

What is Assistive Technology?

"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" (Individuals with Disabilities Act of 1988/Public Law 100-407).



Technology can be used for children with autism to increase or improve their:

- Overall understanding of their environment
- Expressive Communication Skills
- Social interaction skills
- Attention skills
- Motivation skills
- Organization skills
- Self-help skills



<u>Reference:</u> Assistive Technology for Children with Autism (written by Susan Stokes under a contract with CESA 7 and funded by a discretionary grant from the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction)

Generally, children with Autism process visual information (i.e. objects, photographs, line drawing, written words) easier than auditory information.

- Determine which visual representation is best understood by the child.
- Some children need different visual representations in different situations.



<u>Reference:</u> Assistive Technology for Children with Autism (written by Susan Stokes under a contract with CESA 7 and funded by a discretionary grant from the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction)

Take advantage of activities that occur every day...children need repetition to learn.



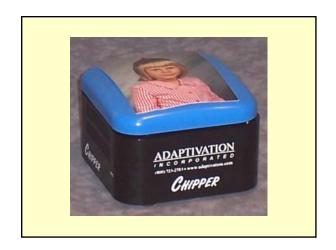
Circle Time

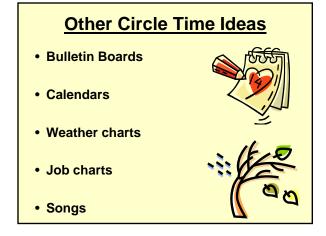


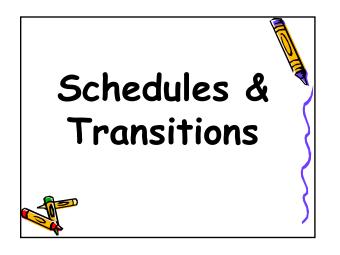














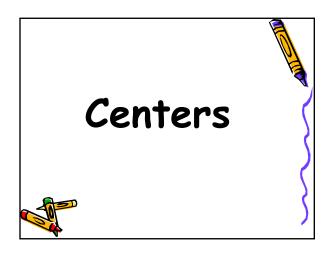


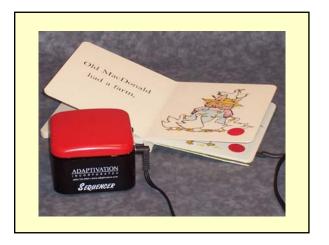


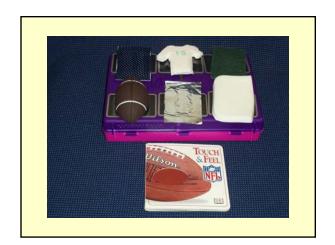




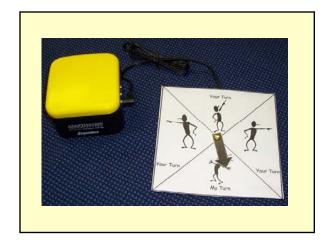


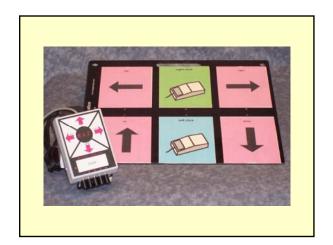






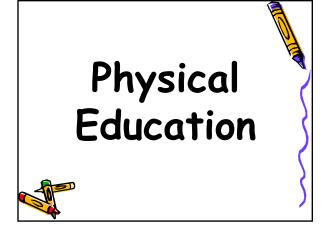






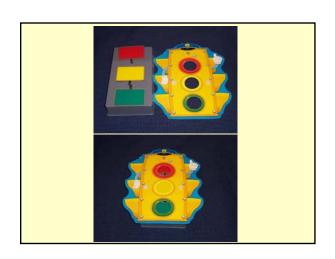












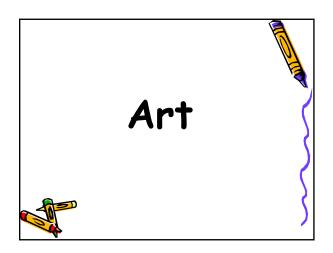
More P.E. Ideas

- · Directing the class
- · Giving instructions for a game
- Counting (laps, pushups, etc.)



- Cheering
- Using switches for reinforcing reaching/stretching activities









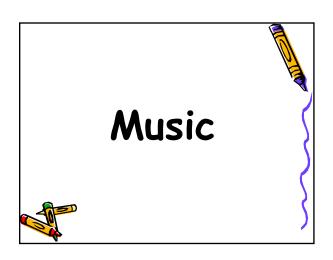
Other Art Ideas

- Use the Sequencer to give directions (color, cut, paste, and so on).
- Have a student use a voice output device to direct activities.
- Record social comments related to the activity into a voice output device (i.e. Yuck!, I'm done, Can I wash my hands?, etc.).







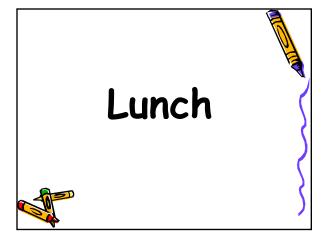


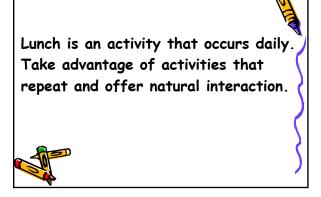




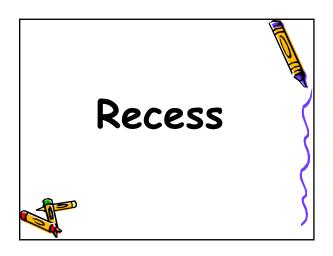








- Place the VoicePal Levels or other device in a re-sealable bag.
- Record lunch menu into voice output device, so the user can read the lunch menu to the rest of the class.
- Record vocabulary that would be used during lunch (remember to make it age-appropriate).
- Record with age/gender-appropriate voice when available.

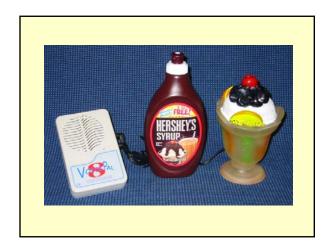




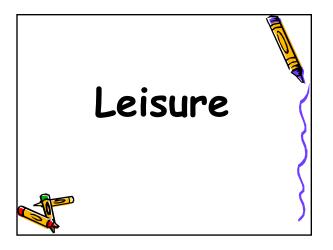


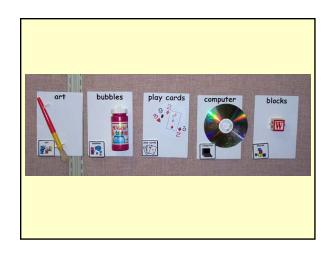






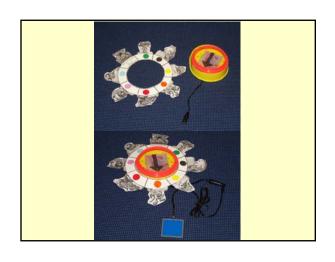








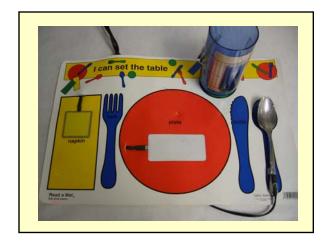


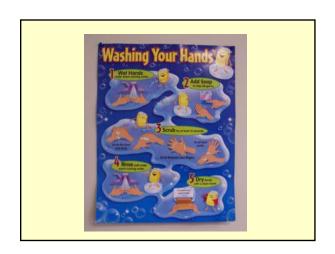


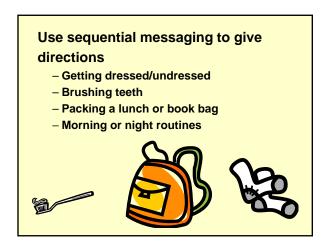




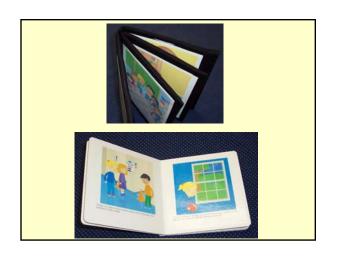


















Ways to Get Ideas

- Recipes for Success Remixed
- www.adaptivation.com
 - Application Photo Album
- Trial Program
- Workshop Kits
 - Includes shipping & insurance both ways