Finding the Right Books for Students with Complex Communication, Intellectual, and Physical Needs


Dr. Caroline Musselwhite
Dr. Gretchen Hanser

THE STRUGGLE – FINDING APPROPRIATE BOOKS
- Students are reading below grade level
- Younger books aren’t age appropriate
- Books that may be age appropriate looking don’t have robust content
- There is not enough time to adapt/write all of the books that students need

CONSIDERATIONS FOR SELECTING BOOKS
- Students who are just learning about books
  - Need durable materials with the ability to explore
  - Need to learn concepts about print
- Students who are learning to read silently
  - Need LOTS of easy books to develop reading fluency
- Students who are able to listen to texts at a higher level than their silent reading abilities
  - Need books for listening at the appropriate level
  - **BUT, must always have instruction for their silent reading comprehension

WHAT ARE EMERGENT READERS WITHOUT DISABILITIES DOING WITH BOOKS?

Dr. Gretchen Hanser
EMERGENT READERS NEED

- Indestructible books
- Books that support concepts about print
  - Get eyes on print
  - Concept of “letter,” “word,” “sentence”
- Teach good vocabulary words and language concepts
- Predictable books that help students be a part of reading

EMERGENT LITERACY EXPERIENCES
SUPPORT STUDENTS IN BECOMING
CONVENTIONAL READERS

EARLY CONVENTIONAL READERS NEED

- A LOT of books
- Need to be easy books to build fluency
- Fluency is essential for comprehension
- Teach good vocabulary words and language concepts
- Student spending too much time figuring out words?
  - Book is TOO hard!
  - Too hard=no fun!

DID YOU KNOW . . .

‘good’ 1st grade teachers have more than 1500
books in their classroom libraries! So What??

Pressley et al (2001) Learning to Read:
Lessons from Exemplary 1st Grade Classrooms

Dr. Caroline Musselwhite
Dr. Gretchen Hanser
Creating & Using PowerPoint Books

- Can use real pictures
- Can record real voice
- Can add sound effects & animation
- Keyboard keys that are important
  - Right arrow: goes to next slide
  - Left arrow: goes back a slide
  - Mouse Click, Space or Return: goes to next slide
- Directions for Making PowerPoint Books:
  - Center for Literacy & Disability Studies-templates too!!!
  - Assistive Technology Training Online Project

Computer Switch Interfaces

- Switch Interfaces: Need one with multiple switch ports
  - Don Johnston Switch Interface (www.donjohnston.com)
  - Quizworks Switch Interface (www.quizworks.com)

- USB Switch Interfaces: plug in & go:
  - Don Johnston Switch Interface (www.donjohnston.com)
  - Quizworks Switch Interface (www.quizworks.com)

- Reprogrammable Switch Interfaces
  - RJ Cooper (www.rjcooper.com)
  - IntelliSwitch (www.intellitools.com)
  - Crick Software, (www.cricksoft.com)

Your New Best Friends: Commonly Needed Key Equivalents

- Right arrow
- Left arrow
- Space
- Enter
- 2, 3
- Click

ABC Book by Student/Teacher Name

Notes to author:

- If you change the file extension from .ppt to .pps, the book will automatically open to full slide show/book reading mode.
- We have set up the book so that when students get to the end of the book, it will automatically open
to the first slide. If you want to open a different slide, click on #2 above. Clicking on the whole book will re-open.
- This template is from the Center for Literacy & Disability Studies at Chapel Hill, NC.
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IN THE BUDGET BOOKS

- Box Books
- Board Book Makeover
- Holiday Card Books
- Ziplock Baggie Books

CALENDAR BOOKS

Small pics on back are perfect for communication devices!

BONUS!!

Small pics on back are perfect for communication devices!
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The Bury
by Anonymous

www.gigglepoetry.com

Pardon me for being rude.
It was not me, it was my food.
It got so lonely down below,
It just popped up to say hello!

Illustration © Stephen Carpenter.

STORYLINE ONLINE
WWW.STORYLINEONLINE.NET

BOOKFLIX
(FROM SCHOLASTIC, HTTP://TEACHER.SCHOLASTIC.COM/PRODUCTS/BOOKFLIXFREETRIAL/INDEX.HTM)

- Grades PreK-3 literature
- Fiction and non-fiction
- Paired with movies
- Has read outloud feature
- Check your library

TUMBLE BOOK CLOUD JUNIOR
ACCESS THROUGH YOUR LIBRARY
Finding the Right Books for Students with Complex Communication, Intellectual, and Physical Needs

ACCESS TO NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC VIDEOS—GREAT FOR BUILDING BACKGROUND KNOWLEDGE

WE GIVE BOOKS
WWW.WEGIVEBOOKS.COM

PETE'S POWERPOINTS
WWW.PPPST.COM

TAR HEEL READER: GET A BOOK—NOW!
RESOURCE FROM UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA, CHAPEL HILL, NC
- Developed by Gary Bishop & Karen Erickson
- Free resource for easy, easy, easy books
- Appropriate for beginning readers, especially those who are older
- Authoring tool for teachers
- www.tarheelreader.org
Finding the Right Books for Students with Complex Communication, Intellectual, and Physical Needs

*International Society for Augmentative & Alternative Communication Conference, Lisbon, Portugal, July, 2014*

**Tarheel Reader Books are read all over the world!**
- Books are available in many different languages
- From Arabic to Turkish
- Including Portuguese!
- Students can read books online OR books can be downloaded in PowerPoint
- Accessible via switches and Intellikeys

**Exemplar Text Supports**
- Simplified texts written based on Exemplar Book List in Common Core Standards
- Available for K-11

Information From Dynamic Learning Maps
http://dynamiclearningmaps.org/unc/texts/index.html
Books are all on Tarheel Reader: www.tarheelreader.org

**Start to Finish Literacy Starter Kits**
*From Don Johnston*
- Sample Content Areas:
  - Solar System, Volcanoes, Life Cycles, Continent & Culture, Plants, Insects, Ocean Animals, Biographies: Mark Twain, Habitats, Rights & Responsibilities, Jobs
- Switch Accessible

**Literacy Starters are based on the Beginning Literacy Framework (BLF)**
- A framework for selecting, adapting & writing texts
- Developed specifically for students with significant disabilities
- Identifies 3 different text types
  - Enrichment
  - Transitional
  - Conventional

**Download framework from:** www.donjohnston.com

**Developed by Karen Erickson & Caroline Musselwhite**
Finding the Right Books for Students with Complex Communication, Intellectual, and Physical Needs
*International Society for Augmentative & Alternative Communication Conference, Lisbon, Portugal, July, 2014*

**Text Types**
- **Enrichment**
  - Lots of text – focus on concept building
  - Books for shared reading
  - Builds background knowledge
- **Transitional**
  - Supports students learning how books work
  - Predictable text structures
- **Conventional**
  - Short sentences with high frequency words
  - Books for independent word reading
  - Builds fluency

**MORE RESOURCES**
- **Accessible Book Collections-subscription**
  - www.accessiblebookcollection.org
  - Scanned in children’s literature, available in different formats, Clicker, Boardmaker + more

**TEXT READERS**
- **MS Word!!!**
- **Natural Reader (free)**
- **Snap and Read (www.donjohnston.com)**
- **Read Outloud (www.donjohnston.com)**
MS Word Talks? What? In the Budget!
- 2 Minute Tutorial
- http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ips3kUdY7Q

Natural Reader
Free-only for Mac
- Check out the MINI-Board!!

Great App Reviewers
- SpedApps2: Applications for Special Populations
  - Caroline Musselwhite and crew
    - http://spedapps2.wikispaces.com/HOME
- Apps for Children with Special Needs
  - http://a4cwsn.com
  - Has video overviews!
- Jane Farrall
  - www.janefarrall.com/

Spinout Blue & Red
- Stories are informative, fictional, and narrative genre
- High interest / low readability, with excellent photos
- 4 stories, each with 3 levels of difficulty
- Lots of supports
- Supports fluency by underlining
  $9.99 each

From Caroline Musselwhite
http://spedapps2.wikispaces.com
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**Human Body Detective**

- Great science stories
- Lovely, engaging graphics
- Smallish print
- Occasional animations
- Great for older students
- $1.99 - $2.99 each

From Caroline Musselwhite
http://spedapps2.wikispaces.com

**IHowTo Books**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>How-To Book</th>
<th>A bookshelf of how-to stories about many self-help topics. Can automatically read page OR read word-by-word.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Free</td>
<td>• Great hand-drawn graphics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Good voice – not babyish</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Includes some object animations</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

From Caroline Musselwhite
http://spedapps2.wikispaces.com

**Booksy**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Booksy</th>
<th>Intended for younger readers, but has informational text of interest to older students.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FREE</td>
<td>- Reads a page</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Provides word support</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Gives a record for adults</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Great graphics and some sound effects</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Comprehension check</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

From Caroline Musselwhite
http://spedapps2.wikispaces.com

**I Like Books**

- 37 picture books for younger kids
- Free!!

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**WRITE YOUR OWN BOOKS!**

**GET YOUR SHMOOP!!!!**

**WWW.SHMOOP.COM**

- Study guides
- Has good chapter summaries—great for making simplified texts!
- Short videos
- And much more!

**APPS FOR WRITING YOUR OWN BOOKS**
- StoryKit, Free
- Story Creator, Free
- Book Creator, $4.99
- Pictello, $18.99
- My Own Books 2 Go

**KID IN STORY APP, $6.99**
**WRITING SIMPLE STORIES...IN A N.Y. MINUTE**
(Musselwhite & Erickson, www.aacintervention.com)

- Choose topics based on student interest
- Keep it SHORT, SHORT, SHORT
  - 6 words or less per page
- Use a variety of writing features/styles
- Have AAC student add sound effects/comments

**TIPS FOR STRUCTURES**

- Fun Use of Repeated Lines—but sparingly
- Use High Frequency Words
- Noun, Verb or Adjective Books
- Sentence Frames
  - (noun) in the (place), (at, on, up)

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**LEARNING TO WORK**
BY CAROLINE MUSSELWHITE & LAUREL RICHARDSON
FROM ATTAINMENT

Themes:
- Garden
- Hospital
- Fast Food

**FIREHOUSE POWERPOINT BOOKS**
BY CAROLINE MUSSELWHITE & THE #2 CREW

- From www.aacintervention.com
- All About Fire Fighters
- Fire Fighters
- Fire Alarm
- What’s in the Firehouse (noun book)

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SENTENCE FRAME PREPOSITION BOOKS</th>
<th>GREAT FREE RESOURCE FOR PICS PICS4LEARNING.COM</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>o &lt;noun&gt; in the &lt;noun&gt;.</td>
<td>Tito in the laundry.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>o &lt;noun&gt; at the &lt;noun&gt;.</td>
<td>Tito in the hat.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>o &lt;noun&gt; on the &lt;noun&gt;.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>o &lt;noun&gt; with &lt;noun&gt;.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>o &lt;noun&gt; and &lt;noun&gt;.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>o &lt;noun&gt; under the &lt;noun&gt;.</td>
<td></td>
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