



# AbiliTy at any age with AT (Assistive Technology).

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# Purpose



Explore Assistive Technology and how it can be used to positive affect with individuals in Mississippi - from early childhood through the lifespan - and across the continuum of care.

# Assistive Technology and Pride

## Changing the way we think about AT

AT is a **Right** and  
not something  
special

There is **No  
Shame** in  
using or  
asking for AT

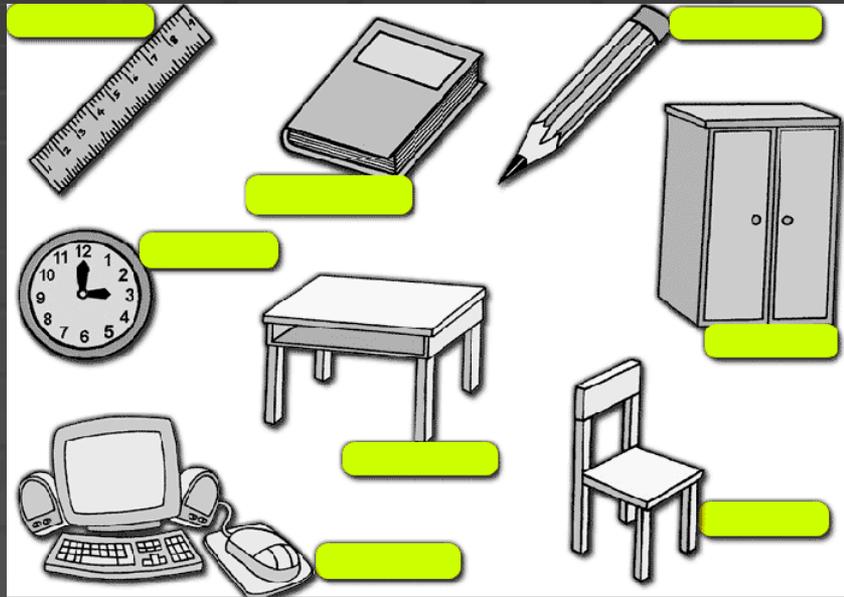
# AT defined

According to the United States Assistive Technology Act of 1998, assistive technology (also called *adaptive technology*) refers to **any**

"product, device, or equipment, whether acquired commercially, modified or customized, that is used to maintain, increase, or improve the functional capabilities of individuals with disabilities."

Common computer-related assistive technology products include screen magnifiers, large-key keyboards, alternative input devices such as touch screen displays, over-sized trackballs and joysticks, speech recognition programs, and text readers.

# What is Assistive Technology?



Basically, AT is anything we find helpful in our daily life. It can be a tool or an alternative method of performing a task.

# So what's the difference?

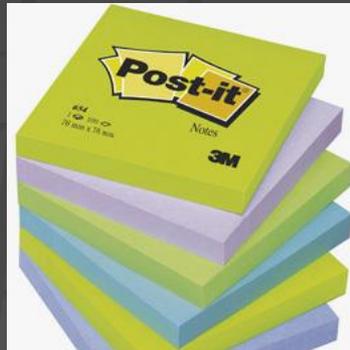
- Assistive technology is a device used to increase, maintain, or improve the functional capabilities of a person.
- Adaptive equipment makes it possible for a person to access and navigate their homes and community.
- Assistive technology is any object or system that increases or maintains the capabilities of people.
- Adaptive equipment are devices that are used to assist with activities of daily living, such as: bathing, dressing, grooming, toileting, and feeding. These are many times ordered by a professional.

# Assistance for everyone

Large  
Print

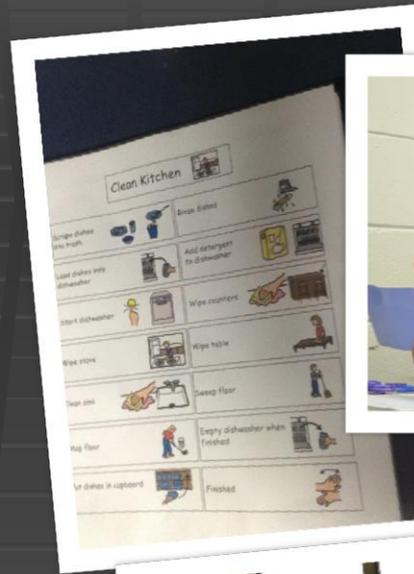


“Technology” is  
something that  
is supposed to  
make  
things easier.

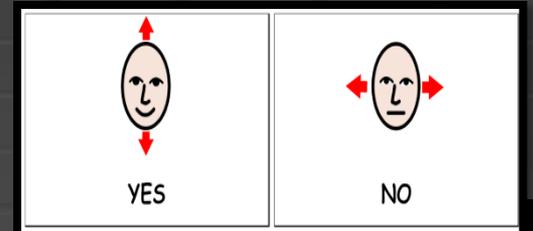
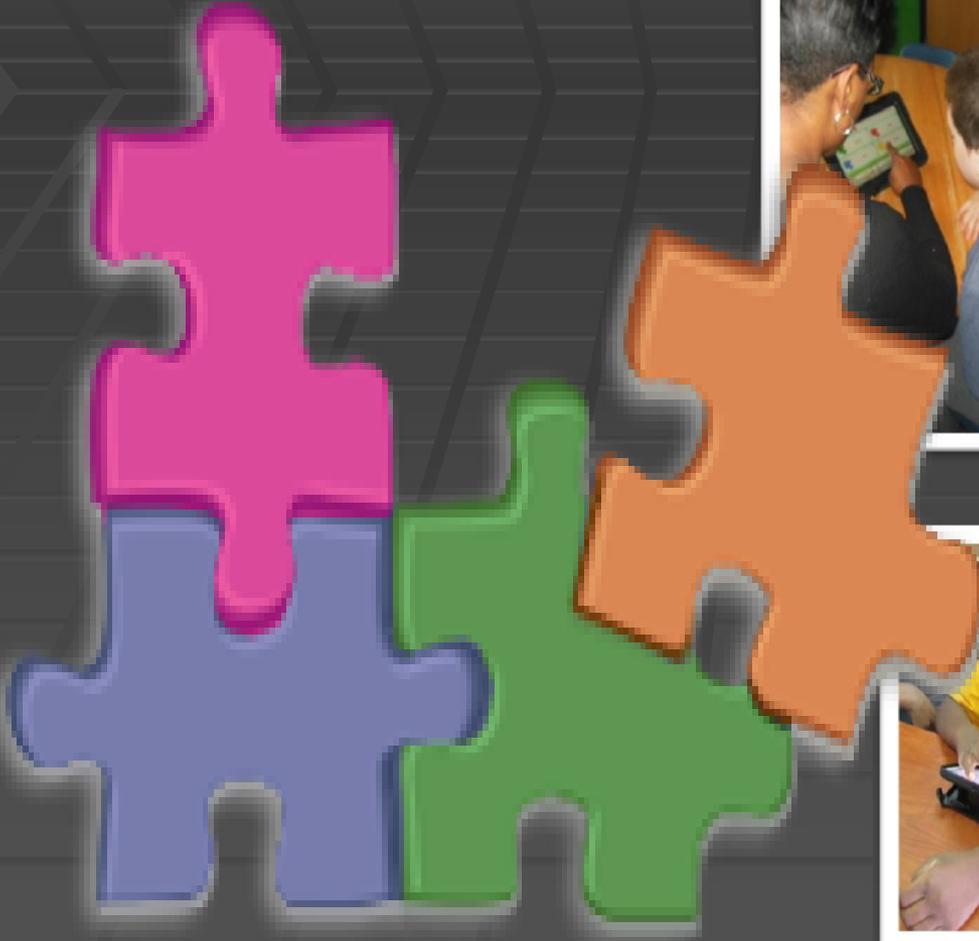


# Communicating – the Basics

Residents of the Mississippi Adolescent Center are building independence through learning and therapy skills. Classroom learning and life skills such as cooking lessons are enhanced with paper charts and flash cards. These strategies can then be used at home and at school, easing transitions.



# Putting the Puzzle Together



# Adaptive Programming

Printed schedules allows programs to be tailored to fit each individual's needs and level of learning. Each page is designed to address specific areas of need. The schedules makes learning not only interesting, but fun, regardless of the age.



1. Gather dirty laundry



2. Sort dirty laundry



3. Load washing machine



4. Add laundry detergent



5. Set washer



6. Put laundry into dryer



7. Fold laundry



8. Put away laundry



Task is complete!

# Customized and Consistent Programs

This is a screen shot of one of our staff demonstrating the steps of brushing teeth. Each block gives visual reinforcement for the steps of the program. Positive reinforcement and consistency are so important for our population as we work to develop and reinforce independent adaptive living skills and basic self-care skills.

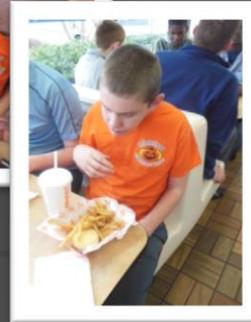
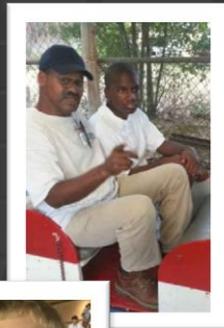
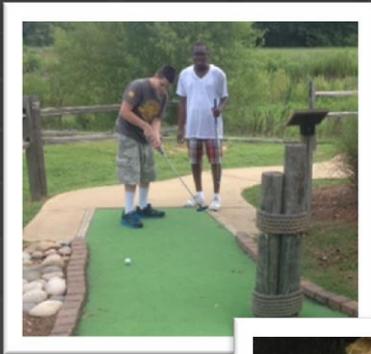
<b>Brush Teeth</b> 	<b>Step 1</b> 	<b>Step 2</b> 	<b>Step 3</b> 
<b>Step 4</b> 	<b>Step 5</b> 	<b>Step 6</b> 	<b>Step 7</b> 
<b>Step 8</b> 	<b>Step 9</b> 	<b>Step 10</b> 	<b>Step 11</b> 
<b>Step 12</b> 	<b>Step 13</b> 	<b>Step 14</b> 	<b>smile</b> 

# Consistency and Adaptability

Brush Teeth		
Step 1		Get toothbrush and toothpaste
Step 2		Put toothpaste on brush and wet
Step 3		Grasp toothbrush and brush front teeth
Step 4		Brush right side teeth
Step 5		Brush left side teeth
Step 6		Spit toothpaste into sink
Step 7		Take a sip of water
Step 8		Swish water in mouth to rinse

# Transition Programs

By taking what is being learned in the classroom and applying it in everyday life situations, we are opening doors for our residents that have closed. This not only is enhancing the quality of life for them, but for all Mississippians.



## The Truth of Assistive Technology

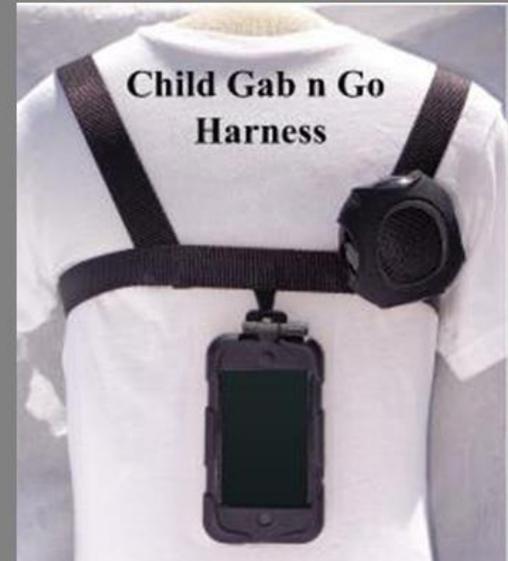
- It's crucial for young students to be introduced to an enriching academic environment where they have the AT they need – for use at school and at home.
- Surveys say that 45% of students who need AT are not receiving it consistently – even no- or low-tech versions.

National Center for Technology Innovation and Center for Implementing Technology in Education (CITEd) (2006) by LDOnline <http://www.ldonline.org/article/8088>

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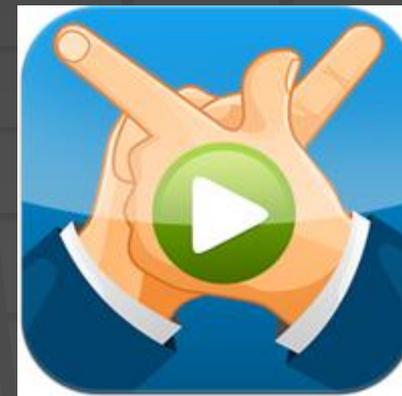
# Early Childhood Ideas



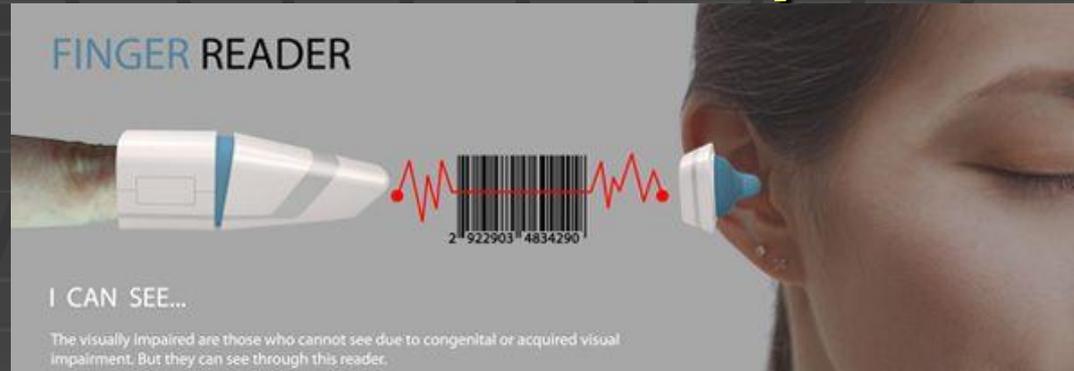
# Assistive Technology in School



Becoming standard  
accessibility options:  
Magnifier or zoom feature  
Narrator or voice (text to  
speech) reader  
Voice recognition  
Predictive text



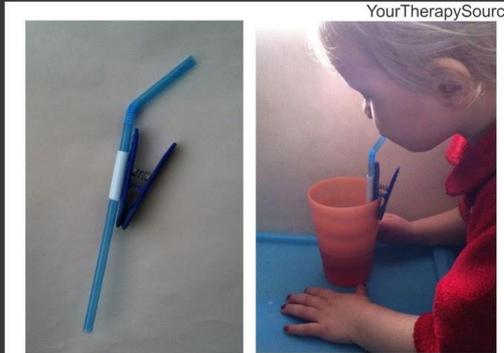
# Assistive Technology In The Community



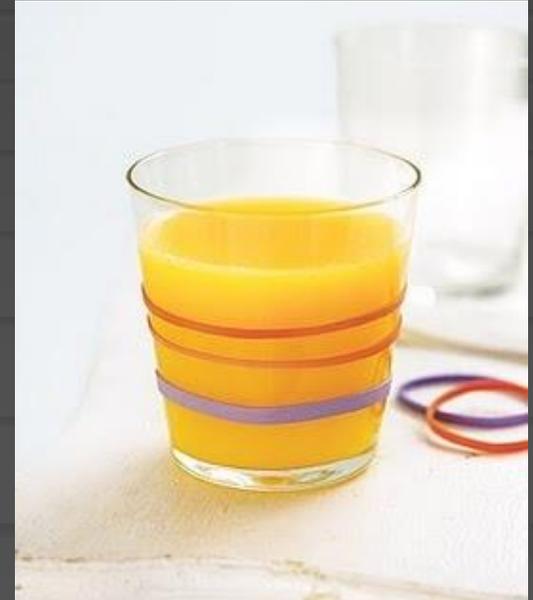
The reader is a combination of a finger device and Bluetooth Headset, where the finger-pointer scans products for barcodes and relays the product information to earpiece as audio instructions.



# Assistive Technology At Home



**DO IT YOURSELF  
STRAW HOLDER**



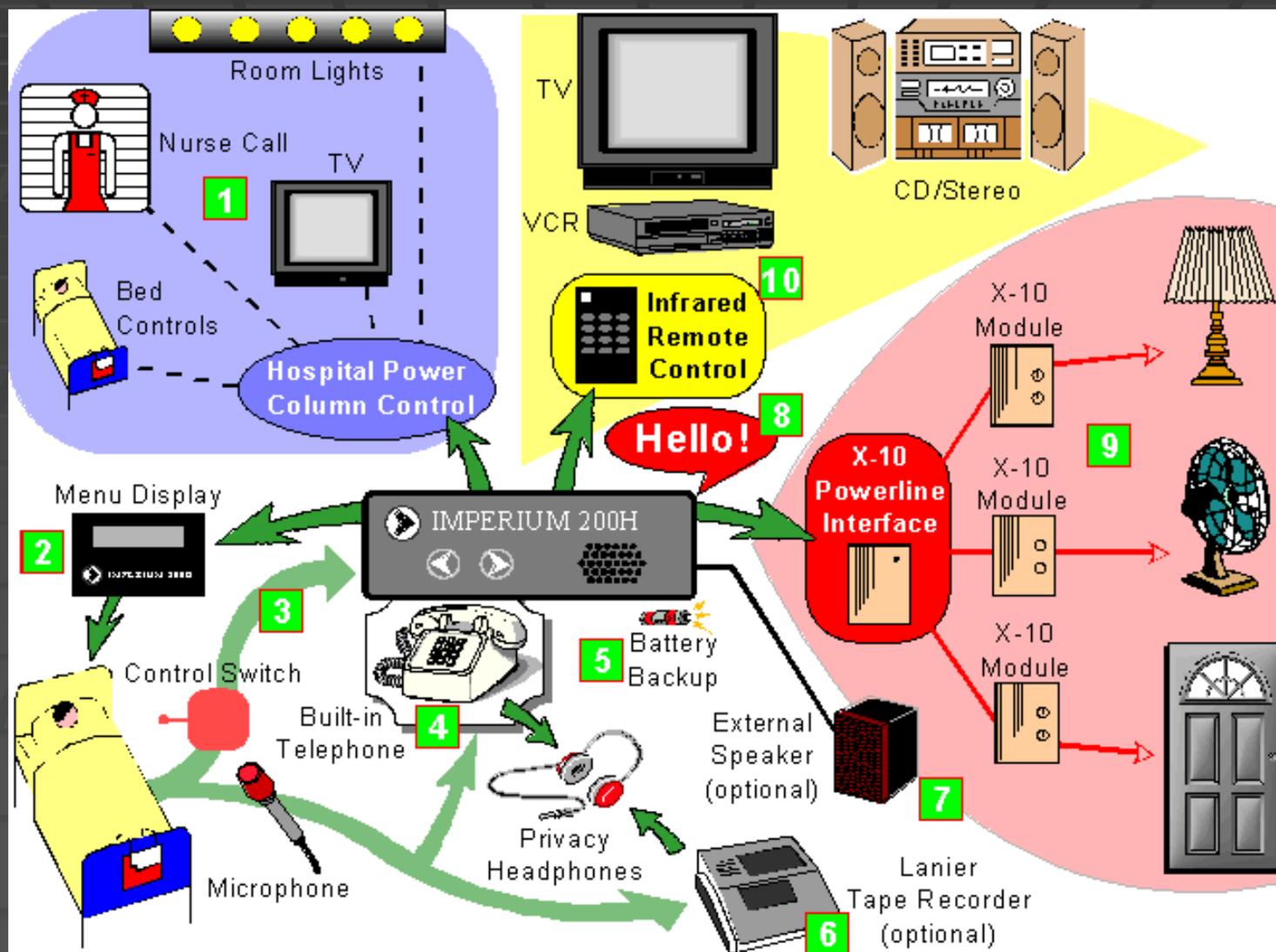
# AT For Leisure/Sports



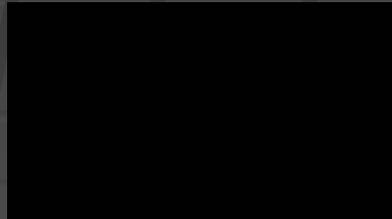
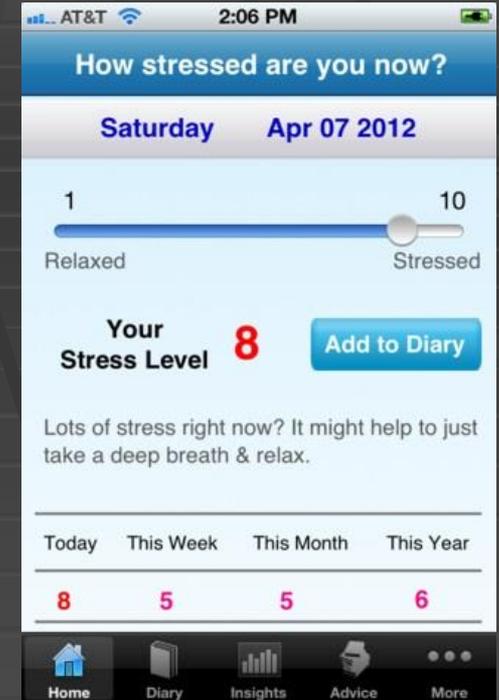
# Senior Assistance



# And there's all those buttons...



# AT For Mental And Emotional Health



Assistive technology for people who have mental health disabilities can help them cope with daily challenges such as organization, remembering key dates or events, or calming themselves.

Cognitive Behavior Diary, GroHabit/Goal Tracjer, Personal Motivational apps, and relaxation/stress management.

Grohabit

# What's coming?



Wearable camera  
with alert button



Biometric devices  
accessible via tablets



# What's coming?



Bluetooth stickers to help find lost items?

Programmable locking cage for electronic devices?



# Resources



- National Service Inclusion Project (NSIP)  
<http://www.serviceandinclusion.org>
- State Assistive Technology Act Programs  
<http://www.ataporg.org/atap/index.php>
- National Public Website on Assistive Technology  
<http://www.assistivetech.net/>
- Job Accommodation Network (JAN)  
<http://www.jan.wvu.edu/>
- University Centers for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities (UCEDD)  
<http://www.aucd.org/directory/directory.cfm?program=UCEDD>

# More Resources

- National Assistive Technology Technical Assistance Partnership  
<http://69.89.27.238/~resnaorg/taproject/RESNA.html>
- Pass It On Center  
<http://www.passitoncenter.org/index.shtml>
- ABLEDATA  
<http://www.abledata.com>
- DisabilityInfo.gov  
<http://www.disabilityinfo.gov/>

# Research:

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