

**R.A.T.E. 2009 Conference
(Real Assistive Technology for Everyone)
Saturday, November 7, 2009
Rachel Carson Middle School**

Session 1

1. AT + Preschool = Fun Learning for All

Explore various ways to incorporate communication devices, visual supports and computer activities to facilitate communication and early literacy skills throughout the preschool day.

Area(s) addressed: motivating, pre-writing, communication, visual strategies

DOUBLE SESSION: Registrants for this session should not register for a different class in Session 2

Rita Mars, Kathy Rini

2. Boardmaker Plus Basics

An Overview of the basic features of Boardmaker Plus. Basic programming tips will be shared along with a review of new Version 6.0 features. This is a great class both for anyone wanting to better understand the applications of Boardmaker Plus and for those wanting to learn more about basic programming!

Area(s) addressed: visual strategies, curriculum modification

Jennifer Carr

3. Homework Helper – Using Smart Notebook Video Recorder

Target your auditory and visual learners by posting multimedia clips to Blackboard using the Smart Notebook Video Recorder. Students can then log onto Blackboard to find out daily homework assignments, project requirements, and review classroom lectures and reviews.

Area(s) addressed: visual strategies, curriculum modification

Dianne Caron

4. Instant Math and Literacy Centers: Math in a Snap and Literacy on the Web

No time? No problem! Join the fun in viewing instant math and literacy centers. The math center covers the skill areas of: sorting, counting, measurement, addition, subtraction, division, multiplication, greater than/less than, place value, sequencing and patterns, telling time, money, and fractions. The reading center covers the skill areas of: ABC's, letter recognition, ABC order, phonemic awareness, phonics, sight words, comprehension, fluency, parts of a book, punctuation, sentence structure, synonyms/antonyms, verbs and spelling. Learn how easy it is to create your own in a snap!

Area(s) addressed: motivating, spelling, math, pre-reading

Karen Wiltraut, Santina Brown

5. Integrating Augmentative Alternative Communication (AAC) into the Elementary Curriculum

This presentation is designed to help teachers learn how to develop a functional communication system and include the AAC user in classroom activities.

Area(s) addressed: communication, curriculum modification, visual strategies

Alicia Fyfe, Karla Kmetz

6. Integrating Portable Technology to Support Writing in the Secondary Special Education Classroom

Come see how portable technology classroom sets are utilized in secondary special education classrooms. Sets include AlphaSmart products such as Dana, Neo, and the latest product, Neo 2. Check out how teachers and students are using portable technology to support writing!

Area(s) addressed: writing process, organization, editing, organization, handwriting, motivating
Jenn Regardie, Jeff Powers

7. Internet Resources and Freebies for the Secondary Student

There are many resources available on the Internet and many of them are free! We will show you websites to support the general education curriculum in math, reading, and writing, as well as SOL review sites and free downloads. Participants will view a sampling of the free resources and receive a comprehensive handout.

Area(s) addressed: writing process, organization, reading, motivating
Alexis Preston, Heather Thompson

8. Math Software and Resources

Looking for Math Software and Resources for your students? Math software programs which address number concepts, calculation, time, and money will be demonstrated. Several math web resources will also be reviewed.

Area(s) addressed: math
Betsy Komoniewski

9. Suite for All: Utilizing Classroom Suite 4 Activities for All Learners.

Learn how to design a single SOL/VGLA activity for all students (i.e. VI, PD, General Ed., ESL learners, LD etc.) using Classroom Suite 4. Presenter will share pre-made activities/templates from websites, and how to create student users to save individual student preferences (i.e. scanning, prompting, access methods etc.).

Area(s) addressed: curriculum modification, adapted access
Maira Lozzi

10. Universal Design for Learning (UDL): Bridging the Achievement Gap for Diverse Learners

Classroom instruction should be designed to be fully accessible to every child! Barriers to learning often occur in the interaction with the curriculum, not in the capacities of the learner! Come learn about implementing a UDL approach within instructional environments and how to adapt curricula to foster student engagement.

Area(s) addressed: writing process, motivating, visual strategies, curriculum modification, adaptive access
Melissa Hartman and Mark Nichols, Loudoun County Public Schools

11. Using PowerPoint and Word Templates to Create All Kinds of Books

Come to this hands-on session to learn how to use PowerPoint and Word templates to quickly and easily create a variety of customized books including mini-books, fan books, a variety of pop-up books, popsicle books, circle books, and more. Participants will leave with templates, websites, and samples of books that their students can use for creative writing and curriculum projects.

Area(s) addressed: reading in content area, writing process, pre-reading, pre-writing
Sandy Morrisette, Lori Livesay

12. The Visual Classroom

Let's see how easy it is to make a classroom into a truly visual one! Learn all about visual schedules and using them to run centers in your room which will allow you the time to do all the individual direct instruction your low incidence kiddos need while controlling behavior and maintaining a structured environment. Teacher created centers and activities will be demonstrated, too.

Area(s) addressed: organization, visual strategies
Polly Monica

13. Word Prediction: What's the Difference?

This session will provide an overview of two word prediction programs; Co:Writer by Don Johnston and Word Q by Quillsoft. Participants will have an opportunity to explore both programs and to generate

discussion as to the appropriateness of each program based on student needs. This workshop will be beneficial for instructors or parents who have students who struggle with spelling while writing.

Area(s) addressed: writing process, pre-writing

Rachel Perella

Session 2

14. Adapted Curriculum, Edmark & VAAP Activities for Low Incidence Classrooms (Aut / ID-SD)

Participants will learn how to use ChooseltMaker and Boardmaker Plus programs to adapt curriculum and create VAAP activities for the students in the low incidence classrooms (MOD-SD & Autism). They will also learn how to set up switches for students who require adapted access. Participants will walk away with CDs full of ready-made adapted curriculum, Edmark and VAAP activities to use with their students.

Please note: Participants will have to bring their own copy of Boardmaker Plus V.6 for this session.

Area(s) addressed: organization, motivating, visual strategies, curriculum modification

DOUBLE SESSION: Registrants for this session should not register for a different class in Session 3

Christine Pac, Mo AbdelRahman, Andie Beaver, Julie West

15. Boardmaker Survivor 1 and 2

For those folks who have not yet seen the wonderful Boardmaker activities included on the ATS Survivor 1 and 2 CD's- here's your chance to see it all and get your own copies! Activities, communication, schedules, organization...IT'S ALL HERE!! Everything you ever wanted to make with Boardmaker on 2 CD's!

Area(s) addressed: motivating, organizing, math, pre-reading, pre-writing, communication, visual strategies, curriculum modification

DOUBLE SESSION: Registrants for this session should not register for a different class in Session 3

Polly Monica, Karen Wiltraut

16. Integrating Read:OutLoud Universal Access into the Curriculum

This hands on session will provide an overview of Read: OutLoud Universal Access. This software-based accessible text reader features high-quality text to speech and provides study tools which build comprehension skills. Explore ways to use this program with students in your classroom and at home.

Area(s) addressed: reading in the content area, curriculum modification, motivating

Meaghan Tracy, Dianne Caron

17. PixWriter version 3

What's new with PixWriter? Come learn to use this picture assistive writing tool for beginner writers. In this hands on session we will review the features of this symbol-based talking word processor that combines graphics, text, and speech. Accessibility and editing options and addition resources will also be reviewed.

Area(s) addressed: beginning readers, visual strategies

Betsy Komoniewski

18. Read All About It!

This presentation is designed to provide online resources for students in the low incidence classroom who have emerging literacy skills. Sites such as Tarheel Reader, Baltimore County Public School's Boardmaker Books, Tumble Books, and BookPals Storyline will be explored. Presentaion will include low-tech and no-tech extension activities.

Area(s) addressed: pre-reading/beginner readers, curriculum modification

Colleen O'Hara, Karen Burke

19. Ready, Set, Write!

Come explore a variety of writing tools that your students can utilize throughout the year and even on the SOL's. Software will include Inspiration, Microsoft Word, Co:Writer, Write:OutLoud, and WordQ. We'll take a look at Portable Word Processors, as well.

Area(s) addressed: spelling, organization, handwriting, editing, writing process

Shelly Lawrence, Alexis Preston

20. Simplifying Windows XP

Learn about the Windows XP accessibility features that can make computer use easier for you and your students. Explore options to change the keyboard, mouse, and the visual appearance of the computer. Concepts discussed will also relate to maximizing visibility of presentations. Some time will be spent on strategies for working with the Office 2007 interface.

Area(s) addressed: accessibility

Ruth Mendelson

21. Shakespeare For Everyone!

Shakespeare is hard. For some, his works seems downright impossible. In this session, you will learn ways to make reading Shakespeare possible for your students - even fun! Topics include building background knowledge, developing literacy skills, and learning literary appreciation. Texts, instructional materials, assessment tools, and technology integration ideas will be shared, with tips for differentiation strategies for meeting the needs of all your students.

Area(s) addressed: reading in the content area, visual strategies, curriculum modification

Mollie Kropp, Kara Brathwaite

22. Start to Finish Books: An Overview

This session will provide a brief overview of Start to Finish Books by Don Johnston. Start to Finish Literacy Starters, Start to Finish Books, and Start to Finish :Core Content series will be explored. Participants will have the opportunity to explore these books during a "hands on" section at the end of the presentation. This session would be beneficial for teachers with students who struggle with vocabulary development, reading comprehension and reading fluency.

Area(s) addressed: reading in the content area, beginning readers

Jeff Powers, Jenn Regardie

23. Using PowerPoint Templates to Create "Fillable" Foldable Graphic Organizers

Foldables are three-dimensional, interactive, graphic organizers developed by Dinah Zike. Making a Foldable gives students a kinesthetic activity that helps them organize and retain information. Learn how to use "fillable" PowerPoint templates to create a variety of Foldable organizers, curriculum activities, and study guides correlated to Marzano's Strategies for Student Achievement.

Area(s) addressed: writing process, organization, motivating, curriculum modification

Sandy Morrisette

24. Using SmartBoard Lessons to promote ACTIVE learning for all students

SmartBoard technology can transform classroom learning for students with the most severe physical challenges. Learn how the SmartBoard can be used for interactive class instruction to include all students, even those with the most severe access issues. Too often these students are relegated to passive learning environments but technology is shifting the balance.

Area(s) addressed: adapted access

Janelle Ellis, Alicia Fyfe

Session 3

25. Cooking with the CPU

Looking for motivating and creative activities for your students? Come cook with us! See how using simple cooking activities can reinforce reading, writing, math and communication skills. Activities can even be used for documentation in VAAP portfolios. Bring your appetite!

Area(s) addressed: pre-reading, pre-writing, visual strategies, writing process, math, communication, motivating

Santina Brown, Lori Livesay

26. E-Books: Instructional, Individualized, Interactive, Easy, Fun, and Accessible

Learn how to integrate digital images, sound, audio, and animation to create interactive books for all ages and subject matter. Using hyperlinks and navigation buttons PowerPoint becomes a user friendly multi-media authoring program allowing teachers and parents to create customized books accessible to all readers.

Area(s) addressed: beginning readers, curriculum modification

Karen Karrenbauer, Janelle Ellis

27. If You Build It, They Will Read: Introducing CAST BookBuilder

This presentation will introduce and showcase how CAST Book Builder can be used to embed images, audio files, teaching coaches, vocabulary support, and more to create books ranging from picture books to non-fiction that can be viewed and shared via an online library or downloaded.

Area(s) addressed: organization, writing process, pre-writing/beginner writers, curriculum modification, adapted access

Mark Nichols and Sally Norton-Darr, Loudoun County Public Schools

28. Integrating AAC into the Middle and High School Curriculum

This presentation is designed to help teachers learn how to develop a functional communication system and include the AAC user in classroom activities.

Area(s) addressed: visual strategies, curriculum modification, communication

Colleen O'Hara

29. If You Can't "Type" It, "Switch" It!

Assistive technology supports communication, computer access, educational objectives, environmental access and mobility. Students with severe challenges have difficulty accessing devices/computers in a traditional way. Switch scanning can provide an access strategy for these students in order to take advantage of their educational environment. This presentation will cover the many considerations needed for evaluating and training switch use.

Area(s) addressed: adapted access

Nancy Icke, Valerie Riley

30. Kidspiration 3: See What is New!

Explore the new tools available in Kidspiration 3 in this hands on session. We will look at the new Math View, including color tiles, base ten blocks, pattern blocks, fraction tiles and fraction boxes. In addition, we will explore the new Literacy support tools, including symbol search by key words, visual word guide, and the expanded symbol library. Ideas to use Kidspiration 3 for VGLA and VAAP will be shared, along with online resources for ready to go activities.

Area(s) addressed: math, beginning readers, beginning writers, curriculum modification

Karen Burke

31. Resources for Your Classroom, Why Recreate the Wheel? Use the ATS Website

Explore the ATS intranet site for resources to support your students across the curriculum. We will look at elementary and secondary activities as well as VAAP and VGLA materials. Walk away with materials to use in your classroom!

Area(s) addressed: beginning readers, beginning writers, reading in the content, writing process

Jennifer Carr

32. Sign Language as an Instructional Strategy – Make and Take

Come learn about using sign language paired with verbal communication as an instructional strategy in low incidence classrooms. We will cover ways to incorporate sign language throughout daily activities and to adapt signs to accommodate individual student needs. You will learn some basic signs and make a “Signs in My Classroom” book for your classroom.

Area(s) addressed: communication, visual aides

Diana Ree, Molly Kropp

33. SOLO vs. MS Word

SOLO is a software package that supports students in the writing process (researching, planning, drafting and publishing). Microsoft Word has many comparable features in a very different interface. A comparison of the two products will help participants to determine which would be best for an individual student, and when it may be possible to transition from one to the other.

Area(s) addressed: spelling, editing, organization, writing process, accessibility

Meaghan Tracy, Ruth Mendelson

34. Super Switch Sites: Websites for Access by All Students

Tired of those same old PowerPoint slide shows? Want to integrate computer use into your day, but worry about your student’s access abilities? Come to this interactive presentation and see a variety of free websites designed especially for switch users and students who may have limited computer exposure.

Area(s) addressed: motivating, adaptive access, curriculum modification

Becky Penticoff, Heather Thompson

35. What’s Pixie?

Attention Elementary Teachers and Instructional Assistants: Pixie is on your computers so let’s learn to use it. Find out how to support ideas and writing with pictures, original illustrations, and audio narration. Come and get hands on experience utilizing Pixie’s tools and exploring readymade activities that connect technology to classroom learning.

Area(s) addressed: writing process, motivating, math, pre-reading, pre-writing, curriculum modifications

Shelly Lawrence, Keyanna Williams