



Assistive Technology

Welcome to AT Bytes, our “byte-sized” microlearning experience.

We provide professional development and microlearning opportunities to help educators understand how assistive technology aids students in meeting their Individualized Education Programs (IEP) goals, achieving objectives, and advancing in the general curriculum.

*You're
Invited!*



First Monday AT Lunch and Learn
11:00–11:45 AM

[Register Here](#)



Assistive Technology is Important

Assistive Technology, or AT, supports individuals with disabilities by providing them with devices and services that enhance their capacity to function and learn. In education, AT plays a critical role by ensuring that all students have equitable access to education, regardless of their disabilities. It achieves this by bridging the gap between students' abilities and the curriculum goals. For instance, a student with dyslexia can use voice recognition software, a visually impaired student can use a screen reader, and a physically challenged learner can use a specially designed keyboard.



Assistive Technology's Role in Empowering Students

Empowering students with disabilities to pursue and achieve their educational aspirations is the core value of AT. By providing customized support, AT enables these students to actively engage in learning experiences without encountering any barriers.

AT fosters independence and confidence in the learning journey of these students, making it easier for them to access and comprehend complex subjects. Additionally, it allows them to participate fully in classroom activities, creating an inclusive environment.

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A Glimpse into the IEP Process

The individualized Education Program (IEP) is a legally binding document that sets forth the specific educational services, supports, and accommodations that a student with disabilities should receive. The IEP is customized to the unique needs of each student, ensuring that they receive the appropriate support to thrive academically.

Incorporating Assistive Technology (AT) into the IEP is a systematic process that involves four key steps.

The **first step is Assessment**, which involves identifying the student's specific needs and the areas where AT can be used to enhance their learning experience.

The **second step is Selection**, where the appropriate AT tools or devices are chosen based on the student's needs and goals.

The **third step is Implementation**, where the AT is integrated into the student's learning process.

Finally, there is a **Review stage**, where the effectiveness of the AT is regularly assessed and updated as the student's needs evolve.



SLDs and AT

Individuals with a specific learning disability (SLD) may face challenges in reading, writing, spelling, math, listening, or verbal expression. SLDs are related to neurobiological factors that affect how the brain processes information rather than being linked to a person's intelligence, motivation, or environment. Assistive technology (AT) tools, such as Read & Write, can be beneficial in alleviating some of these challenges.

Read & Write literacy software incorporates several key elements of Universal Design for Learning (UDL), Assistive Technology (AT), High Leverage Practices (HLP), and Accessible Educational Materials (AEM) to support students with diverse learning needs.

Make sure to register for our next Lunch and Learn, where we will dig deeper into Read and Write's top tools.



Dycalculator

Dyscalculia and other math-related learning disabilities can make using standard calculators challenging. That's where dycalculator comes in. It's a unique calculator application designed specifically for individuals with these conditions. Unlike regular calculators, dycalculators represent numbers in various ways to cater to different cognitive processing methods. It also provides auditory feedback, reinforcing learning and helping those who process information better when they hear it. Overall, dycalculator is a valuable tool for those who struggle with math and need extra support.



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