







Hand-out - APPy Hour: Apps to Support Youth with Vision Loss in the Transition to Adulthood

Tuesday, Nov. 27, 2:00 - 3:00 pm

Accessing information – print or digital text in all formats

Audio:

- **Voice Dream Reader**, iOS & Android, \$9.99-14.99
 - Turns text into speech with wide range of voices and visual customizations
 - <http://www.voicedream.com/reader/>
- **Audiobooks – Bookshare/Learning Ally** – See Resources list for info.
 - **Read2Go**, iOS, \$19.99 – App that reads audiobooks for iOS
 - <https://www.bookshare.org/cms/help-center/reading-tools/read2go>
 - **Go Read**, Android, Free – App from Bookshare that reads audiobooks
 - <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=org.benetech.android>
- **BARD Mobile app - BARD (Braille and Audio Reading Download)**, iOS & Android
 - App to access resources from the National Library Service for the blind and physically handicapped (Library of Congress)
 - <https://nlsbard.loc.gov/login//NLS>
- **Prizmo Go – Instant Text OCR (Instant Text Capture)**, iOS, Free
 - App that uses OCR on ‘scanned’ documents – Optical Character Recognition
 - <https://creaceed.com/prizmogo>
- **KNFB Reader**, iOS & Android, \$99.99 (Android has free trial with 25 scans)
 - Robust app that turns any printed text into speech, or braille on a connected braille display
 - Built-in tools do not require internet or Wi-Fi connection
 - <https://knfbreader.com/the-app>

Magnifiers:

- **Visor**, iOS & Android, Free or \$1.99
 - A magnifier app for the visually impaired for Apple and Android phones
 - <https://visor.squarespace.com/>
- **VisionAssist** – iOS only, \$1.99
 - App allows your iPhone or iPad to function as a handheld electronic magnifier
 - <https://visionassist.slinkyware.com/>
- **Display Zoom**, setting in iOS on Apple phones, Free
 - A Setting where you can turn on in “Display & Brightness” that increases the size of all text, icons, and content on an iPhone
- **Big Launcher** app, Android, Free
 - App that creates large buttons on your Android phone
 - <http://biglauncher.com/>



Object identification

Photo or barcode scan:

- **NantMobile Money Reader (Looktel)**, and other Apps, iOS only, Free
 - App uses image recognition technology with artificial intelligence recognize objects such as money
 - Website: <https://nantmobile.com/>
 - App Store: <https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/nantmobile-money-reader/id417476558?mt=8>
- **Seeing AI** (Talking Camera for the Blind), iOS only, Free
 - Microsoft app that works well for short text, objects, or people
 - Visit their website for a summary and short videos
 - <https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/seeing-ai>



- **TapTapSee** (Camera for the Blind), iOS & Android, Free
 - App is a mobile camera designed for blind and visually impaired users, that uses your device's camera to take a photo or video and VoiceOver to describe it out loud
 - App is powered by the CloudSight Image Recognition API
 - <https://taptapseeapp.com/>



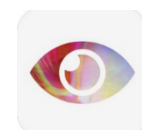
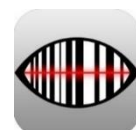
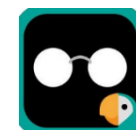
Remote assistance:

- **Be My Eyes**, iOS & Android, Free
 - Free app that connects blind and low-vision people with sighted volunteers and company representatives for visual assistance through a live video call.
 - <https://www.bemyeyes.com/>



Object identification – Other apps available (Will not be demonstrated):

- **Aipoly Vision: Sight for Blind & Visually Impaired**, iOS & Android, Free for basic, \$4.99/mo subscription
 - Object and color recognizer uses camera similar to the Seeing AI app
 - Many features are locked until you sign up for the paid subscription
 - <https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/aipoly-vision-sight-for-blind-visually-impaired/id1069166437?mt=8>
- **Digit-Eyes**, iOS only, \$9.99
 - Uses camera to scan barcodes and make product information accessible
 - <https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/digit-eyes/id376424490?mt=8>
- **Visualize – Vision AI**, iOS only, Free
 - Camera identifies photos and text as an aid for the visually impaired
 - <https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/visualize-vision-ai/id1329324101?mt=8>



Getting around

Navigation:

- **BlindSquare** (uses GPS and FourSquare), iOS, \$39.99
 - App uses GPS and FourSquare data to guide blind and visually impaired
 - Describes the environment, announces points of interest and street intersections as you travel
 - Helps you find your way both indoors and outdoors
 - User can operate with voice commands
 - <http://www.blindsquare.com/>
- **iMove around**, iOS only, Free
 - Similar to BlindSquare, - less robust, but a free app
 - <http://www.everywaretechnologies.com/apps/imove>



Transportation:

- **Transit**, iOS & Android, Free
 - Universal app for accessing public transportation
 - Allows you to compare different modes of travel to your destination
 - <https://transitapp.com/>
- **Uber and Lyft**, iOS & Android, Free
 - Ride-sharing apps with convenience of door-to-door service
 - **Uber** – <https://www.uber.com/us/en/ride/>
 - People with vision impairment can use Apple’s VoiceOver, Android’s TalkBack, or the wireless braille display compatibility, when using the Uber app.
 - More info. on Uber’s accessibility can be found here: <https://accessibility.uber.com/>
 - **Lyft** - <https://www.lyft.com/rider>
 - Lyft has partnered with the National Federation of the Blind to increase awareness of blind passengers’ rights, implement effective public policies, and expand transportation options for those who are blind or low vision.
 - Video on how to use the Lyft app if you are visually impaired: <https://youtu.be/dPjBKOgpB-I>



Resources

- **State Library**
 - Serves as a distribution point for the National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, which has a large collection of books in audio format.
 - Visit <http://www.loc.gov/nls/> to search the catalog.
 - Certification of disability is required.

- **Bookshare**
 - Free membership for those that qualify with a print-related disability
 - To listen, use their free software **Read:OutLoud** or an app like **Voice Dream Reader**
 - <https://www.bookshare.org/cms/>

- **Learning Ally**
 - Audiobook collection with \$135 annual membership for those that qualify
 - Books are narrated by human readers
 - <https://www.learningally.org/>

- **AppleVis**
 - Website created to empower blind and low-vision users of Apple products
 - Content includes reviews, blog posts, podcasts, and guides
 - <https://www.applevis.com/>

- **State Services for the Blind of Minnesota**
 - Services include:
 - Tools and training for employment and independent living
 - Transcription of books and other materials into alternative formats, including audio and braille
 - Assistance for all Minnesotans who are blind, DeafBlind, losing vision, or who have another disability that makes it difficult to read print
 - Find more information at their website: <https://mn.gov/deed/ssb/>
 - Phone #: 651-539-2300
 - Address: 2200 University Ave W, Suite 240, St. Paul, MN 55114

- **PACER's Simon Technology Center**
 - Find more information here: <https://www.pacer.org/stc/>
 - Technology Lending Library
 - <https://www.pacer.org/stc/library/>
 - Free consultations for Minnesota residents of all ages
 - <https://www.pacer.org/stc/consultations/>