



# **27<sup>th</sup> Annual GSAT Conference: Building Bridges for Smoother Transitions through Assistive Technology**

Carolyn P. Phillips, M.Ed, CPACC

Co-Director | Center for Inclusive Design & Innovation

**Creating More Opportunities in a Changing World**



**AKA:  
Welcome to  
Creative Trail  
& Bridge  
Building 101!**





**Begin  
with the  
End in Mind!**





# Håfa Adai!

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Carolyn P. Phillips is nationally recognized in the field of assistive technology and disabilities. Carolyn serves as Co-Director of CIDI at Georgia Tech and Director & Principal Investigator of Tools for Life, Georgia's Assistive Technology (AT) Act Program.

She is a frequent keynote speaker at conferences and guest lecturer at other universities. She is the associate Editor for the AT Outcomes and Benefits (ATOB) journal and has published articles in journals, chapters in books in AT and poetry focused on living with disabilities.

Carolyn has dedicated her time and energy to promoting independence of all people, including those with disabilities through advocacy, education, assistive technology and systems change.

She received her undergraduate degree from the University of Georgia, her Master's Degree from the University of Kentucky and is currently pursuing her PhD at Texas Tech University.

Carolyn loves living in Atlanta, Georgia with her partner of over 20 years, their two children, along with their 2 dogs & 3 cats. Her favorite role on this life journey is being "Mom" to Meera and Tucker!

# Session Description

- Beginning a path that leads to college or preparing for the workforce can be an overwhelming experience. This keynote session will explore the collective role each of us plays in promoting student success further through transition planning and the powerful role of assistive technology in this process. We will examine outcomes that can occur when universal learning design, accessibility and appropriate assistive technology solutions are integrated into the lives of individuals with disabilities.
- During this session, participants will learn about some of the strategies and solutions being used to assist students with disabilities prepare for life beyond high school and assist with smooth transitions into the workplace and community. We will discuss technological trends and share examples of assistive technology, accessibility, and specifics about software, hardware, and apps.
- Additionally, information regarding COVID-19 will be shared as we are collectively navigating this challenging pandemic together.



# Learning Objectives

After participating in this Keynote You will be able to:

- Discuss at least 3 apps/software solutions that can assist with writing and reading.
- Identify at least 3 apps/software solutions that can assist with productivity.
- Explain at least 3 built-in accessibility features.
- Share COVID-19 Accessible CDC Materials & Information.
- Participants will be able to successfully find CIDI | GT resources & navigate the Tools for Life AppFinder.

# Accessibility Made Smart at CIDI

- Accessibility Consulting – ICT & UX
- Braille Services
- Captioning and Described Audio Services
- Professional E-Text Producers
- Certified Assistive Technology Team

**Tools for Life is Celebrating 30 Years of Service this Year!**



We Are Contributing to an Inclusive World

CIDI is recognized as a leader for services and research in accessibility. We are dedicated to an inclusive society through innovations in assistive and universally designed technologies, with a goal of addressing the full range of needs for accessibility. We are committed to the promotion of technological innovation and development of user-centered research, products, and services for individuals with disabilities.

[TRAINING](#)

[FUNDING](#)

[PUBLICATIONS](#)

[TFL WIKI](#)

[MEET THE TFL TEAM](#)

[MEET THE  
ADVISORY COUNCIL](#)

[DIRECTIONS/MAP](#)

[JOIN OUR  
MAILING LIST](#)

[HOW CAN WE HELP?](#)

[AT REFERRALS](#)

[Welcome](#)

[AT Services](#)

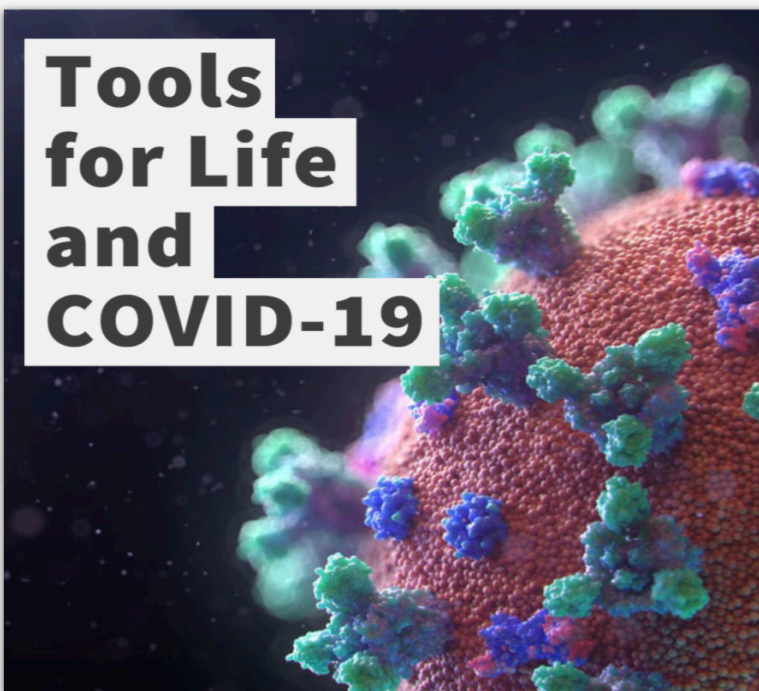
[Try AT](#)

[Get AT](#)

[AT Guides](#)

[Research](#)

# Tools for Life and COVID-19



## Welcome to Tools for Life

Tools for Life, Georgia's Assistive Technology Act Program, is dedicated to increasing access to and acquisition of assistive technology (AT) devices and services for Georgians of all ages and disabilities as they go through their work

## COVID-19 RESOURCES FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

### WEBINARS

- [Current Webinar Schedule](#)
- [Webinar Archives](#)

### TOOLS FOR LIFE APPFINDER



...for Living, Learning, Working, and Playing.

### AT ONLINE EXCHANGE



### AT FUNDING GUIDE



# Tools for Life Website



# Aging Well ACCESS AT Tool

A NIDILRR - smart-sourced funded project to design a system for suggesting assistive technology strategies & solutions for services providers, individuals aging in place, and their circles of support.

Initial version will be available to the public in 2022!

Initial Activities:

Medication Management

Dressing

Eating

Grooming



# TechSAge RERC

**Rehabilitation Engineering Research Center on Technologies to Support Successful Aging with Disability**



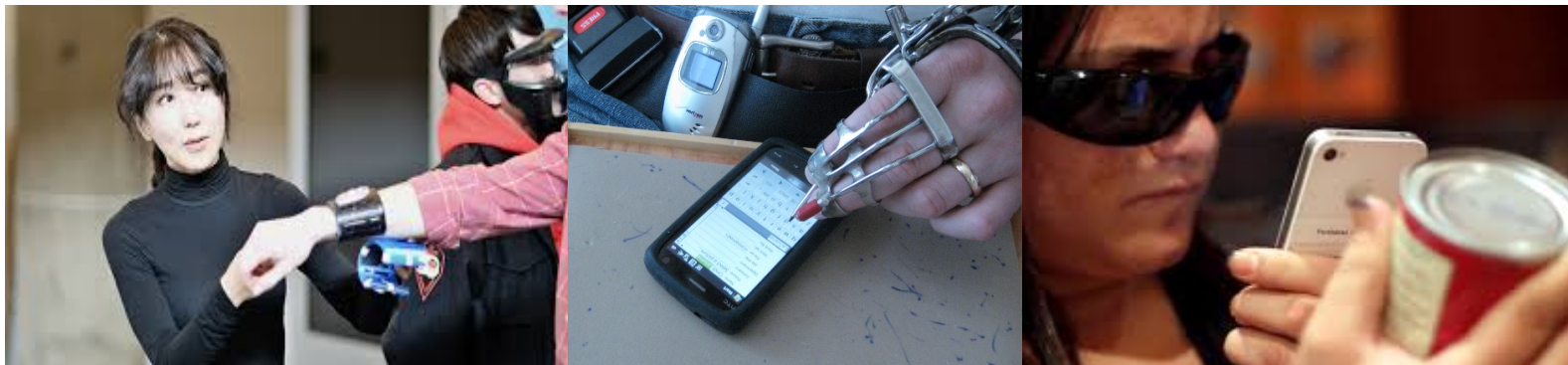
- TechSAge research is funded by the National Institute on Disability, Independent Living, and Rehabilitation Research (NIDILRR grant number 90RE5016-01-00). NIDILRR is a Center within the Administration for Community Living (ACL), Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

## Our Mission

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Promote a transformative future where individuals with disabilities achieve independence, improved quality of life, and enhanced community participation.

User-Centered R&D • Accessible Solutions • Policy & Outreach





# Workplace Accommodation Expert Support System (Work ACCESS)

A NIDILRR - funded project to design a system for suggesting workplace accommodations for employees with disabilities.

Initial version will be available to the public in October, free for people who agree to provide feedback as beta testers.

Initial Activities (with an Office focus):

Moving About Workplace

Reading / Writing Print

Using a Workstation

Using a Computer

Learning Work Tasks

Communicating Face-to-Face

Time Management

# Assistive Technology Network (AT Network)

A NIDILRR - funded project to design a system assisting individuals with disabilities in finding AT.

Thank you - Guam Assistive Technology Program for Partnering on this Project!



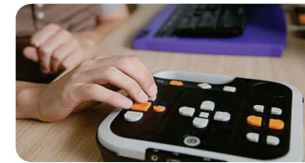
## Assistive Tech Network



[Products and Apps](#) • [Informational Resources](#) • [Our Partners](#) • [Discussion](#)



**View** Articles that will help you select, implement, customize, and adapt AT solutions to meet your individual needs.



**Explore** the latest assistive technology solutions including products, software, and accessible features



**Connect** with our community of assistive technology users, assistive technology providers, and industry representatives to discuss AT.



**Creating the Next**  
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**Georgia Tech**

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## Georgia's "Assistive Technology Follows the Student" Pilot:

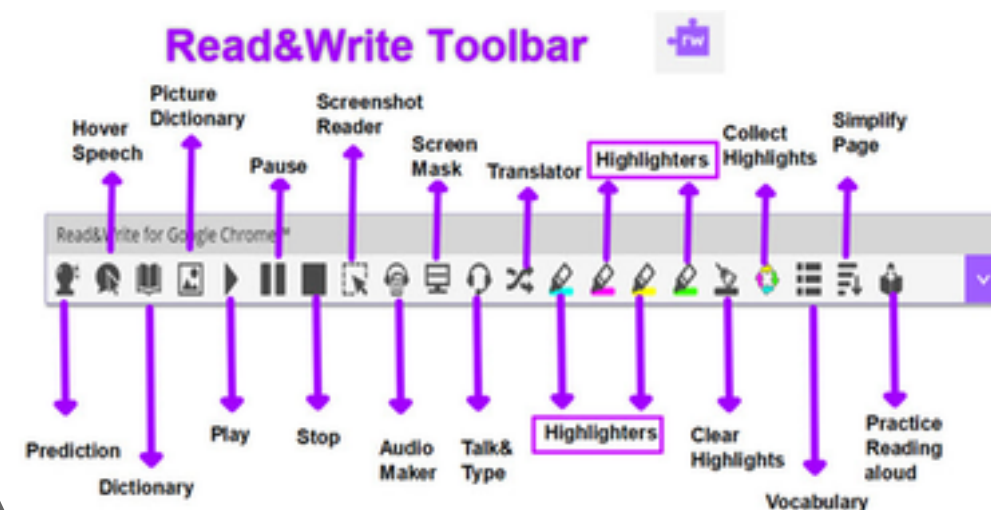
**It is Successful!**

- Over 168,000 Students participating!

Transformational Partnership with Georgia Department of Education & Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation to transition AT with the Student!

Excited to Grow this and help even more individuals accomplish their employment goals with GVRA!

- AT Software
- AT Lending Library
- AT Exchange Database





# Guiding Principles

- We – Collectively – are Brilliant & Can find an Innovative Path and Create Brighter Futures
- Smooth Transitions Make The Difference!
- We must Think, Live and Act from a place of Abundance – We have enough time, money, resources.
- We Must Focus on Abilities!
- Assistive Technology is Key to Success.
- Success Breeds Success
- YOU have the Power to make the Difference!
  - Change vs. Progress (Bob Phillips)



# Why Are We Discussing this Topic Today?

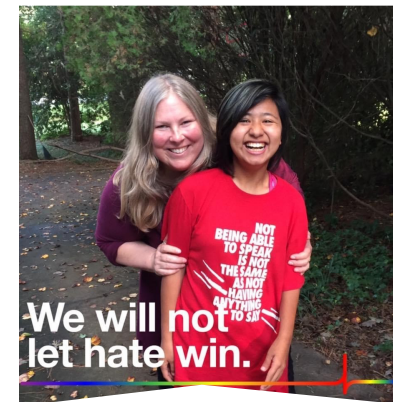
- Master Our Skills!
- Find AT Solutions to Help Everyone Succeed!
- Expand Our Knowledge &
- Build Stronger Schools to Create an amazing, Inclusive and United Community!





# Transition Success: Consider this...

- Success relies on
  - Being Involved in “My Plan!”
  - Knowing Myself
    - Self-Exploration
      - Who am I?
    - Learning Style
      - What is My Learning Style?
  - Honestly Exploring –
    - What do I want to Do When I Grow Up?
    - What Assistive Technology do I need to accomplish my Goals?



If you fail to plan, you are planning to fail!  
Benjamin Franklin

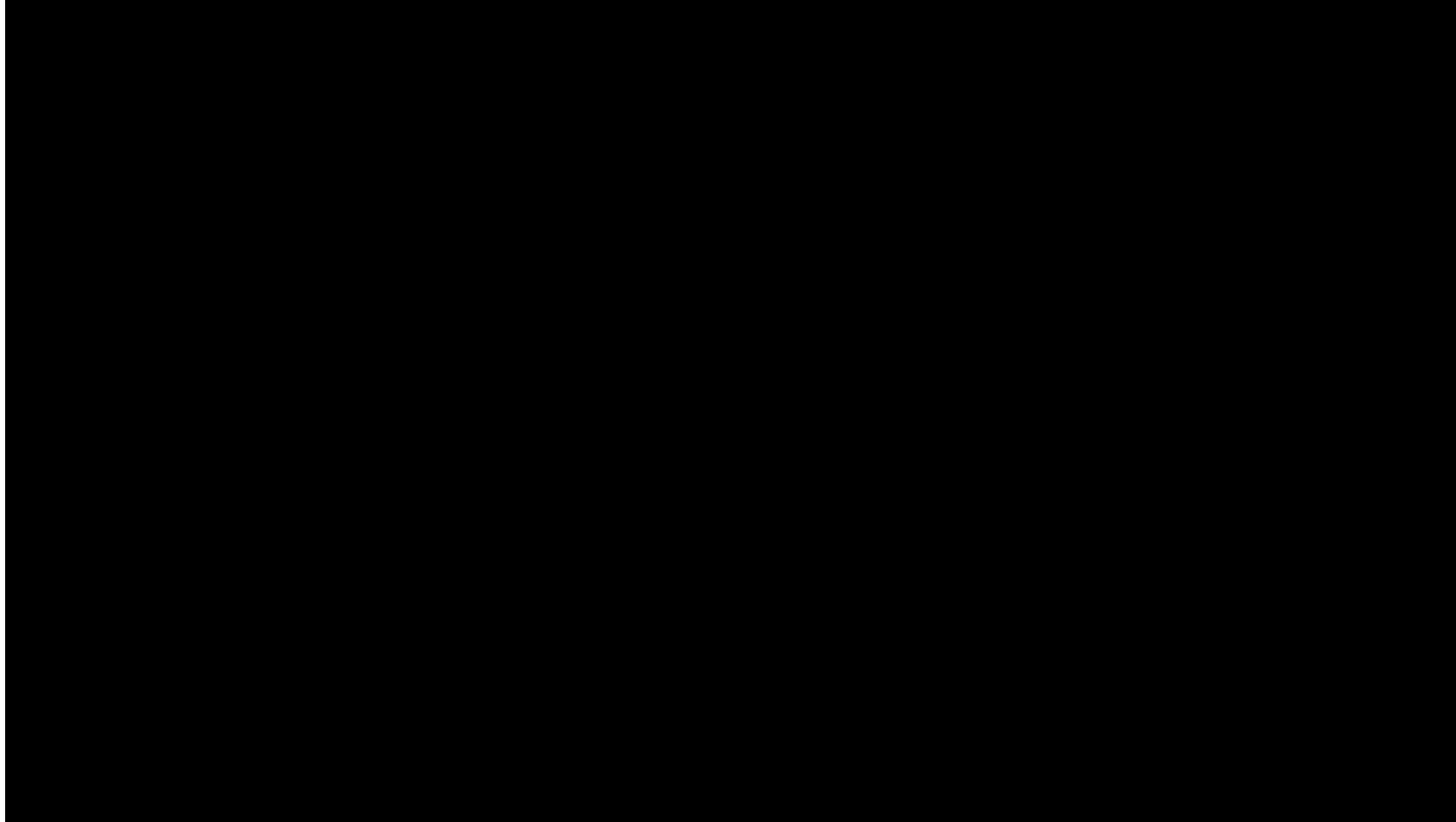
# Designed for Meera – Apple!



- <https://vimeo.com/288991645>



# Designed for Meera – Apple! (2)




- <https://vimeo.com/288991645>

# Meera uses TouchChat & an Apple iPad

touchchatapp.com/blog/general/designed-for-meera-p-by-apple

Search TouchChat App Search

TouchChat Apps Accessories Support Community Log In

 TouchChat

TouchChat 2.23.0 released!

[Community](#) » [Blog](#) » [General](#)

## Designed for Meera P. by Apple®

May 17, 2017 in [General](#)

Have you seen the new Apple® ad, "Designed for Meera P." by Apple®? Meera is a teenager who loves soccer and jokes. She uses TouchChat on an iPad® to talk with her friends and family, and deliver the occasional one-liner. Check it out [here](#).

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Categories

[General](#)

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# Success & Failing Forward

- Going to IEP since 1<sup>st</sup> grade!
- TIP – Presume Competence & the Ability to Learn!
- It's My Life - Involved in My Plan!
- Choosing my AT – TIP: Start Early & Evolve (Amazing SLPS, OTs, AT Professionals, Teachers, Para-Pros!)
- Using My AT – TIP: Celebrate Use. ALL Communication Counts!
- I Speaking Up – TIP: Understanding Rights, Legal Services
- I Speaking Out – Advocacy & Self-Advocacy
- I am going to a Post-Secondary Inclusion Program – UGA, GT or KSU



# Meera's Independent Living TIP – Learn Medication Management

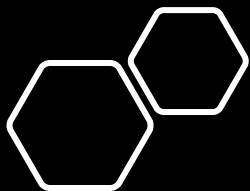
- Automatic medication dispenser
  - Holds 29 doses
  - Set up to 4 alarms per day



- Pillpac.com
  - Organized pills packaged by pharmacy
  - Sealed pouches for each day
  - Time stamped
  - Lessen medication errors







# Meera's TIP: Create SMART Goals

Think about...




Specific	Measurable	Attainable	Relevant	Time-Bound
Make sure your goals are focused and identify a tangible outcome. Without the specifics, your goal runs the risk of being too vague to achieve. Being more specific helps you identify what you want to achieve. You should also identify what resources you are going to leverage to achieve success.	You should have some clear definition of success. This will help you to evaluate achievement and also progress. This component often answers how much or how many and highlights how you'll know you achieved your goal.	Your goal should be challenging, but still reasonable to achieve. Reflecting on this component can reveal any potential barriers that you may need to overcome to realize success. Outline the steps you're planning to take to achieve your goal.	This is about getting real with yourself and ensuring what you're trying to achieve is worthwhile to you. Determining if this is aligned to your values and if it is a priority focus for you. This helps you answer the why.	Every goal needs a target date, something that motivates you to really apply the focus and discipline necessary to achieve it. This answers when. It's important to set a realistic time frame to achieve your goal to ensure you don't get discouraged.

# Meera's SMART Goals

- I want to go to College in 2022!
- I want to get a summer job at an ILC in 2021.
- I want to get a job – helping others, helping babies, para-pro, CNA or perhaps Technology development.
- I want to get married and have 2 children after College & I get a job.

[Donate](#)

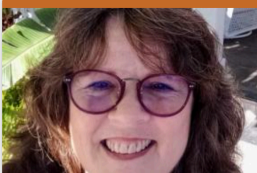
[Think College](#) [Home](#) [Family Resources](#) [Technical Assistance](#) [Training](#) [Resources](#) [About](#) [TPSID](#)




[COLLEGE SEARCH](#)  
[RESOURCE LIBRARY](#)  
[INNOVATION EXCHANGE](#)  
[WHAT'S HAPPENING IN YOUR STATE](#)

## NEWS AND FEATURES


[View all](#)





**Technical Assistance Coordinator Joins NCC**  
We are delighted to announce that Dr.



**Think College has a new blog!**  
We are happy to announce Inside Think



**Students & Staff in Inclusive Higher Education: Do you want**



**New Accreditation Workgroup Established for 2021-2025**

# Meera's Post-Secondary Inclusion Program

- I have over 300 College Options!

Click "♥ save" to add programs to your favorites. You can then save, compare and download basic information for each one. See FAQ: [How do I save and compare programs?](#)

## RECENTLY ADDED

- University of South Florida St. Petersburg
- Goodwin University (CT)
- University of Alabama
- University of Nebraska Omaha
- East Tennessee State University

## SEARCH

CLEAR

Program or Keyword

SHOW ALL

## LOCATION

- ☐ Alabama (8)
- ☐ Alaska (1)
- ☐ Arizona (1)
- ♥ Show more states

## PROGRAM FEATURES

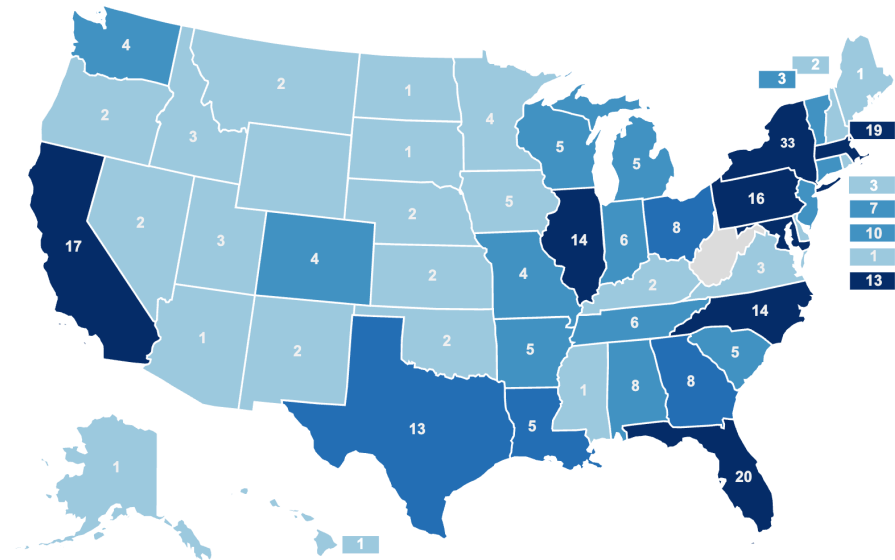
- ☐ Serves Students in High School \*
- ☐ Offers Financial Aid

## Find the College that is right for you!

This directory includes information on 300 college programs for students with intellectual disability. You can search by program name, location, and other keywords. "Advanced Filters" offer more options to narrow your search.

Review these [Frequently Asked Questions](#) for answers to some general questions on college programs, how we gather the information in the directory, and how to use the features of College Search.

Once you have located colleges you are interested in, download the [How To Think College Guide to Conducting a College Search \[PDF\]](#). It provides you with the right questions to ask in order to get the answers you need about each program on your list. The How To guide is also [available in Spanish](#).



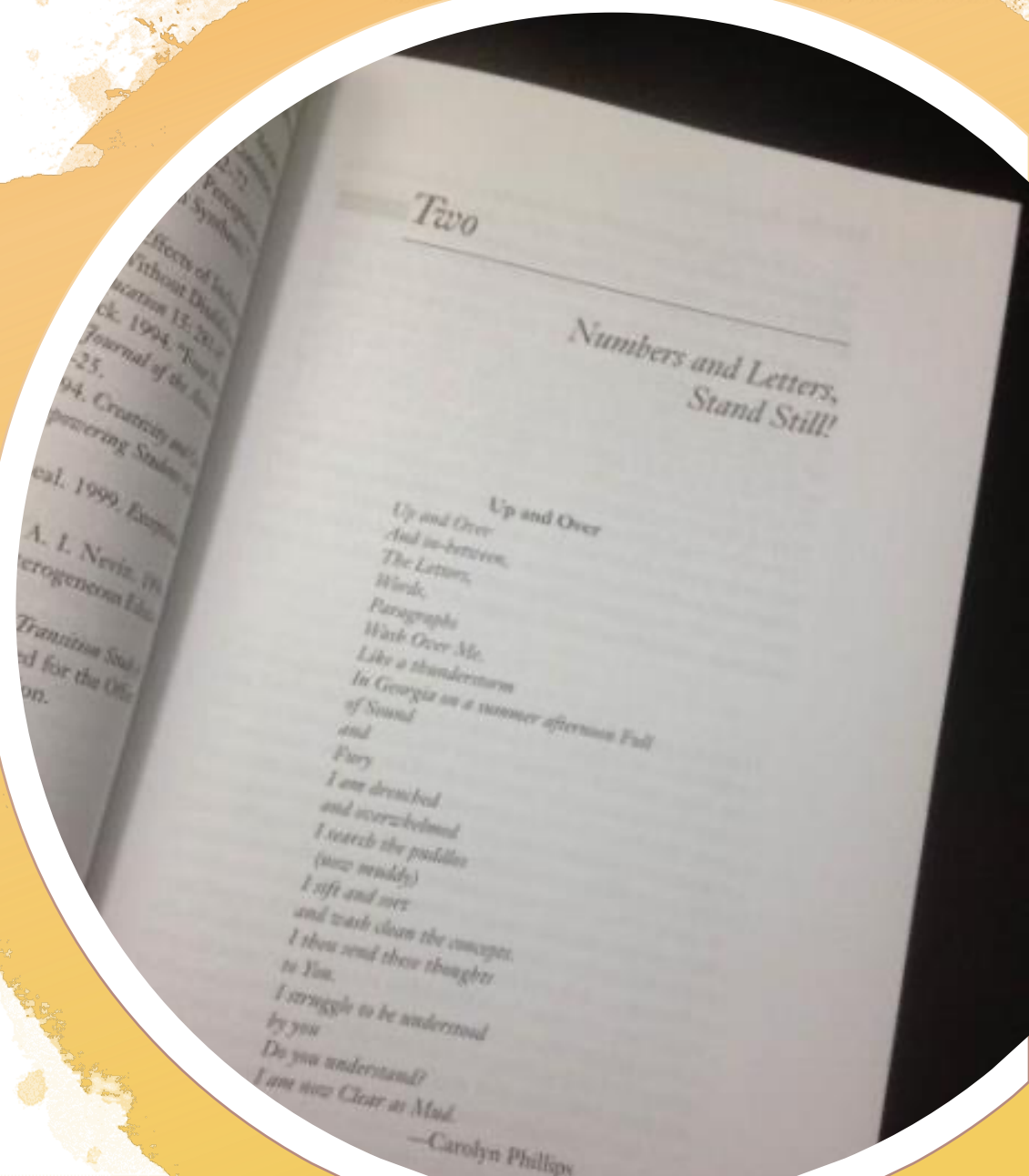
# Meera's Advice to You

- Be kind.
- Use Assistive Technology!
- Be the Change!
- Understand I have seizures – but, I am ok.
- Understand that I am smart – even though you may not understand me at first.





# Learn to Tell Your Story!



# Carolyn's Specific Learning Disabilities

- Dyslexia - Difficulties with learning to translate printed words into spoken words with ease
- Dysgraphia - Deficits in writing (organization, clarity, unity, mechanical errors, spelling, handwriting)
- Dyscalculia - Difficulty with numbers and/or remembering facts over a long period of time (columns, number reversal, mathematical operation)
- Auditory Processing Disorder – Difficulty hearing small sound differences in words. APD, also known as central auditory processing disorder, isn't hearing loss or a learning disorder. My brain doesn't "hear" sounds in the usual way. It's not a problem with understanding meaning.



# Bimodal INPUT Helps Learning!

Seeing it +

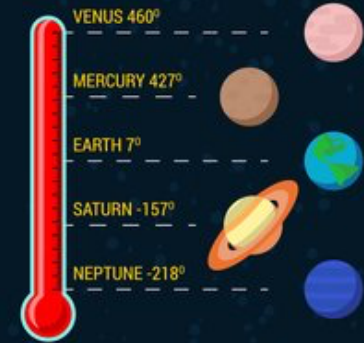
Hearing it

Helps You Remember It!

# UNIVERSE INFOGRAPHIC ELEMENTS

## TEMPERATURE ON PLANETS

Et harum quidem rerum facilis est et expedita distinctio. Nam libero tempore, cum soluta nobis est eligendi optio, cumque nihil impedit, quo minus id, quod maxime placeat, facere possimus, omnis voluptas assumenda est, omnis molestiae nostrum.



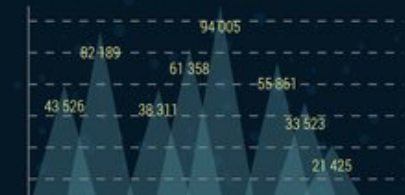
## SOLAR SYSTEM

Et harum quidem rerum facilis est et expedita distinctio. Nam libero tempore, cum soluta nobis est eligendi optio, cumque nihil impedit, quo minus id, quod maxime placeat, facere possimus, omnis voluptas assumenda est, omnis molestiae nostrum.



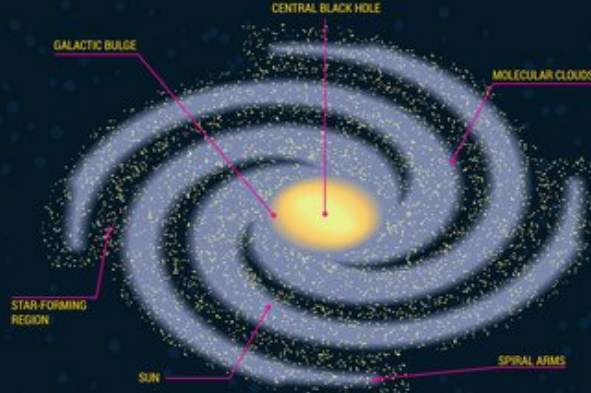
## SOLAR SYSTEM DISTANCE

Et harum quidem rerum facilis est et expedita distinctio. Nam libero tempore, cum soluta nobis est eligendi optio, cumque nihil impedit, quo minus id, quod maxime placeat, facere possimus, omnis voluptas assumenda est, omnis molestiae nostrum.



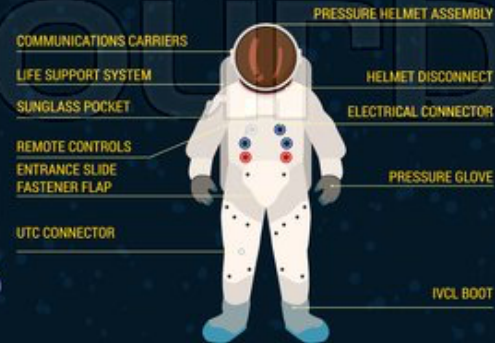
## MILKY WAY GALAXY STRUCTURE

Et harum quidem rerum facilis est et expedita distinctio. Nam libero tempore, cum soluta nobis est eligendi optio, cumque nihil impedit, quo minus id, quod maxime placeat, facere possimus, omnis voluptas assumenda est, omnis molestiae nostrum.



## ASTRONAUT SPACESUIT COMPONENTS

Et harum quidem rerum facilis est et expedita distinctio. Nam libero tempore, cum soluta nobis est eligendi optio, cumque nihil impedit, quo minus id, quod maxime placeat, facere possimus, omnis voluptas assumenda est, omnis molestiae nostrum.



## COST OF THE SPACE PROGRAM

Et harum quidem rerum facilis est et expedita distinctio. Nam libero tempore, cum soluta nobis est eligendi optio, cumque nihil impedit, quo minus id, quod maxime placeat, facere possimus, omnis voluptas assumenda est, omnis molestiae nostrum.



## MOON EXPEDITIONS

Et harum quidem rerum facilis est et expedita distinctio. Nam libero tempore, cum soluta nobis est eligendi optio, cumque nihil impedit, quo minus id, quod maxime placeat, facere possimus, omnis voluptas assumenda est, omnis molestiae nostrum.



## MOON AND MARS ROVERS

Et harum quidem rerum facilis est et expedita distinctio. Nam libero tempore, cum soluta nobis est eligendi optio, cumque nihil impedit, quo minus id, quod maxime placeat, facere possimus, omnis voluptas assumenda est, omnis molestiae nostrum.



## SPACE STATION

Et harum quidem rerum facilis est et expedita distinctio. Nam libero tempore, cum soluta nobis est eligendi optio, cumque nihil impedit, quo minus id, quod maxime placeat, facere possimus, omnis voluptas assumenda est, omnis molestiae nostrum.



## THE NUMBER OF ASTRONAUTS RESEARCH ON COUNTRIES



## EARTH STRUCTURE

Et harum quidem rerum facilis est et expedita distinctio. Nam libero tempore, cum soluta nobis est eligendi optio, cumque nihil impedit, quo minus id, quod maxime placeat, facere possimus, omnis voluptas assumenda est, omnis molestiae nostrum.



# Consider Cognitive Load

TIP – Find a balance and the sweet spot for Learning





# What is Assistive Technology?

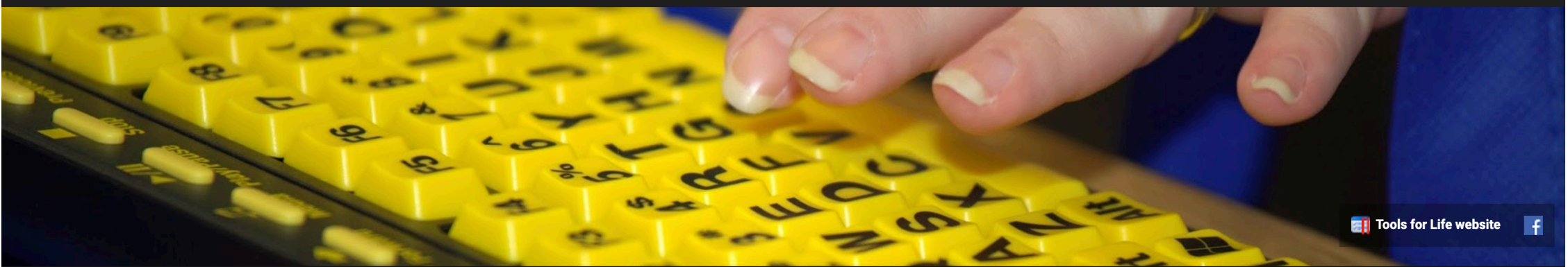
- Assistive Technology (AT) is any item or piece of equipment that is used to increase, maintain or improve the functional capabilities of individuals with disabilities in all aspects of life, including at school, at work, at home and in the community.





# Why Assistive Technology?

- For a person without a disability, technology makes things easier....
- For a person with a disability, technology makes things possible.
- TIP: USE AT. I have yet to meet a successful student with a disability who doesn't use Any AT.


# CIDI | TFL Videos!




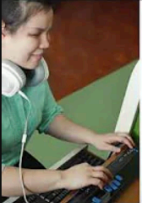
Tools for Life website 

 **Tools for Life Georgia AT Program**  
114 subscribers


**SUBSCRIBE**

HOME VIDEOS PLAYLISTS CHANNELS DISCUSSION ABOUT 


Uploads  PLAY ALL




**Work ACCESS and the Assistive Software...**  
37 views • 1 month ago  
CC




**Helping Students Understand Instruction with Visual...**  
38 views • 6 months ago  
CC




**Using Captions to Support Student Learning**  
25 views • 6 months ago  
CC



**Using Graphic Organizers to Support Students with...**  
104 views • 6 months ago  
CC



**Using Speech-to-Text Assistive Technologies to...**  
44 views • 6 months ago  
CC



**Using Text-to-Speech Assistive Technologies to...**  
139 views • 6 months ago  
CC

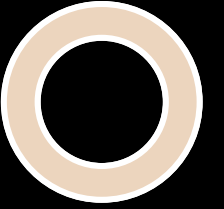


# Consider this

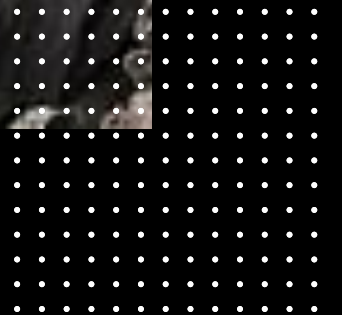
- Our Success relies on
  - Failing
  - Dignity of Failure
    - I learned More from My “Failures” sometimes than my “successes”
    - Give yourself room to fail – and Grow from the experience
    - Learn to Laugh - a lot!
    - Be Optimistic
    - Evaluate & Evolve!



# Transition Success



- Our Success relies on
  - Building win-win-WIN relationships
    - Establishing a solid circle of support
      - Receiving and providing support
    - Diversify your Circle of Friends and Acquaintances
    - It sometimes is “Who you know”
    - BALANCE - Social Life and Studies





# Moving from Information to Action

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- Educational Psychological Evaluations
  - One to one assessment
  - Comprehensive battery of tests
  - Detailed report with recommendations for support in work and/or learning
- 
- What did You learn in your Evaluation?
  - Moving from Information to Action
    - Using your Evaluation results as an Action Plan for AT



# Managing The “FAST” Track

- Frustration
- Anxiety
- Stress
- Tension



# TIP: Consider Ergonomics

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- Inhibits blood flow
- Creates muscle shortening
- Stresses back muscles and compresses spine
- Can inhibit learning
- Compresses diaphragm
  - Affects breathing
  - Voice quality

# In the Shadows - Mainstream

- Tim Cook, Apple Chief Executive
- 2013 speech at Auburn University
- ...people with disabilities are "in a struggle to have their human dignity acknowledged."
- "They're frequently left in the shadows of technological advancements that are a source of empowerment and attainment for others."

# Tools for Life AppFinder

- Recently updated!
- Search By:
  - Categories
  - App Name
  - Device Type
  - Price



## AppFinder

[About](#) | [Our Other Favorite Apps Databases](#) | [Helpful Links](#)

Welcome to the Tools for Life Database - Our Favorite Apps for Living, Learning, Working and Playing!

### Search By:

Name:

OR

Notetaking  
Organization  
PDF reader  
Personal Care and Safety  
Productivity  
Prompting  
Readers  
Relaxation  
Scanner  
Science  
Screen Reader  
Sign Language  
Social Distancing  
Speech  
Spelling  
Talking Calculator  
Teleworking  
Therapeutic Aids  
Vision  
Writing

### Price:

☒ Free ☐ Up to \$4.99 ☐ Up to \$9.99 ☐ All

### Device Type:

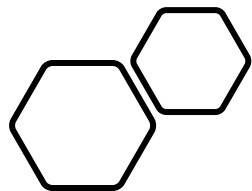
☐ Android  
☐ iOS  
☐ Microsoft  
☐ Blackberry  
☐ Chrome Extension



The background of the slide is a large, irregular orange watercolor splash. In the center of this splash is a solid black rectangular box containing the main title. Below the black box, the text 'Reading & Writing' is written in white. The overall design is clean and modern, with a focus on the title and subtitle.

# **My Favorite Software & Apps for Productivity**

Reading & Writing



# Learning Ally

- Learning Ally
  - DAISY
  - Membership required
  - over 90,000 audiobooks, audio textbooks, and other recorded books
  - Free Trial

A screenshot of a Learning Ally audiobook interface. At the top, it says "Webaccounts" and "Table of contents" with a "Play" button. Below this is a header for "Geometry Connections, Version 3.1" by Leslie Dietiker and others, with buttons for "TOC", "Page", and "Bookmark". The main content is a list of levels and chapters. Level 1 includes "Opening Announcements", "Navigation Guide", "Front", "Table of Contents", "Chapter 1", "Chapter 1 Closure", "Chapter 2", "Chapter 2 Closure", "Chapter 3", "Chapter 3 Closure", "Chapter 4", "Chapter 4 Closure", "Chapter 5", "Chapter 5 Closure", "Chapter 6", and "Chapter 6 Closure". Level 2 includes "Appendix A" and "Appendix B".

Level	Chapter
Level 1	Geometry Connections, Version 3.1
Level 1	(Opening Announcements)
Level 1	Navigation Guide
Level 1	Front
Level 1	Table of Contents
Level 1	Chapter 1
Level 2	Chapter 1 Closure
Level 1	Chapter 2
Level 2	Chapter 2 Closure
Level 1	Chapter 3
Level 2	Chapter 3 Closure
Level 1	Chapter 4
Level 2	Chapter 4 Closure
Level 1	Chapter 5
Level 2	Chapter 5 Closure
Level 1	Chapter 6
Level 2	Chapter 6 Closure
Level 1	Appendix A
Level 1	Appendix B



# Bookshare

- Online Accessible Library
- Free membership to qualified students and schools
  - Textbooks if school is member
- 208,769 titles
- Serves individuals with:
  - Vision disabilities
  - Physical disabilities
  - Learning disabilities

- Reader that uses eye-guiding color gradients to help make reading faster
- Improves reading speed and reading ability
- Free access to affected teachers and students due to COVID-19
- Available on most platforms



## Read Faster and Easier, All Day Long

Reading on-screen can be tough on your eyes, especially if you have to do it all day long. We're here to help. BeeLine Reader makes reading on-screen easier, faster, and more enjoyable. We use a simple cognitive trick — an eye-guiding color gradient — to pull your eyes from one line to the next. This technique increases reading speed and enhances focus. BeeLine's efficacy has been validated in independent testing by literacy nonprofits, educators, and even CNET. But you don't have to take their word for it — flip through a few above color schemes and see how much faster you can read!



# Voice Dream Reader

- Accessible reading tool that can be tailored to suit any reading style from completely auditory to completely visual or a combination of both
- Features include OCR, reading modes, audio & visual controls, and annotations
- Supports most file types including ePub and DAISY
- Available on iOS and Android



# Microsoft Seeing AI

- **Seeing AI** app from **Microsoft**  
**Seeing AI** is a free app that narrates the world around you.
- Describes nearby people, text and objects.
- Available on iOS



# GoodReader

- A PDF reader that has file management capabilities.
- Allows user to read, annotate, and edit PDFs.
- Compatible with Dropbox, Google Drive, OneDrive
- Available on iOS only



# Speech Recognition

- Speech recognition software enables people to talk to their computers and watch their spoken words appear in documents, email, instant messages and more—three times faster than most people type—with up to 99% accuracy.
- It lets users dictate and edit in programs like Microsoft® Word, Excel® and Outlook®, surf the web using Internet Explorer® and Mozilla® Firefox®, and command and control virtually any Windows application—just by speaking.

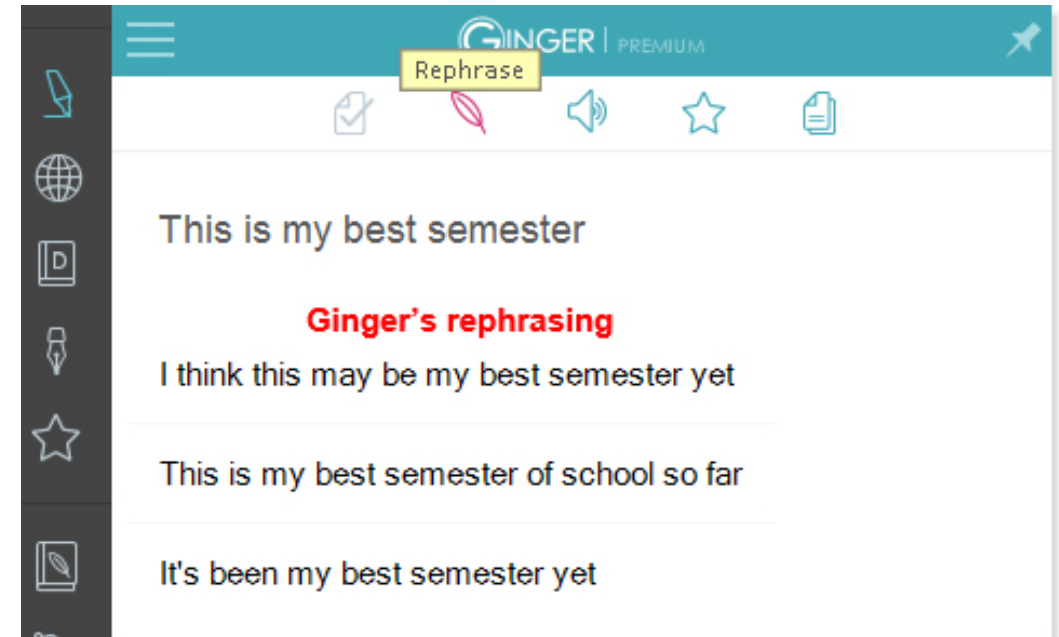


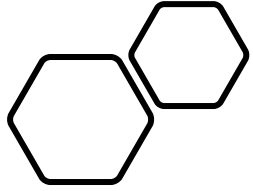


# Where to Find Speech Recognition

- **1) Built-in Speech Recognition technology:** Today, many devices have **built-in Speech Recognition software**. This includes desktop and laptop computers (Windows and macOS), smartphone and digital tablets (Android and iOS), and Chromebooks (Chrome OS). If you have any of these devices, you probably don't need to buy special software. Often microphone and the Speech Recognition tools come with the device, but you may need an Internet connection.
- **2) Speech Recognition apps:** Along with using built-in dictation tools, you can also download **Speech Recognition apps** on smartphones and digital tablets. One example is Dragon Dictation (iOS).
- **3) Chrome tools:** A number of **tools for Chromebooks and the Chrome browser** also offer Speech Recognition , like Co:Writer Universal, WordQ and Read&Write for Google Chrome. When used in the Chrome browser, Google Docs also has its own Speech Recognition tool called Voice Typing.

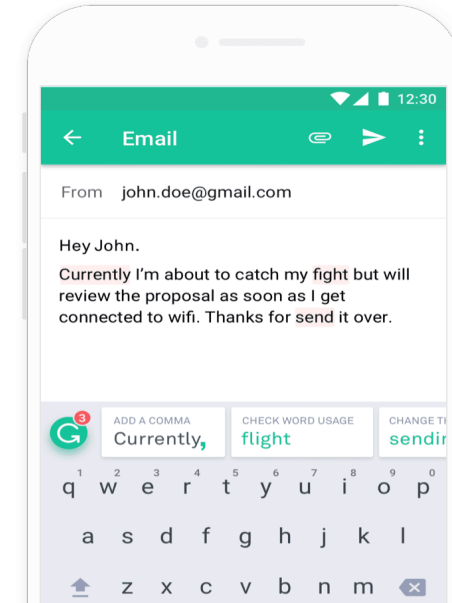
- [Ginger Grammar Checker](#) is a free program you can add to your browser (Chrome, Safari, Firefox) that will check your grammar, spelling, and sentence structure as you write online.
- You can also download it into your computer to check your grammar when you are using your computer offline.
- Corrects text as user types
- Available on Google Chrome, Android, and iOS





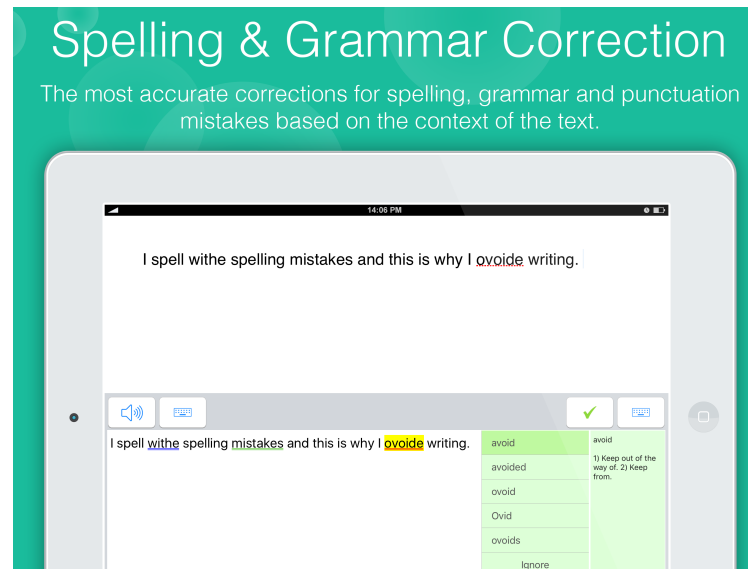
# Grammarly

- A writing assistant that provides feedback in real-time on grammar, spelling, tone, etc
- Compatible with most emails, MS Office, Google Suite, and has a keyboard option for mobile devices
- Free & Paid for versions
- Available on iOS, Android, and as a Chrome Extension



# Ghotit Real Writer & Dyslexia Keyboard

- Assists people with dyslexia and dysgraphia in English writing and text correction.
- Features include a context-sensitive spell checker, word prediction, text editor, and ability to share files.
- Compatible with text to speech
- Keyboard works in most iOS applications where writing is allowed.







# ClaroSpeak – Writing & Reading

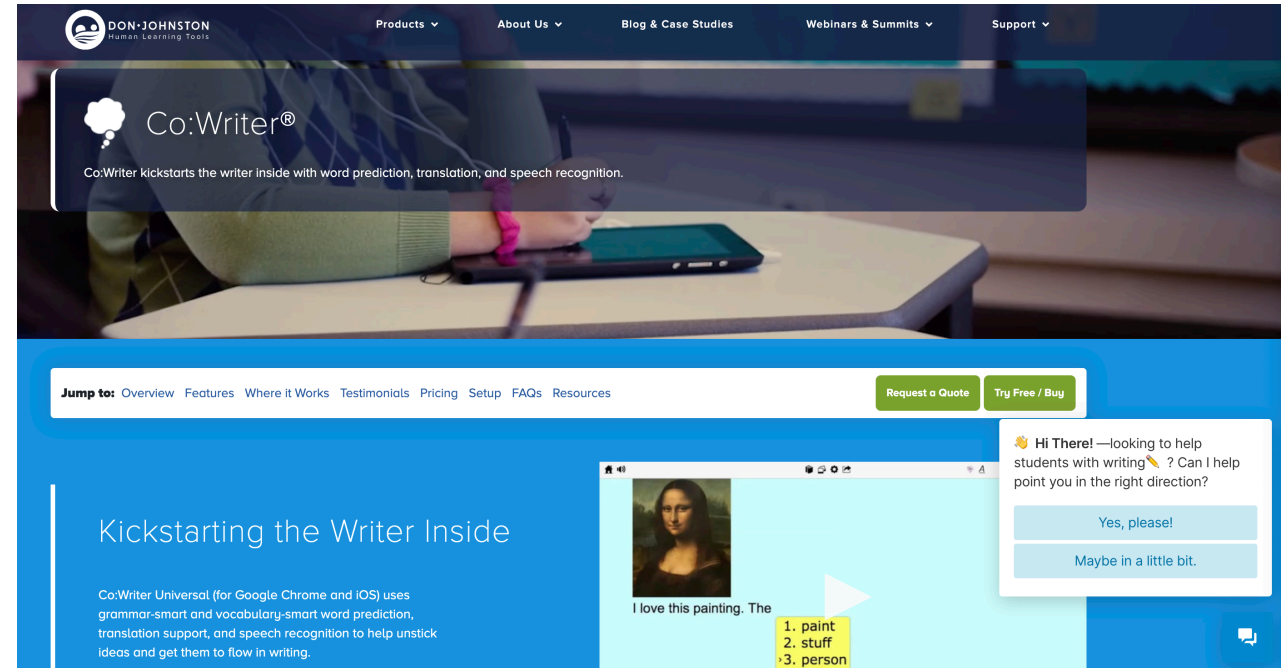
- Lots of helpful features: high-quality text-to-speech, formatting controls, a wide range of fonts and styles and cloud storage integration.
- ClaroSpeak offers visual highlighting in-sync with the spoken words, a great range of color and font settings to allow for optimum reading and word prediction to help with writing.
- Proofreading text through listening, helping with reading and literacy development and creating audio files from any text.

- Supports Reading and writing.
- Designed to be simple, easy-to-use and flexible, and supports concentration
- ClaroRead Plus - scan and convert paper books and documents so you can read them aloud



# Co:Writer

- Supports Writing
- Designed to be simple, easy-to-use and flexible, and supports concentration
- Works across Google, Chrome, iPad & more
- Excellent Technical Assistance



# Snap&Read

- Supports Reading
- Designed to be simple, easy-to-use and flexible, and supports concentration
- Works across Google, Chrome, iPad & more

The screenshot displays the Snap&Read website. The header features the Don Johnston Human Learning Tools logo and navigation links for Products, About Us, Blog & Case Studies, Webinars & Summits, and Support. A hero section with a background image of a smiling woman contains the Snap&Read logo and the tagline: "Every student's own personal toolkit for understanding everything they read today." Below this is a "Jump to:" navigation bar with links to Overview, Features, Where it Works, Testimonials, Pricing, Setup, FAQs, and Resources, alongside "Request a Quote" and "Try Free / Buy" buttons. The main content area includes the Snap&Read logo, a description of the toolkit, and a preview of an article titled "Introduction to Marine Mammals" with a video player and a sidebar. A chat bubble on the right says "Hi there—looking t with reading ?" with response options "Yes, ple" and "Maybe in".

**DON JOHNSTON**  
Human Learning Tools

Products ▾ About Us ▾ Blog & Case Studies Webinars & Summits ▾ Support ▾

**Snap&Read™**  
Every student's own personal toolkit for understanding everything they read today.

**Jump to:** Overview Features Where it Works Testimonials Pricing Setup FAQs Resources [Request a Quote](#) [Try Free / Buy](#)

**Snap&Read™**

Snap&Read is a toolkit of purposeful reading tools and accessibility features with direct integrations across Google Chrome, iPad and more. It offers PDF annotation and study tools, reads text aloud, levels vocabulary, translates text, removes distractions, and delivers usage data to educators.

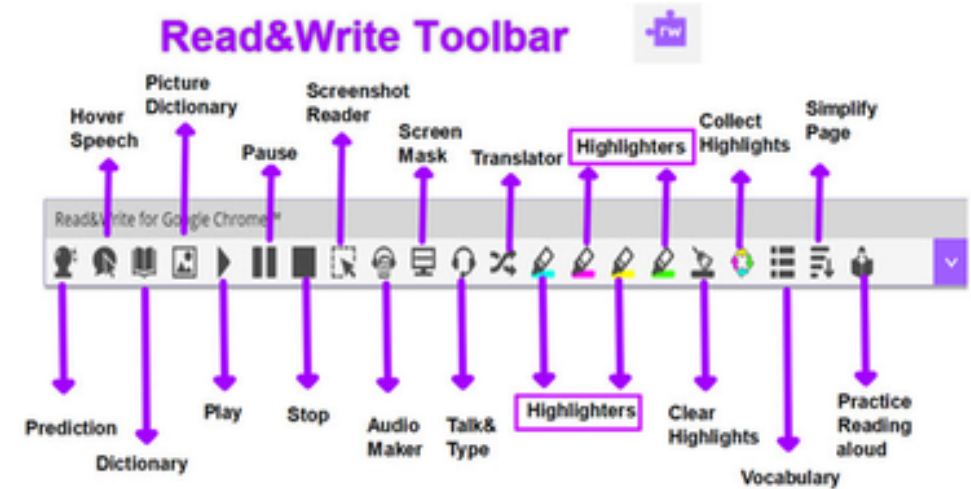
**Introduction to Marine Mammals**

Mammals are a special group of animals with a combination of characteristics that separate them from all others: mammals are warm-blooded, have hair or fur, breathe air through lungs, bear live young, and nurse their young with milk produced by mammary glands.

Hi there—looking t with reading ?  
Yes, ple  
Maybe in

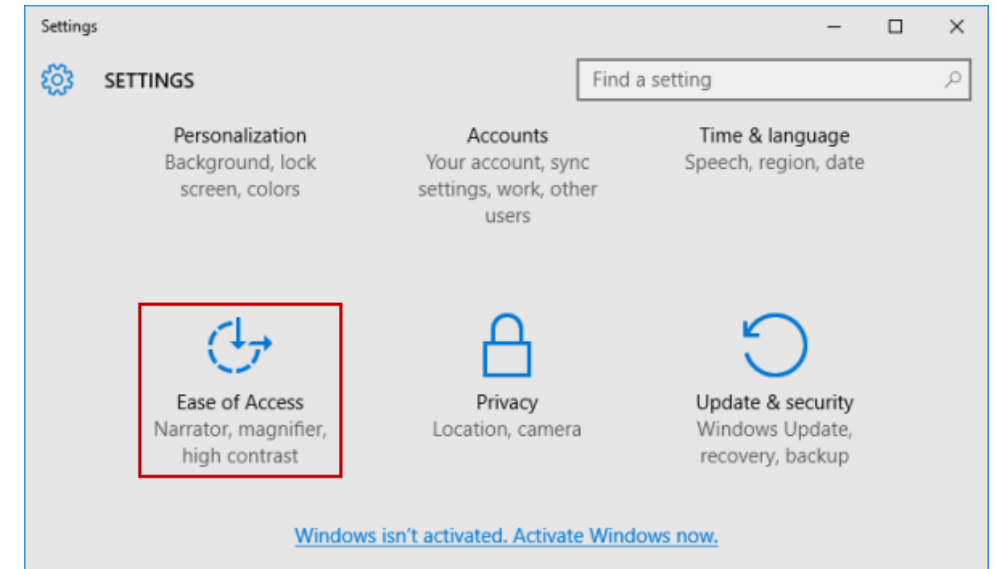


- Read&Write makes documents, web pages and office applications more accessible.
- Easy to use toolbar helps employees with everyday literacy tasks - from composing a quick email to writing reports, proofing lengthy documents or searching for information on the web.
- Option to use free trial
- Has a new focus Read&Write for Work
- Toolbar that is discrete
- Available for download or as Chrome Extension



# Windows Ease of Access Features

- Narrator allows the user to access the PC without a mouse.
  - Read and write emails
  - Edit documents
  - Browse internet
  - **Windows Logo Key + Ctrl + Enter**
- High Contrast mode that is customizable to the user's needs
  - **Alt + Left Shift Key + Print Screen**
- Tutorials are available for all accessibility features online.



- **1) VoiceOver** describes exactly what's happening on your iPhone, iPad, Mac, Apple Watch, or Apple TV, so you can navigate your device just by listening.
- Apple's built-in apps support VoiceOver, which will talk you through tasks you do with them.
- **2) Upsize the text in apps** - When you activate Larger Dynamic Type on iPhone, iPad, or Apple Watch, the text inside apps like Mail, Messages, and Settings is converted to a larger, easier-to-read size.
- **3) Voice Control** opens up an intuitive new way to navigate iOS, iPadOS, and macOS — using only your voice. Improved dictation and richer text editing features help you write more efficiently, while simple vocal commands let you quickly open and interact with apps.
- **4) Speak Screen** can read text from newspapers, books, web pages, or email on your iPhone or iPad.

The background of the slide is a white surface with a large, irregular orange paint splatter. The splatter has a textured, brush-like appearance with various shades of orange and some darker spots. A solid black rectangular box is positioned in the center of the orange splatter, containing the main title text.

# **My Favorite Software & Apps for Productivity**

File Sharing & Collaboration Platforms



- A file sharing software that allows users to collectively upload and transfer files to the cloud.
- Easily send large files through a link that can be shared with anyone
- Transform documents, receipts, photos from a mobile device into PDFs
- Available on most devices and platforms, also different payment plans.



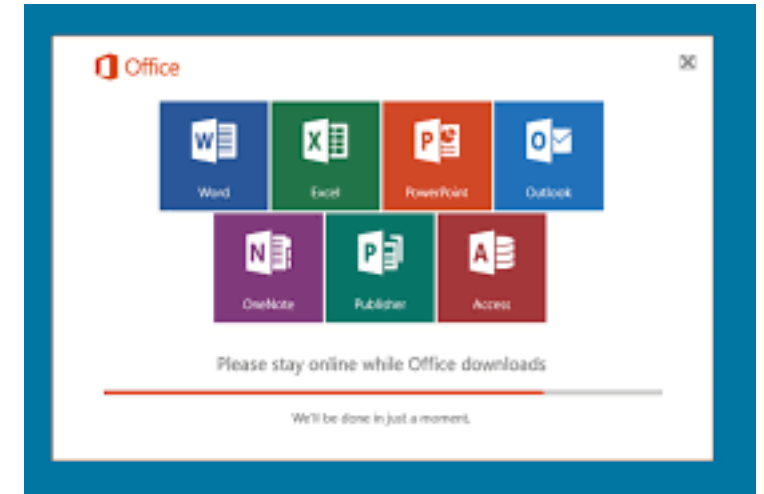
- Store, share, and collaborate on files and folders from any mobile device, tablet or computer.
- Integrates with G-Suite applications to allow for team collaboration in real time.
- View content while offline
- Available on most platforms



Google Drive

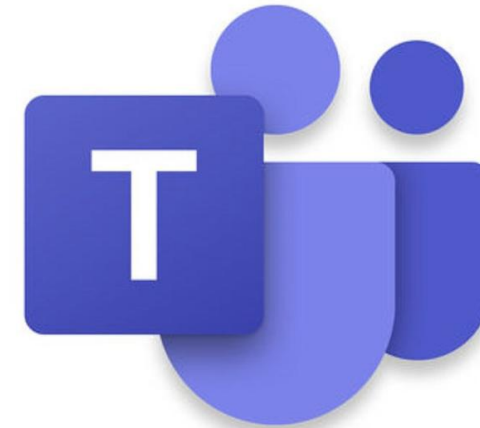
# Microsoft Office 365

- Microsoft Office became a market leader by producing different applications and making it easy moving between them, making working more efficient and hassle-free.
- Word, Excel, Powerpoint, and Outlook forming the core programs, these cover everything from documents, spreadsheets, presentations, and emails - in effect covering most essential office needs.
- OneDrive offers online saving and backups to keep your files safe.
- MS Office still remains the office suite with the most comprehensive range of features.
- Prices starting from \$6.99 per month



# Microsoft Teams

- Hub for teamwork that brings together chat, meeting & video conferencing, and content collaboration within MS applications
- Easily set up meetings and to-do lists for project management
- File sharing and editing on the go
- Auto-generated captioning





The background of the slide is a white surface with a large, irregular orange paint splatter. The splatter is centered and has a textured, brush-like appearance with various shades of orange and some darker spots. A solid black rectangular box is positioned in the center of the orange splatter, containing the main title text.

# **My Favorite Software & Apps for Productivity**

Note Takers

- Microsoft's note-taking platform
- Offers notebooks that can be divided into sections and pages
- Option to share notes and collaborate with team members
- Record audio notes, insert videos, take pictures, annotate
- Sync notes across all devices.



- Create to-do lists, checklists, notebooks, searchable notes.
- Notes in a variety of formats including text, sketches, photos, screenshots, files, audio, web clippings, etc.
- Sync across any device
- User can create agendas, write memos, craft presentations, set reminders



- Simplest note-taking app - both visually and how it operates.
- Digital post-it notes, with each note dotted around the interface as if they were laid on a table in front of you.
- Notes can be given labels, pinned to the top, given a color, paired with reminders and collaborated on in real time.
- Speech-to-text functionality so you can dictate notes on the go rather than have to write.
- Free



The background of the slide is a white surface with a large, irregular orange paint splatter. The splatter is centered and has a textured, brush-like appearance with various shades of orange and some darker spots. A solid black rectangular box is positioned in the upper-middle part of the orange splatter.

# **My Favorite Software & Apps for Productivity**

Time Management



# Brain Focus Productivity Timer

- A time-management application that is based on the Pomodoro Technique
- Pomodoro Technique is deciding on a task to be done, setting a timer (25 min), working on the task, taking a short break (3-5 min) and then working in 25 min increments
- Block distractions such as notifications on phone
- Android Only but there are multiple online options



- Track and monitor everything - to logging how often you write to managing a to-do list.
- You define your goal (whatever that may be) and log your progress. Gamification.
- Anything that can be plotted on a graph can be tracked – number of words written, number of hours worked, number of contracts signed.
- Connects with many other apps.
- Free



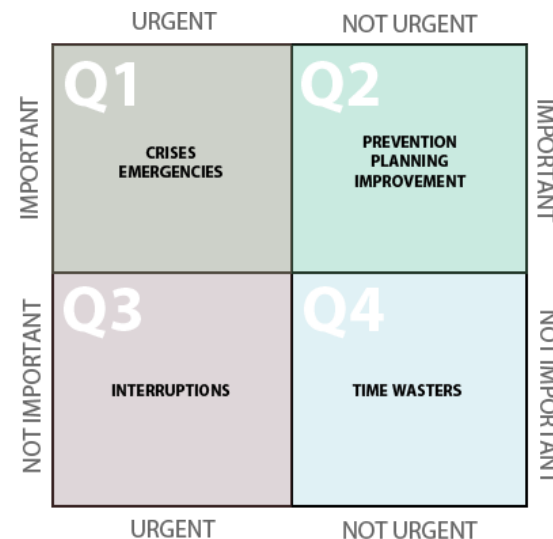
The background of the slide is a large, irregular orange watercolor splash. It has a textured, painterly appearance with various shades of orange and some darker spots. In the center of this splash is a solid black rectangular box containing the main title text.

# **My Favorite Software & Apps for Organization**

Reminders & To Do Lists

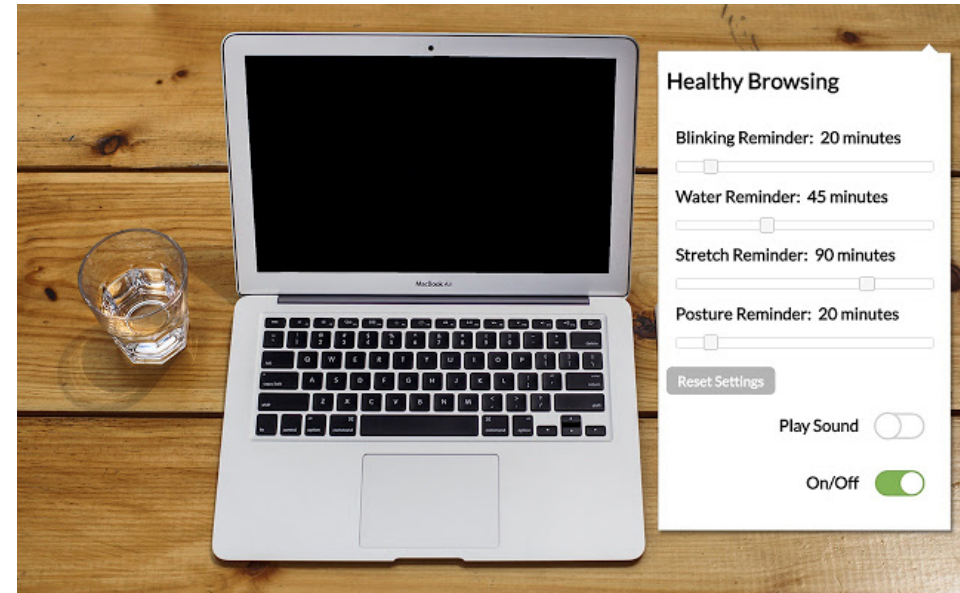
# Priority Matrix

- Priority Matrix uses the 4-quadrants method to help focus on top priorities and projects
- Set due dates, track progress, add notes, collaborate with other team members, allocate responsibilities, share files easily
- Integrates with Microsoft Office
- Free and paid for options



# Healthy Browsing

- A chrome extension that reminds users to drink water, blink, and stretch.
- Often when we are working from home or on the computer all day we forget to do these things
- Simple interface
- Reminders are fully customizable





The background of the image is a large, irregular splash of orange and brown watercolor paint on a white surface. The splash is centered and has a textured, painterly appearance with various shades of orange, from light to dark, and some brown tones. It has a soft, diffused edge with some smaller splatters around it.

# **My Favorite Tools for Relaxation & Mindfulness**

- An app for meditation and sleep that has different guides for meditation and sleep stories
- Includes breathing programs, masterclasses, relaxing music, etc
- Guided meditation sessions are available in different lengths
- Can be used in the web browser or on an app



- An app for meditation developed by psychologists and educators that offers a wide variety of programs for all ages.
- Particularly if you feel anxious about the COVID-19 or feel stressed about disruptions in your everyday “normal” lives.
- Free



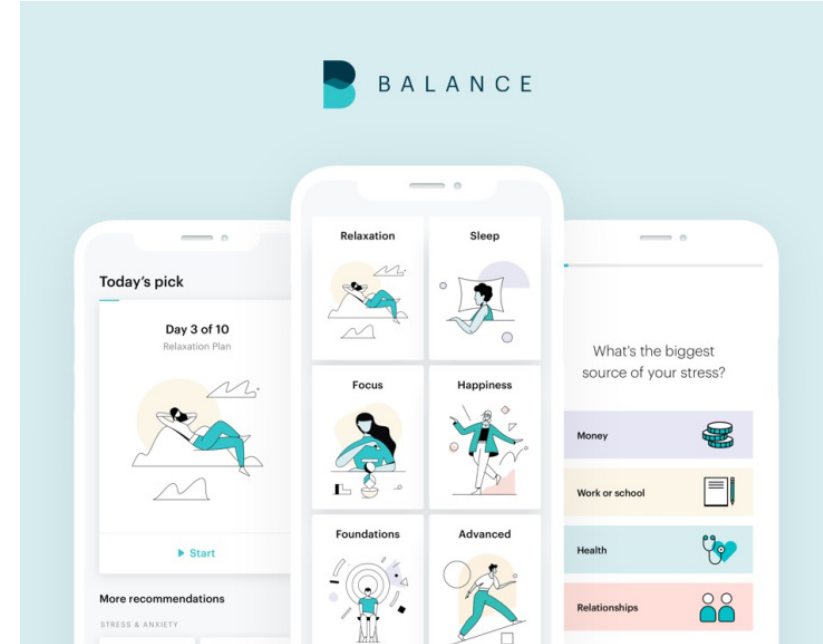
# Zen Garden

- An app that gives you all the peace and tranquility of a beautiful Zen Garden without the sandy mess!
- The tradition of the Zen Garden goes back nearly a thousand years in Japanese and Asian culture.
- Choose from over 100 different types of stones, shells, fossils and plants to place in your garden and then use your finger to “rake” the sand into intricate abstract patterns.
- Perfect for long meetings, train rides or meditation practice.
- Helps you to center your mind, relax your psyche and relieve your stress.
- Free



# Balance: Meditation & Sleep

- A personal meditation coach that has the user answer questions about meditation experience, goals, and preferences
- Wind down activity and sleep meditation
- 10-day plans
- iOS only but coming soon to the Google Play Store





# **CDC Foundation: Accessible Materials and Culturally Relevant Messages for Individuals with Disabilities**



**Thank  
you to  
our  
funder!**

## **The CDC Foundation**

This webinar series is made possible due to funding from the CDC Foundation along with technical assistance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).



# **Go Beyond Accessibility Guidelines**

- All individuals, with or without disabilities, have their own preferred learning modes. The offering of products in a variety of formats provides greater access for everyone.
- Going beyond accessibility considerations to address those preferences will introduce some products with wide-ranging benefits.

# COVID-19 Accessible Resources

Updated ASL Videos and  
Easy to Read documents  
are available on the CDC  
website

[www.cdc.gov/coronavirus](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus)

The screenshot shows the CDC's COVID-19 website. At the top left is the CDC logo with the tagline "Centers for Disease Control and Prevention" and "CDC 24/7: Saving Lives. Protecting People™". At the top right is a search bar labeled "Search COVID-19" which is circled in red. Below the search bar is a teal header with the text "COVID-19" and a navigation menu with links: "Your Health", "Vaccines", "Cases & Data", "Work & School", "Healthcare Workers", "Health Depts", and "More". Below the header is a large banner featuring an illustration of a person in a red shirt looking at a smartphone displaying a video of people playing football. The text on the banner reads: "Gathering virtually or with the people you live with is the safest." and "SAFELY ENJOY THE SUPER BOWL >". To the right of the banner are three sections: "VACCINES" with the subtext "Information for you & your family >", "MASKS & PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION" with the subtext "New requirement >", and "NEW VARIANTS" with the subtext "What we know >". At the bottom, there are two columns of links. The left column is titled "VACCINES" and includes links for "Questions and answers >", "Your vaccine appointment >", and "Pharmacy Program >". The right column is titled "SYMPTOMS & TESTING" and includes links for "Symptoms >", "When to get tested >", and "When to quarantine >".

# Improving ASL Videos

## American Sign Language



The COVID-19 American Sign Language (ASL) videos below from the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#) were supported, in part, by a grant from the CDC Foundation, using funding provided by its donors. The materials were created in partnership with the Center for Inclusive Design and Innovation at Georgia Tech. View the full [CDC COVID-19 ASL YouTube playlist](#) for additional videos. Please note that only the videos listed on this microsite were developed through this project; others on the CDC COVID-19 ASL YouTube playlist were developed by CDC.

[View CDC COVID-19 ASL Playlist](#)

## Symptoms, Testing, and Treatment



- ASL is a primary language, not a translation of English, for deaf individuals who use it.
- Videos need to be in native ASL. We are working with CDC on a modified process to develop video scripts in native ASL.



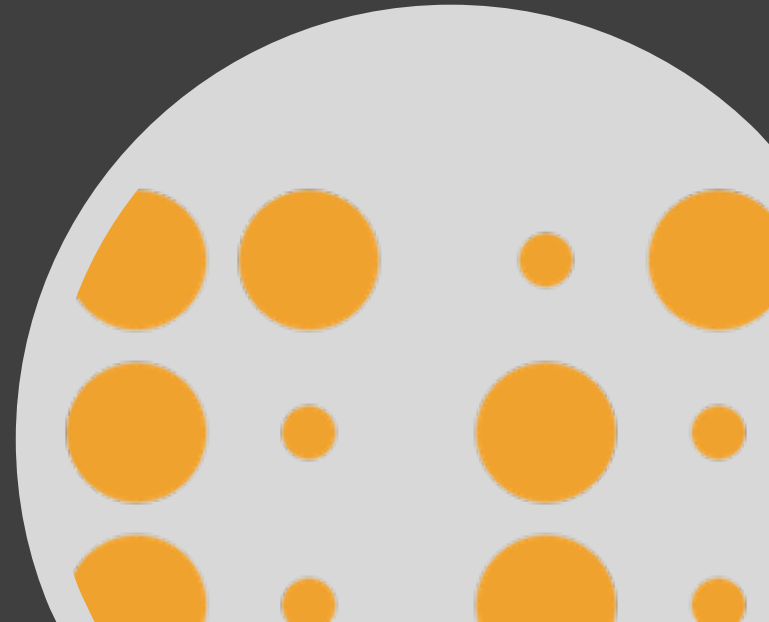
# Making Braille Easily Available

## Digital, braille- ready files

- Documents remediated for accessibility
- Available for download to refreshable braille displays


## Embossed Braille

- Available through partners
- Available by individual request through the CIDI microsite



# Simplified Text

Simplified text is needed for those with limited literacy skills from a variety of causes.



This requires simplification much lower than the Plain Language guidelines – content at or below 3<sup>rd</sup> grade level. We are “simplifying” CDC guidance to this level.



The process and tool, developed by partners at the University of North Carolina – Chapel Hill, School of Medicine, is groundbreaking research and an application of research-based findings.

# Easy to Read

[Your Health](#)[Vaccines](#)[Cases & Data](#)[Work & School](#)[Healthcare Workers](#)[Home](#) [Easy to Read](#)[The Spread of COVID-19](#)[COVID-19 Can Make You Feel Sick](#)[Tests for Current Infection](#)[Contact Tracing](#)[Wearing a Mask](#)[Clean and Disinfect at Home](#)[Living in Shared Housing](#)[Running Errands and Food Delivery](#)[Protect Animals from COVID-19](#)[Quarantine vs. Isolation](#)[Protect Yourself from COVID-19](#)[Protect Yourself Living with Other People](#)

## Wearing a Mask

Updated Jan. 8, 2021 [Print](#)

### Wear a Mask the Right Way

First, wash your hands.

Put the mask on your face.

Put the loops behind your ears.

The mask must cover your nose.

The mask must cover your mouth.

The mask must fit under your chin.

The mask must be snug on your face.

Make sure breathing is easy.

Masks may feel different.

Practice wearing a mask.

Practice will help you get used to wearing a mask.

### Protect Everyone from COVID-19

Wear a mask to protect yourself.

[Staying Away from People When You Have COVID-19](#)

[Protect Children at School](#)

[Decisions About School and Remote Learning](#)

### Get Email Updates

To receive email updates about COVID-19, enter your email address:

[What's this?](#)

[Submit](#)

### Stop COVID-19 Every Day

Stay at least 6 feet away from people outside your home.

Stay away from people who are sick.

Wear a mask to protect everyone.

Wash your hands often.

Wash your hands with soap and water.

Wash your hands for 20 seconds.

Sing the happy birthday song twice while washing your hands.

Use hand sanitizer if that is all you have.

Rub the hand sanitizer all over your hands.

Rub your hands until they feel dry.

Washing your hands with soap and water is best.

### Take Off Your Mask When You Get Home

Keep your hands off the front of the mask.

Touch only the strings or loops.

Use the strings or loops to take off the mask.

Fold the mask.

Put the mask in the laundry.

Wash your hands with soap and water.

# Webinars and Trainings

- Additional webinars have been hosted and archives can be accessed on the Georgia Tech microsite.  
[www.cidi.gatech.edu/covid/training](http://www.cidi.gatech.edu/covid/training)
- Webinar topics covered:
  - Apps for Promoting Independence and Safety (Nov. 12, 2020)
  - Sanitization of Personal Durable Medical Equipment (Nov. 18, 2020)
  - A Closer Look: Face Masks and People with Disabilities (Dec. 9, 2020)
  - A Closer Look: Mental Health and Resilience within the Disability Community during COVID-19 (Dec. 16, 2020)
  - Making Social Media Accessible for People with Disabilities (Jan. 20, 2021)
  - A Closer Look: Guidance for Business and Employees Considering the Needs of People with Disability during COVID-19 (Feb. 10, 2021)

# CIDI COVID-19 Microsite

- The microsite at Georgia Tech/CIDI will:
  - Link to CDC guidance, videos, etc.
  - Host some accessible materials.
  - Host education, training and supplementary resources.
- [www.cidi.gatech.edu/covid](http://www.cidi.gatech.edu/covid)





**Begin with  
the End in  
Mind!**



# Successful Transitions Help Create a Successful Life Journey



Teach/Learn to:

- Get to Know Yourself
- Plan for Your Success – in school, work, Life!
- Begin with the End in Mind
- Be able to tell Your Story
- Listen & Learn
- Try – Fail & Try again...
- When things get off track - Evaluate and Evolve
- Explore & Use Assistive Technology
- Laugh Much!
- Celebrate your Successes!!

# Si Yu'os Ma'åse'!

Be Well, Stay Safe & Enjoy this wonderful  
Conference!





# Questions?



**I appreciate  
your time!**



**Thank  
you!!**