

Webinar

April 30, 2020, 12:00 – 1:00 pm

Do It Yourself Assistive Technology at Home

Are you an educator, related service provider, or parent with a student at home who needs some additional support creating your own low-tech assistive technology (AT)? DIY AT is here to help! This webinar will explore how to make several low-tech AT tools through easy steps with common items and materials that can be found around the house. We will demonstrate the steps to assemble low-tech tools during the webinar, identify the simple tools you will need, and share the materials lists and directions needed for you to create each item yourself!

Presenters:



Shelley Jewell, OTR/L, ATP, Program Specialist in Assistive Technology and Intellectual Disabilities, VDOE's Training and Technical Assistance Center at VCU

Shelley is a graduate of Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU) where she obtained her Master of Science degree in occupational therapy in 2012. She is an occupational therapist and RESNA certified Assistive Technology Professional who currently works for the T/TAC at VCU supporting teachers and staff in the area of assistive technology and instruction for students with intellectual disabilities. In the past, she provided occupational therapy services to students from preschool to high school levels. She has always held a strong interest in the value of assistive technology and its role in matching students to valuable tasks, such as accessing their environment and communicating.



Holly Nester, MS, CCC-SLP, ATP, Coordinator of Low-Incidence Disabilities, VDOE's Training and Technical Assistance Center at Virginia Tech

Holly is a graduate of Radford University where she obtained her Bachelor's degree in communication sciences and disorders and her Master of Science degree in speech pathology. She is an ASHA certified Speech Language Pathologist and a RESNA certified Assistive Technology Professional and has worked for the T/TAC @ Virginia Tech for almost 10 years. Prior to joining T/TAC, Holly served students preschool through high school-age with a wide range of speech and language needs. She is also an adjunct faculty member at Radford University where she supervises graduate students in the speech pathology program and has taught coursework in the education department.



**Matthew Newton, ATP, Technology Coordinator, VDOE's
Training and Technical Assistance Center at Virginia Tech**

Matt serves as the coordinator of assistive and educational technology for the Virginia Department of Education's Training and Technical Assistance Center (T/TAC) at Virginia Tech. His focus is supporting general and special education teachers, administrators, and related service providers in finding and implementing low to high-tech solutions and strategies for PK-12 students with disabilities. Matt began his education as a special education teacher working with students with multiple disabilities in Roanoke City Public Schools and also served there as an instructional technology resource teacher. He was recognized as Roanoke City's Teacher of the Year in 2014 and Virginia's Region 6 Teacher of the Year in 2015.



**Ynez Peterson, Assistive Technology Specialist,
VDOE's Training and Technical Assistance Center at ODU**

Ynez has 25+ years of experience as both an Occupational Therapist and Assistive Technology Specialist providing support to students and adults with disabilities and their teachers. She has shared her passion for working with students with disabilities by consulting with teachers, presenting at local and national occupational therapy and assistive technology conferences, instructing college students, developing online instructional training modules, and creating professional development opportunities for educators and community partners.

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