

Techknowledgy Special Topics in Assistive Technology

It's Free! Register early! Certificates of Attendance are available

Assistive technology (AT) changes lives and offers educational solutions that can lead to academic success, increased independence, and greater self-confidence for students with disabilities. This VIRTUAL conference highlights evidence-based practices in AT, current trends, and practical AT strategies. It's also a great way to learn new AT ideas from national presenters and your AT colleagues around Virginia. Complete webinar descriptions and registration information for the following February sessions are available on the conference website, http://vconf.gmu.edu/Conference/TechKnowledgy2015.

February 23, 12-1 pm and 3-4 pm

Aided Language Stimulation: An Essential Strategy for Teaching Language to AAC Users of Any Age Presented by Lauren S. Enders, MA, CCC-SLP, Augmentative Communication and AT Specialist, Bucks County, Pennsylvania

This presentation will begin with a brief review of core language principles for vocabulary selection and language teaching. Participants will then learn how typical language learners acquire language and why the technique of aided language stimulation/aided language input is an essential component of any successful AAC implementation plan, regardless of a student's age or language level. Sample activities for various age ranges will be described and demonstrated.

February 25, 12-1 pm and 3-4 pm

50 Ways to Create Accessible Literacy Experiences with Everyday Technologies Presented by Judith Schoonover, MEd, OTR/L, ATP, FAOTA, and Sally Norton-Darr, MS, CCC-SLP, AT **Specialists, Loudoun County Public Schools**

Developing multi-modal materials to introduce or extend literacy experiences sets the stage for literacy success. Alternative ways to organize, display and arrange, interact and respond to information produce greater understanding of concepts. Musician Paul Simon proposed a 50-way relationship exit strategy. In this webinar, we propose a 50-way literacy ACCESS strategy. Scaffolds created or displayed with "everyday technologies" such as mobile technology, commonly used software, web-based tools, and classroom manipulatives provide a multitude of creative opportunities in which learners can thrive.

Who should attend?

Anyone who is interested in helping students with disabilities advocate for their technology needs, increase independence, and achieve educational success.

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