

Speech & Language

Disclaimer: This non-exhaustive list is meant to guide users and is not meant as a recommendation of any specific tool or vendor.

Boardmaker & Boardmaker Plus & Boardmaker with Speaking Dynamically Pro.

<http://www.mayer-johnson.com/>

Communication boards that enhance learning and communication for the *special needs students*. It gives the opportunity to create a wide range of materials such as: Visual schedules and social skills stories, books and symbol-supported literacy activities for beginning and pre-readers materials to reinforce common educational, behavioral, and functional living skills, etc.

Clicker program 5

<http://www.cricksoft.com/us/products/tools/clicker/special-needs.aspx>

Clicker is the proven reading and writing tool that helps students with special needs and students of all abilities to achieve gains in their levels of reading and writing. It can be used as a communication tool as well. *For students with autism, speech and language difficulties, low vision, motor impairment and intellectual impairment.*

Dragon naturally speaking – Speech recognition

<http://www.nuance.com/naturallyspeaking/products/macintosh/for-the-mac.asp>

<http://www.nuance.com/naturallyspeaking/products/editions/default.asp>

<http://www.microscience.on.ca/>

Dragon naturally speaking is speech recognition software to use on a computer. You talk, and it types. It has been shown to improve core reading and writing skills for students of all abilities, including those with *physical or language-based* learning disabilities as well as English language learners.

Go Talk products

<http://www.attainmentcompany.com/home.php>

There are several Go Talk models to meet the individual needs. Go Talk is a communication device for *beginning and experienced communicators*. Touch a picture and it talks and can also express a multiple message in sequence. These messages will play seamlessly in the order selected to simulate typical conversation. Users can easily edit their recorded “expressions”.

HearBuilder program

<http://www.superduperinc.com/>

HearBuilder Phonological Awareness helps students improve their phonological awareness and auditory processing skills. It is a step-by-step evidence-based program that helps increase the students' awareness of words, syllables, and phonemes (sounds).

PECS: Picture Exchange Communication System

<http://www.pecs-canada.com/pecs.php>

PECS was developed in 1985 as a unique augmentative/alternative communication intervention package for individuals with autism spectrum disorder and related developmental disabilities. It was created with families, educators, and resident care providers in mind, so is readily used in a range of settings.

PECS has been successful with individuals of all ages demonstrating a variety of communicative, cognitive and physical difficulties. Some learners using PECS also develop speech. Others may transition to a voice output system.

Clientele: Age categories from (0-5 years), (6-12 years), teen agers (13-18 years) and Adults

Proloquo2Go

<http://www.orin.com/>

Proloquo2Go provides a full-featured communication solution for *people who have difficulty speaking*. It brings natural sounding text-to-speech voices, up-to-date symbols, powerful automatic conjugations, a default vocabulary of over 7000 items, full expandability and extreme ease of use to the iPhone, iPod touch and iPad.

Starfall

<http://www.starfall.com/>

Starfall is a free public service to teach children to read with phonics. Our systematic phonics approach, in conjunction with phonemic awareness practice, is perfect for preschool, kindergarten, first grade, second grade, special education, homeschool, and English language development (ELD, ELL, ESL). Starfall is an educational alternative to other entertainment choices for children.

Where children have fun learning to read!