Exploring Assistive Technology

Gloria Jinks M.Ed., COTA/L
Media & Training Coordinator
Assistive Technologist

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NCATP
North Carolina Assistive
Technology Program

The Who and What of NCATP

- **State and Federally funded program created under the 21st Century Assistive Technology Act**

- **NCATP serves:**
  - **All ages and abilities**
  - **9 Centers that serve all 100 counties**
  - **Professionals in disability related fields**
  - **Employers/employees in private/public settings**

- **NCATP services**
  - **AT Evaluations, Training and Technical Assistance, Device Demonstrations and Loans, Information and Resources.**

Assistive Technology Device

"...any item, piece of equipment or product system, whether acquired commercially off the shelf, modified, or customized, that is used to increase, maintain, or improve functional capabilities of individuals with disabilities."
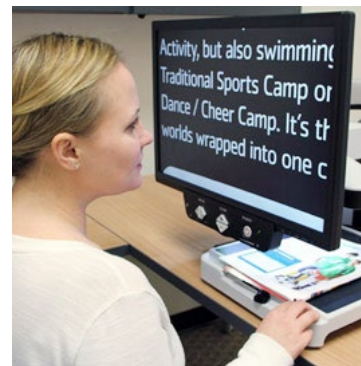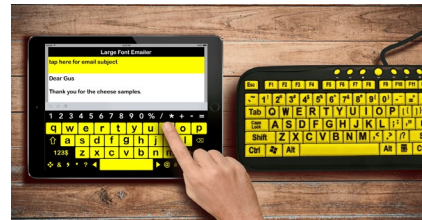
Categories of Assistive Technology

- Vision
- Hearing
- Mobility, Seating, and Positioning
- Recreation, Sports, and Leisure
- Daily Living
- Environmental Adaptations
- Speech Communication
- Computer Access
- Learning, Cognition, & Development
- Vehicle modification and Transportation

Levels of Assistive Technology

- **Low Technology: No electronic components.**

- **Mid Technology: Electronic but does not use sophisticated computer components.**

- **High Technology: Complex, multifunction technology and usually computer based.**

Vision

- **Magnification**
- **Sound/ Voice Output**
- **Screen Readers**
- **Braille Displays**
- **Scanners-Text to Speech (OCR)**
- **Low Vision AI Glasses**
  - **OrCam**
  - **IrisVision**
  - **eSight**

Hearing

- **Volume Control**
- **Alerting Device**
- **Visual Displays**
- **Caption Phones**

Daily Living

- **Medication Management**
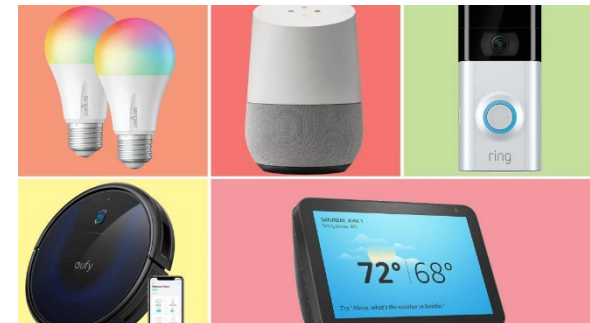
- **Feeding**

- **Activities of Daily Living Aids**

Environmental Adaptations

- **Smart devices**
- **Switch controlled devices**
- **Voice activated devices.**

SimplyHome System

Computer Access

- **Alternative Input devices**
  - **Headmouse**
  - **Dragon Naturally Speaking**
  - **Adapted keyboards**

Learning, Cognition, Development

- **Smart Pens**
  - **Echo**
  - **C-Pen**

- **Speech to Text Software**
- **Visual Timers**

Assistive Technology is related to **function** rather than to a *specific disability*

Thank you
Gloria Jinks
Gloria.jinks@dhhs.nc.gov
984-301-8324

Demonstration Time