Sloanie  10	Early American Food scarlethwidoutcenter  25
American Indian Homes Amy G  9	American Indian Food Amy G  18	American History: Horse & Buffalo Mr. Kay  10	

Tarheel Reader

Collections in Tarheel Reader

5 Senses
A.R.T.
About Hatchet <i>chapter summaries</i>
About Me Books <i>Basic fiction about basic emotions.</i>
Africa
Alphabet Books <i>This is a collection of 26 alphabet books, one for each letter of the alphabet.</i>
Amos & Boris Collection <i>Exemplar texts supports for Amos & Boris by William Steig</i>
Animals
ARE Equals Unit 1: Back to School

Guess what else is on Tarheel Reader?
Simplified Texts for Common Core !!!


- Simplified Texts Based on Exemplar Book List in Common Core Standards, K-11
- More Information Available From Dynamic Learning Maps
<http://dynamiclearningmaps.org/unc/texts/index.html>
- Thanks to the Center for Literacy & Disability Studies, UNC-Chapel Hill


Boardmaker
BOOK BRIDGE

Book Bridge

- Created engaging, picture supported chapter summaries - *Hatchet*, *Shiloh*, *Tuck Everlasting*, etc.
- Placed summaries at Tarheel Reader (ex: About Hatchet)

About Hatchet:
Chapter 1
maureend
★★★☆☆


 6

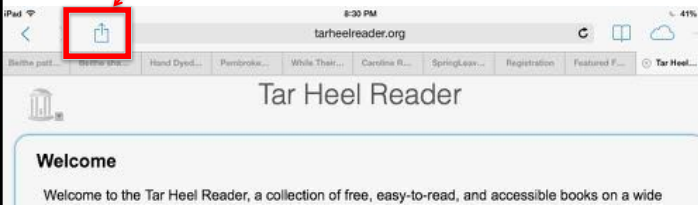


The next day, Brian saw tracks by the lake. It looked like an animal had buried something.

Boardmaker Online / Boardmaker Instructional Solutions

MAKE A SHORTCUT FOR YOUR IPAD HOME PAGE!
EASY AS 1 – 2 – 3!

1. Go to Safari & navigate to tarheel reader
2. Click 'share' then choose 'Add to home screen'
3. Find your shortcut and start reading!





Caroline Musselwhite on THR

Try This: Talking Book!

Go to www.tarheelreader.org and pick a book

Treasure and Pirates

DLM



Open Settings
Click Speech
Click Download

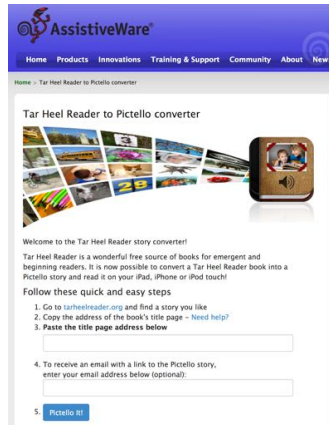
27

Pictello and Tarheel Reader

Import Tarheel Reader
Books into Pictello

<https://www.assistiveware.com/tar-heel-reader-pictello-converter>

Use Pictello as your reader
when you are off-line



AssistiveWare

Home Products Innovations Training & Support Community About News

Home - Tar Heel Reader to Pictello converter

Tar Heel Reader to Pictello converter

Welcome to the Tar Heel Reader story converter!

Tar Heel Reader is a wonderful free source of books for emergent and beginning readers. It is now possible to convert a Tar Heel Reader book into a Pictello story and read it on your iPad, iPhone or iPod touch!

Follow these quick and easy steps

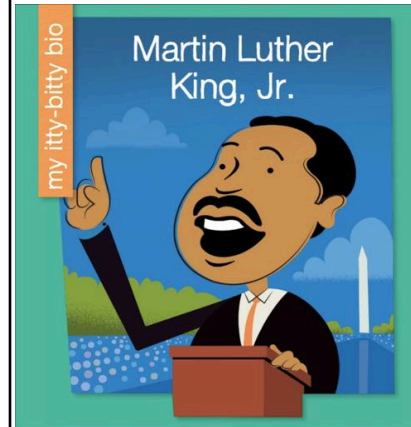
1. Go to tarheelreader.org and find a story you like
2. Copy the address of the book's title page - Need help?
3. Paste the title page address below
4. To receive an email with a link to the Pictello story, enter your email address below (optional):
5.

Epic Books, Free for Educators! \$5/month for Others

- Has range of topics & genres
- Can set student preferences
- Switch accessible for page turning –use left & right arrows
- Has read aloud feature
 - Con: when read aloud is on - book goes by itself



Itty-Bitty Bios are Fantastic!



Include:

- Historical photos
- Interesting facts
- Engaging drawings
- Text-to-self connections

Great Story App Sets . . .

- Inexpensive or free
- Include a bookshelf for student choice
- Offer silent & readaloud options
- Animations & sound effects are okay, but may detract for some students

I Like Books



- 37 picture books for younger kids
- Natural voice (childish)
- Can click on words to hear them

\$1.99





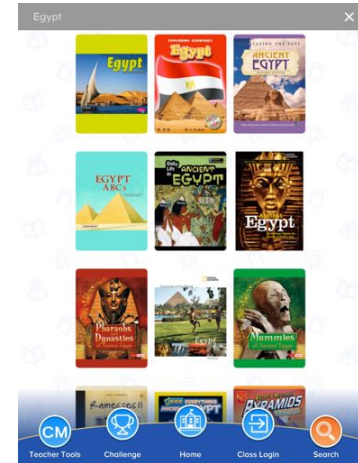
FarFaria: Read Along Kids Books

- Subscription
- But you can read one free book a day (from a choice of 3)
- Mostly younger students
- Some stories are engaging & respectful for older students



Reading IQ

- **FREE for teachers!!**
- Otherwise, subscription
- 5000 + Books!
- Includes National Geographic Kids Stories!
- ABC Mouse Library!



Oceanhouse Media

- Great kids books – singles & bundles



Oceanhouse Media: Clicking for TEXT!



Also great nature
Sound effects!

New Kid on the Block

Interactive Poems by Jack Prelutsky

- GREAT vocabulary support!
- \$4.99



Before / During / After

● During:

- Remember – leave kids alone to explore / read!

● After:

- Have an informal conversation about the books; Model: YOU LIKE THAT! THAT'S SAD; GOOD ONE; LOOKs SILLY
- NO TESTING!!!
- NO book reports!

Remember . . .

Life is short and in the end, its
not about who has the nicest,
untouched, most perfect books



but who has
explored the
most, enjoyed
the most, and
learned the
most and
advanced in
emergent
literacy.



Eddyto's Mum, Isobel