# Technology Serving Learners with Special Needs

Presented by:

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# Resource List

**Assistive Technology**

For more information about assistive technology, consult the following organizations:

**ABLEDATA**
8401 Colesville Road, Suite 200
Silver Spring, MD 20910.
Telephone:  (800) 227-0216
TTY:  (301) 608-8912
Web:  http://www.abledata.com
ABLEDATA is a national database of assistive technology and rehabilitation equipment.

**Alliance for Technology Access (ATA)**
2175 E, Francisco Blvd., Suite L
San Rafael, CA 94901-5523
Telephone:  (415) 455-4575
TTY:  (415) 455-0491
Fax:  (415) 455-0654
Email:  atainfo@ataccess.org
Web:  http://www.ataccess.org
ATA is a network of community technology centers throughout the U.S. that offer training and hands-on opportunities to use assistive technology.

**Rehabilitation Engineering and Assistive Technology Society of North America (RESNA)**
Technical Assistance Project
1700 N. Moore Street, Suite 1540
Arlington, VA 22209
Telephone:  (703) 524-6686
TTY:  (703) 524-6639
Fax: (703) 524-6630
Web:  http://www.resna.org/resna
Contact RESNA to locate the Assistive Technology Project in your state.  These programs provide information about purchasing and using assistive technology.

**National Center to Improve Practice (NCIP)**
Education Development Center
55 Chapel Street
Newton, MA 02160
Telephone: (617) 969-7100
Web:   http://www2.edc.org/NCIP/
The National Center to Improve Practice promotes the effective use of technology to enhance educational outcomes for students with sensory, cognitive, physical and social/emotional disabilities.  The NCIP website includes information about the use of technology for students with disabilities.

**The Trace Research and Development Center**
University of Wisconsin-Madison
S-151 Waisman Center
1500 Highland Avenue
Madison, WI 537005-2280
Telephone:  (608) 263-6966
TTY:  (608) 263-5408
Fax:  (608) 262-8848
Email:  info@trace.wisc.edu
Web:  http://www.trace.wisc.edu
The Trace Center at the University of Wisconsin-Madison is a research and development facility that focuses on making information technologies more accessible for everyone through the process known as universal, or accessible design.  Their website contains a wealth of information about accessible design and assistive technology.

**Accessibility Features of Commonly Used  Software Tools**

**Microsoft Word**

Microsoft Office 2000 http://www.microsoft.com/enable/products/office2000.htm

Microsoft Office 97 http://www.microsoft.com/enable/products/office97.htm


**Microsoft Internet Explorer**

http://www.microsoft.com/enable/products/IE.htm


**Netscape**

http://home.netscape.com

## Accessible Design

The following organizations have information for educators about accessible design of computer software and websites:

**Center for Applied Special Technology (CAST)**
39 Cross Street, Suite 201
Peabody, MA 01960
Telephone:  (978) 531-8555
TTY:  (978) 538-3110
Fax::  (978) 531-0192
E-mail: cast@cast.org
Web:  < http://www.cast.org/>
CAST is an educational, not-for-profit organization that uses technology to expand opportunities for all people, including those with disabilities.  Available through its web site is Bobby, a web-based tool that analyzes web pages for their accessibility to people with disabilities.

**The CPB/WGBH National Center for Accessible Media (NCAM)**
WGBH Educational Foundation
125 Western Avenue
Boston, MA 02134
Telephone/TTY: (617) 300-3400
Web:  <http://www.wgbh.org/wgbh/pages/ncam/>
NCAM is a research and development facility that works to make media accessible to underserved populations such as disabled persons, minority-language users, and people with low literacy skills.  This website includes guidelines for evaluating software and websites for their accessibility to people with disabilities.

**Equal Access to Software and Information (EASI)**
Rochester Institute of Technology
c/o TLT Group
P.O. Box 18928
Rochester, NY 14618
Telephone:  (716) 244-9065
Web:  http://www.rit.edu/~easi/
The EASI website serves as a resource to the education community by providing information and guidance in the area of access-to-information technologies by individuals with disabilities.  It includes information about how to evaluate websites for their accessibility.

**Web Accessibility Initiative (WAI)**
World Wide Web Consortium
MIT/LCS Room NE43-355
200 Technology Square
Cambridge, MA, 02139, USA
Telephone:  (617) 253-2613
Web: http://www.w3.org/WAI
WAI, in coordination with organizations around the world, pursues accessibility of the Web through five primary areas of work: technology, guidelines, tools, education and outreach, and research and development.

**Examples of Software Tools that Support Inclusive Curriculum Activities**

**HyperStudio** is a flexible multimedia-authoring tool, designed specifically for the classroom, enabling students to create interactive reports by mixing digital sources such as clipart, text, photos, video, sounds, animation and narration.

Knowledge Adventure
19840 Pioneer Ave.
Torrance, CA  90503
Telephone: (800) 545-7677
e-mail: hyperstudio@education.com.
Web: http://www.hyperstudio.com/

**Inspiration** is a visual learning tool that supports students in developing concept maps and organizing their thinking.

Inspiration Software, Inc.
7412 SW Beaverton Hillsdale Hwy, Suite 102
Portland, OR 97225-2167 USA
Telephone: (800) 877-4292
Fax (503) 297-4676
Web: http://www.inspiration.com/

**Storybook WeaverDeluxe** is a creative writing tool that draws users into an engaging exploration of the creative writing process, and allows for the creation of interactive storybooks.

The Learning Company
School Division
500 Redwood Blvd.
Novato, CA 94947
Telephone: (800) 825-4420
http://www.learningcompanyschool.com/school/products/swd.htm