

Assistive Technology Kits



National College of Education
National-Louis University
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To reserve, call Sandy Hilmert at ext. 5533



Preparing Tomorrow's Teachers to Use Technology

PT3 is an initiative of the U.S. Department of Education

Boardmaker for Windows 3-ring Binder:

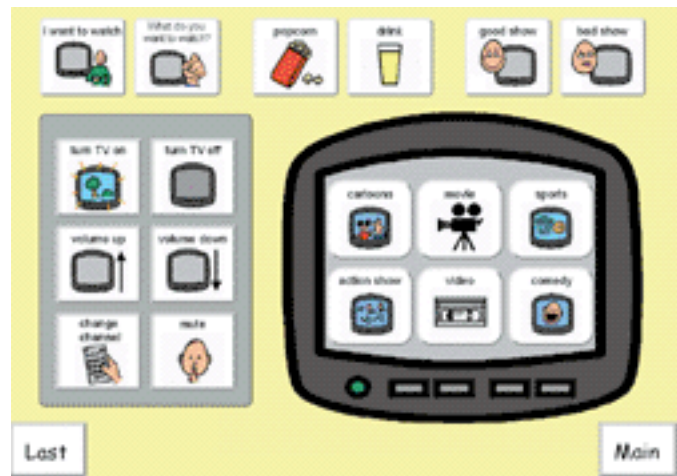


Includes:

- a. Boardmaker Idea and Add-on Book
- b. The Boardmaker Tutorial
- c. Boardmaker QW66035
- d. Start Here Booklet
- e. User's Guide spiral book
- f. Mayer-Johnson 2004 catalog

a. Description: This software allows the user to design overlays for the computer keyboard to help students make specific selections or share ideas. (Belson, 2003)

Samples: The sample overlay shown here allows a person with communication difficulties the ability to indicate a variety of feelings concerning a television program. From adjusting the volume to changing the channel, a person can indicate their preferences easily by choosing the best icon on the board.



- 1. <http://schou.sd41.bc.ca/district/boardmaker.htm>
- 2. <http://www.setbc.org/res/equip/boardmaker/files.html>
- 3. <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/boardmaker/>

Dana Wireless Keyboard by AlphaSmart



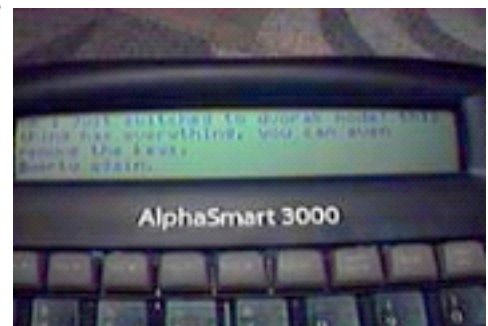
Includes:

- a. Desktop software CD
- b. Dana Internet Solutions Pack
- c. Documents To Go: CD
- d. Setup Guide Getting Started
- e. USB Cable
- f. Dana Transformer/Power



Description: Use this keyboard to facilitate writing. Lighter than a laptop, cheaper than a computer, several of these can make a cost effective writing lab. For the student with fine motor control and handwriting problems, students can now type their thoughts and quickly transfer their words into a word-processor at a later time.

Samples: Used mainly in the composing stage of writing since editing on its small screen can be difficult. First, install the Dana software on your computer. Next, plug in the USB cable to attach the keyboard to your computer. Finally, by opening your word-processor, a simple press of the Send key transfers the text over in no time.



Input Devices: Microphone & Headset

Includes:

- a. Microphone
- b. Headset

Description:

Often computers come with little or no way to input sound. In those situations where no microphone is built-in, you will need one of these. In other situations, you may have a microphone, but find that it is inadequate for your needs because it records poorly. The same is true of hearing sounds. This headset will direct the sound right into the user's ears.



Sample: When using word-recognition software or dictation software such as Kurzweil or ViaVoice, getting the highest possible clarity is preferred. It is also important if you are doing video conferencing. Just plug in these devices and you have changed the way your computer sounds and receives sound.



Intellitools USB Keyboard/Overlays



Includes:

- a. Keyboard
- b. Overlays
- c. User's Guide
- d. USB Cable
- e. Install disk for Mac and Windows

Description: This keyboard is designed to use overlays to help students input information into a computer. The overlays (either preformatted from the company or designed with Boardmaker for an individual student) allow the user to “type” on a larger surface or make selections from a set of choices. This valuable tool works well for writing skill building, too. (Belson, 2003)



Sample:

1. http://www.intellitools.com/training_tutorials/Tutorials.htm
2. <http://atto.buffalo.edu/registered/Tutorials/intellikeys/index.php>
3. <http://assistivetech.sf.k12.sd.us/intellikeys.htm>

Intellitools Classroom Suite



Includes:

- a. 3-ring Binder
- b. 3 Quick Start books
- c. Software not available except on NLU network computers

Description: A multi-curricular resource that combines IntelliPics Studio 3, IntelliMathics 3 and IntelliTalk 3 into a single solution. IntelliPics Studio 3 is a multimedia authoring program that teachers and students can use to create presentations with sounds and graphics, or to draw and paint. IntelliMathics 3 is a mathematics authoring program that allows students to solve problems, then check their work using auditory and visual feedback. Finally, IntelliTalk 3 is a word processor that incorporates graphics, text and speech to improve communication and writing skills. For teachers, the Classroom Suite includes curriculum-based activities, answer tracking and student assessment capabilities.

Sample:

1. Use an IntelliTools Classroom Suite template to create interactive AAC scrapbooks and student portfolios during this hands-on presentation. Use digital photos, communication symbols, text, speech output and animation to support and document an AAC users' interactive communication, achievements, and organizational, behavioral, memory and AT needs.
2. Students can expand their literacy skills in writing, while building comprehension, working with phonics, and responding to quizzes.
3. Exciting new features, such as: integrated word prediction, quizmaker and answer tracking, embedded help for immediate assistance, and instant authoring capabilities with varied templates, sample activities and tutorials.

Mathpad and Overlays

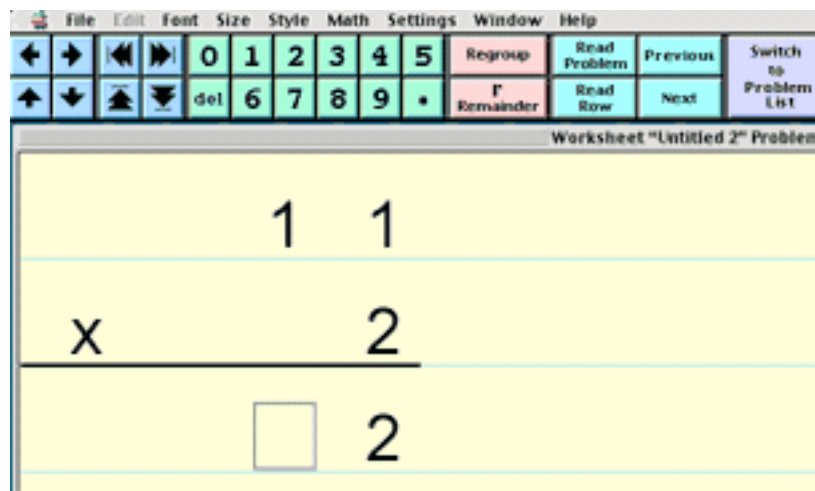


Includes:

- a. Owner's Manual
- b. Overlays folder with Overlays
- c. CD-Rom disk not available except on NLU network computers

Description: This program uses an overlay on the IntelliKeys Keyboard to produce basic mathematical symbols without the difficulty of typing on a traditional keyboard. The student can compute problems with a grid and receive help with strategies such as borrowing. Also adaptable for use with a mouse or switch.

Samples:



Intellikeys Overlay Maker (Mac/Win)



Includes:

- a. IntelliKeys Overlay Maker Owner's Guide
- b. Design Guide
- c. CD-Rom no available except on NLU network computers

Description: With *Overlay Maker 3* you can create an overlay to personalize a keyboard for individual preferences, such as size or color of keys. Or you can program keys for specific functionality, such as shortcuts to applications, email, or the Internet.

Samples:

1. Once you've created an activity, it's easy to make several versions of the overlay to meet the needs of different children. You can add or delete keys, or view as pictures, pictures and text, or text alone. Overlays can be as simple as a single key or as complex as 120 keys. Keys can perform basic actions such as inserting text or graphics into a document. They can also perform complex actions such as launching a series of multimedia images complete with animation and recorded sound.

2. Use *Overlay Maker 3* to create overlays to access software programs that use keyboard commands. Use it, for example, with outlining programs such as Inspiration® or to design overlays to launch email or access your favorite Web sites.

3. To Create Your Overlay

- a. Design it!** Create keys of any size and location. Once you've designed your overlay, decide what each key will do by typing in simple keystroke commands. Then name and save your overlay.
- b. Print it!** Print your overlay using a color or black and white printer with legal size paper.
- c. Use it!** - Select the Send Overlay command to send your overlay file to *IntelliKeys*. Now you're ready to use your overlay with any program that responds to keyboard input.

Start-To-Finish Books:

Jane Goodall, Remembering Sweetness, Edgar Allen Poe, Flo-Jo, For Liberty, Sherlock Holmes, Mark Twain, Muhammad Ali, etc.



Includes: Tape(s), CD, Book, Teacher's Guide.

Description: Start-to-Finish titles overcome the fundamental challenges struggling readers face – lack of background knowledge, reading volume and motivation. Your students personally experience enduring plots and characters from Shakespeare, Mark Twain and many classic tales. They feel the satisfaction of solving a contemporary mystery and of getting to know famous figures.

Sample: Reluctant readers follow a read-aloud story word-for-word. Developing readers learn appropriate reading rates and intonations. Struggling students feel the satisfaction of successful reading. All students have many opportunities for repeated reading.

Build Ability



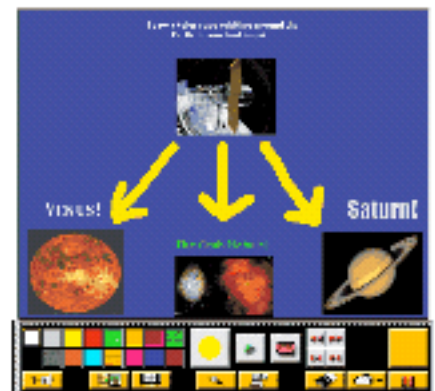
Includes: Software not available except on NLU network computers, 3-ring binder, Library Sample CD.

Description: BuildAbility is the easiest-to-use authoring tool for building rich, single-switch early literacy activities and lessons. Teachers can build a complete multimedia page in just four easy steps—draw or choose a picture, add text, add sound and select the page advancement.

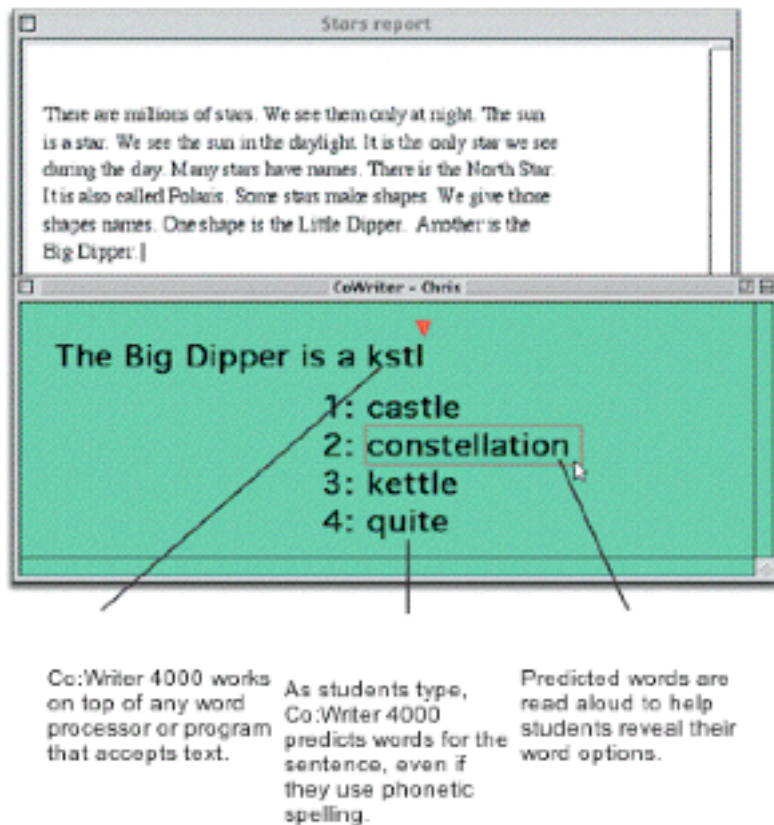
Easy-to-Use—Click-to-Crete toolbar lets teachers or students build a page in 4 easy steps

The one-click toolbar lets you add the next graphic, text, sound, movie, your voice, student voices and the single-switch option. BuildAbility activities are easily shared with other teachers and parents with the free BuildAbility Player. Get started with the more than 20 literacy activities created by Caroline Musselwhite, Patti Rea and other literacy experts.

Samples:



Co: Writer from Don Johnston



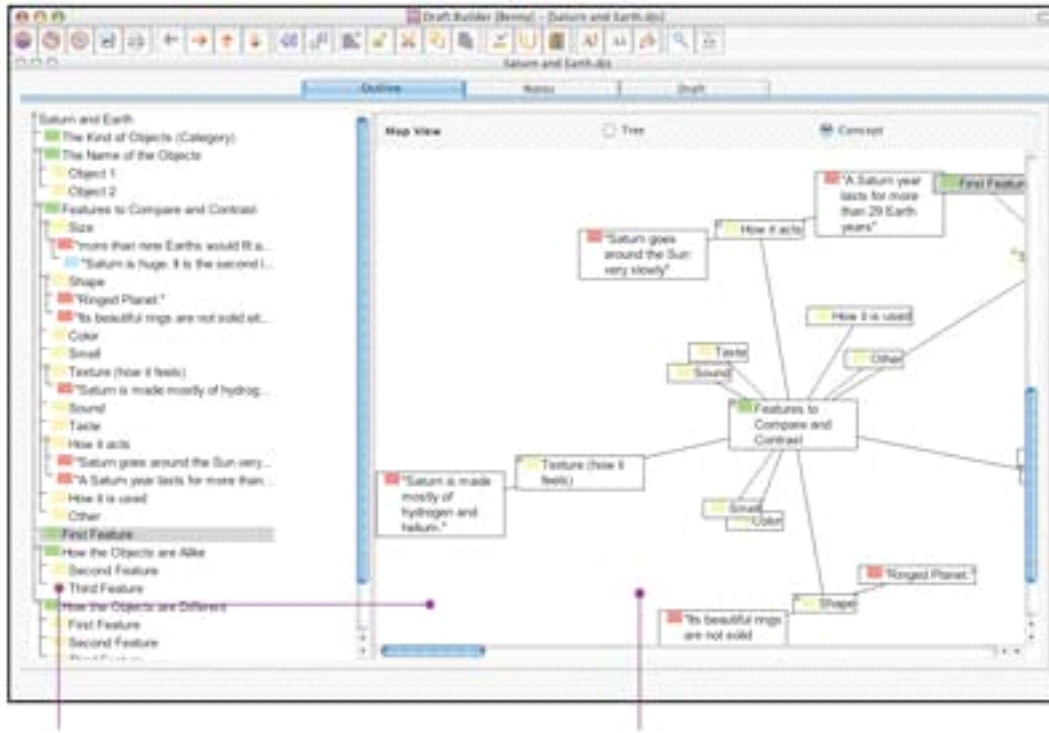
Includes: CD-Rom disk not available except on NLU network computers

Description: This program helps students who have phonological or word-retrieval problems to locate words and spell them correctly. Immediate feedback on writing through the text-to-speech reader allows for self-correction.

Samples:

1. Tutorial: <http://atto.buffalo.edu/registered/Tutorials/cowriter/index.php>
2. **Co:Writer SmartApplet by Don Johnston Inc.** High-quality word prediction assists students in constructing complete, grammatically correct sentences on the AlphaSmart 3000.
3. For each student or each assignment, a dictionary or group of dictionaries are designated as the source for the predicted words. A beginning writer may use a basic vocabulary dictionary so that only words they will likely know are predicted. A more advanced student writing a report would include a Topic Dictionary for a particular assignment. Dozens of Topic Dictionaries are included with Co:Writer 4000 and on the Don Johnston web site. Plus, teachers can create new Topic Dictionaries in less than 3 minutes from any electronic document.

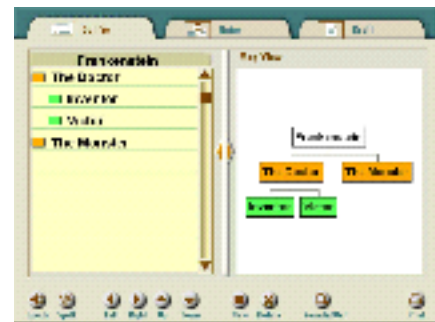
Draft Builder (Don Johnston)



Includes:

- a. Software not available except on NLU Network Computers
- b. 3-ring binder

Description: Draft:Builder, researched and developed in collaboration with the Education Development Center, steps students through planning, note-taking, organizing, citing resources and preparing a rough draft-in every genre and every curriculum area-without frustration! Draft:Builder uses a structured framework to break the recursive writing process down into small, manageable chunks so that students stay on task. Taking Notes: Students collect and re-organize notes, citing their resources with the Bibliography Wizard-MLA or APA Style; Writing the First Draft: Educators can provide locked text to help students with transition sentences and paragraph structure as they're writing their draft



Samples:

1. <http://donjohnston.co.uk/downloads/draftbuildertemplates.htm>
2. <http://www.fcps.k12.va.us/DSSSE/its/howtos/draftbuilder/draftbuilder.htm>
3. <http://www.donjohnston.com/downloads/dbtemplates/dbtemplates.htm>

References:

Belson, Sarah Irvine. Technology for Exceptional Learners. Houghton Mifflin Company: New York, 2003.

<http://www.donjohnston.com/catalog/draftbuilderd.htm>