Foundations for Using Visual Strategies

Thursday December 11, 2008
10:00 – 12:00

Bridget Ames, Simon Technology Center Coordinator
Meghan Kunz, Assistive Technology Specialist

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CHAMPIONS FOR CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES

Welcome to the Webinar

- Remember for sound, use a phone and call in using 1-866-516-5393 access code 80927889
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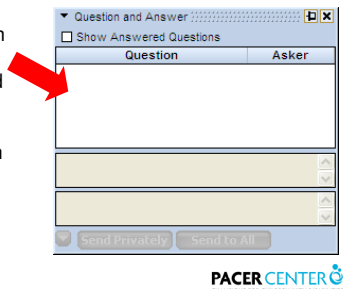

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Visual Strategies Workshop Series

- Supported through an Autism Speaks Grant
- Series of 5 workshops and 4 open labs
- More information and registration at:http://www.pacer.org/workshops/bygrant.asp.

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Your Presenters

- Bridget Ames
  - Coordinator, PACER Center's Simon Technology Center
  - Speech Language Pathologist
  - Assistive Technology Specialist

- Meghan Kunz
  - Assistive Technology Specialist

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Agenda

- PACER and the Simon Technology Center
- Making a Case for Using Visual Strategies
- Body and Language Tips
- Problems and Solutions
- Overview of Software Tools
- Resources

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PACER Center

- Not-for-profit organization
- Serving parents of children with disabilities
- Primarily staffed by parents of children with disabilities
- Over 30 different programs.

Simon Technology Center

The STC is dedicated to making the benefits of technology more accessible to children and adults with disabilities, through a collaborated effort involving parents, professionals, and consumers.

STC Services

- Assistive Technology Information and Referral
- Lending Library
- Free Consultations
- Individualized Trainings
- Workshops and In-services
- SUPER Service
- Special Projects

Assistive Technology Information and Referral

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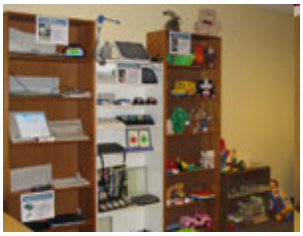
STC Lending Library



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Assistive Technology Consultations

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In-services & Workshops

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SUPER Service

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Housekeeping Details

- Questions
  - Use the question/answer feature on the Gotowebinar toolbar
- No Breaks
- Webinar/Workshop Survey Questions at the conclusion of webinar
- About you

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Participants will learn:

- WHY!! A case for using visual strategies
- Tools and features to create a visually friendly environment

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Foundations

- First foundational principle
  - You need to understand why visuals are important
    - Visual learners do not respond to verbal language in the same way as other learners.
- Second foundational principle
  - You need to understand the relationship between verbal language learning and visual language learning
- Third foundational principle
  - You need to understand all the ways we can present a visual support
    - Body language, facial expressions, picture representation, etc.

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I THINK IN PICTURES. Words are like a second language to me. I translate both spoken and written words into full-color movies, complete with sound, which run like a VCR tape in my head. When somebody speaks to me, his words are instantly translated into pictures. Language-based thinkers often find this phenomenon difficult to understand, but in my job as an equipment designer for the livestock industry, visual thinking is a tremendous advantage.

Dr. Temple Grandin

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Making our Verbal Language Meaningful

- Commenting
- Repeating
- Scripting
- Creating a high probability of a yes response
- Giving choices
- Redirecting

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Did I really say that?

- When offering choices make sure you can live with both choices
- Make sure you're not mistakenly offering them an opportunity to say no
- Avoid/Reduce using no, don't and stop

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Para Verbals

- The bridge between our verbals and non verbals
- Consist of tone, prosody, intonation, inflection

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Body Language

- Facial expressions
- Proximity
- Body orientation or body in space
- Body stance
- Movement of body
- Eye contact
- Eye gaze and gaze shift
- Reaching, touching and pointing

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What Our Words Don't Say

- Smile or frown
- Open or closed body position
- Reactive or proactive body position
- Abrupt or calculated movements
- Touching and grabbing

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Visual Supports

- What are they?
- Who needs them?
- Why do we use them?

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1. You Are a Visual Tool

- facial expressions
- shaking or nodding your head
- holding out your hand
- holding up an object
- and lots more

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YOU

are a Visual tool

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2. Naturally Occurring in the Environment

- objects, people
- pictures, posters, photographs
- printed material, books, labels, signs

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3. If we need more visuals we create them

- schedules
- calendars
- choice boards
- lists
- printed instruction
- behavior reminders
- Social stories
- AND MUCH MORE

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How do you use visual supports?

The Visual Tool Mini Test

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Visual Tools Mini Test

Linda Hodgdon
Visual Strategies for Improving Communication

Do you have a **calendar** that you write things on to help you organize your life?

Do you have a **list of "things to do"** on your desk or refrigerator?

Have you ever pointed to a **picture** in an advertisement or a menu to show someone what you want?

Do you make up a **shopping list** before you go to the store?

Do you ever read a **sign** to tell you what line to stand in or what door to exit from?

Have you ever followed a **recipe** in a cookbook to create some delicious dinner? Did you go back to that recipe each time you wanted to cook that item?

Do you ever write **notes** to your family members reminding them to do things?

Do you scan the **menu** to evaluate your choices before ordering in a restaurant?

Have you ever made a **check list** for your children to help them remember to brush their teeth?

Did you ever attach a **note** to your bathroom mirror to remind you to do something?

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A new word for your vocabulary

사탕

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Do you want some? 사탕

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What images do you conjure when you hear "ice cream"?

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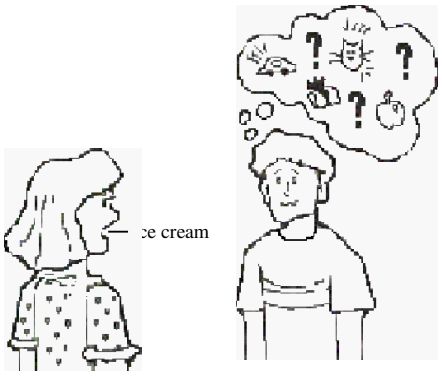

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Who would benefit from visual supports?

☺ While visual supports have mainly been used to benefit students with ASD the bottom line is that visual supports benefit ALL learners.

Tools Used

- Digital camera
- Scanner
- Laminator
- Velcro
- Double sided tape
- Comb binding machine
- Color printer
- Pencil/paper

- Computer
  - Boardmaker
  - Overboard
  - TheraSimplicity
  - PhotoSyms
  - Picture It
  - Word/Power Point
  - Coburn Delivers
  - Google/Yahoo Images

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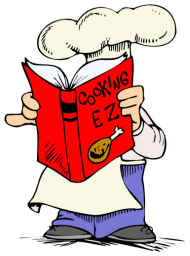
Visual Strategies Cookbook



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Behavior Management

- Listening
- Self Control
- Daily Behavior Sheet
- Token and penny boards
- Visual Clocks

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Problem: During instructional time, learner is distracted and not attending to speaker

Solution: Increase awareness of how to be a good listener

- ☼ Systematically teach a listening unit use supporting material such as *The Listening Walk* and *The Conversation Club*
- ☼ Create visuals to support the unit
  - visual of the listening rules
  - social story about listening and what listening looks like
- ☼ Initially use a heavy schedule of reinforcement to establish the listening rules

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Give Me 5 For Listening

Eyes on speaker.

Ears listening to speaker.

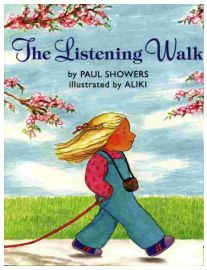
Quiet hands - body still.

Mouth quiet.

Brain thinking.

Created using TheraSimplicity (Sequencing) http://www.therasimplicity.com for Metro ECSU Visual Strategies Workshop Series 2008
by Bridget Ames & Meghan Kunz PACER Center Simon Technology Center

Support Material



- The Listening Walk by Paul showers
- ISBN # 9780606027106

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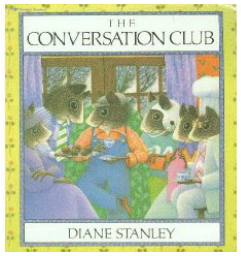
Support Material



- The Conversation Club
- Out of print; can purchase used copies (Amazon.com)
- I use as a framework for creating visual supports for listening and conversation

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When people talk to me, it's usually something I need to hear.

It's important to look at people & stop what I'm doing when they have something to tell me.

Sometimes grown-ups and kids tell me VERY important things that I need to know.

If I don't look & listen I might miss the message that they're trying to give me.

All the other kids look and listen when people talk to them.
I know it's wrong to keep doing what I'm doing when grown-ups want me to listen.

When people talk to me, I will STOP what I'm doing and look & listen to them.

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Problem: Students don't recognize when they are getting out of control; They lack awareness and strategies to keep their bodies in control

Solution: Use visuals to increase awareness of self and improve self monitoring skills

- Visual Thermometer
- Boiling Water

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Visual Thermometer

- Create a visual using color and words the learner has chosen or understands
- The goal is to increases their awareness and understanding of their bodies
- A tool to teach them self control
- Gives learners strategies to regulate their body

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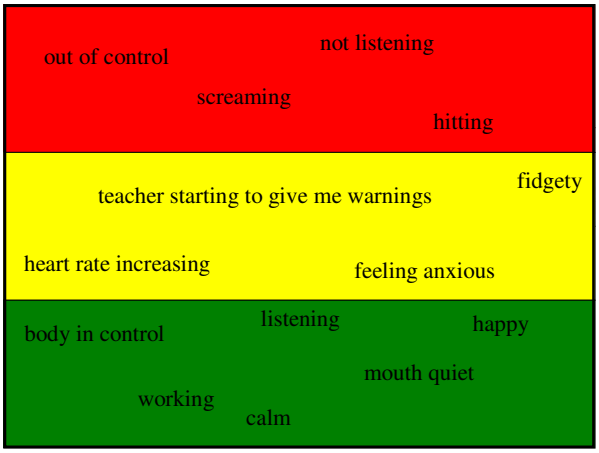


if you are feeling RED:

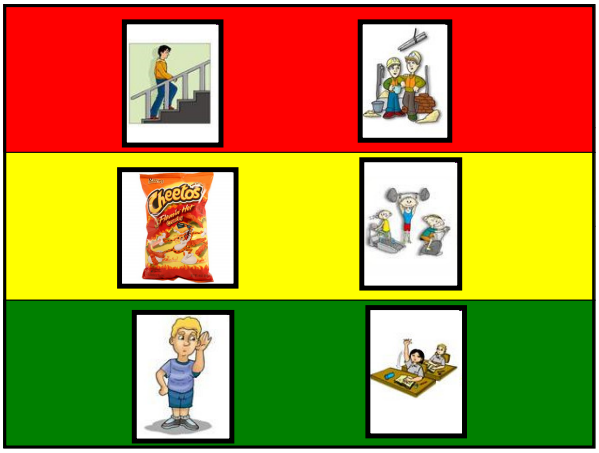
1. Take a Body Break with a teacher
2. Use Relaxation techniques (breathing, rubbing, chewy foods, sour candy, etc.)
3. Alone time to walk, sit, listen to music, play game boy, read
4. Visit the OT

If you are feeling YELLOW:

1. Use relaxation techniques(Breathing, Rubbing, Squeezing)
2. Go for a walk
3. Chew Gum
4. Suck on a war head
5. Get a drink of water
6. If possible, let a teacher know that you are having a hard day...maybe we can help!!

If you are feeling GREEN:

1. Participate in class activity
2. Earn points
3. Have fun
4. Smile
5. Give encouragement to your classmates
6. Respect personal space (bubble) of others



Zone Solutions

If you are feeling **RED**:
** LEAVE the group and....

1. Take a body break with a teacher
2. Use relaxation techniques
3. Take alone time to walk, sit, listen to music, play game boy, read, etc.
4. Do some heavy work
5. Run some laps

If you are feeling **YELLOW**:

1. Use relaxation techniques
2. Go for a walk
3. Chew some gum
4. Get a drink of water
5. If possible let your teachers know that you are having a hard day. Maybe they can help!

If you are feeling **GREEN**:

1. Participate in class activity
2. Have fun
3. Encourage your classmates
4. Respect personal space of others
5. Smile

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What's My Zone

punching
INSULTS
Not listening
Hurting yourself
wild
Bully
Out of Control
kicking
Put downs

Making noises
Being a Distractor
antsy
pacing
Goofing off
Squirmy
OFF TASC
No eye contact
Not using your filter
Touching others

Positive Comments
ENCOURAGING
using your filter
calm
nice
Friendly
listening
Good eye contact
working

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Boiling Water – A Social Story

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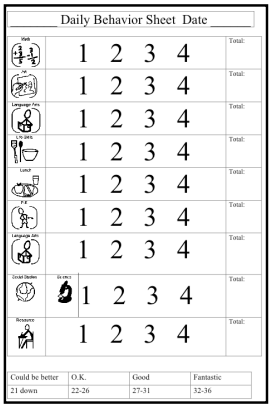

Daily Behavior Sheet Date _____

Shift	1 2 3 4	Total:
Art	1 2 3 4	Total:
Language Arts	1 2 3 4	Total:
Math	1 2 3 4	Total:
Lunch	1 2 3 4	Total:
P.E.	1 2 3 4	Total:
Language Arts	1 2 3 4	Total:
Social Studies / Science	1 2 3 4	Total:
Resource	1 2 3 4	Total:

Could be better	O.K.	Good	Fantastic
21 down	22-26	27-31	32-36

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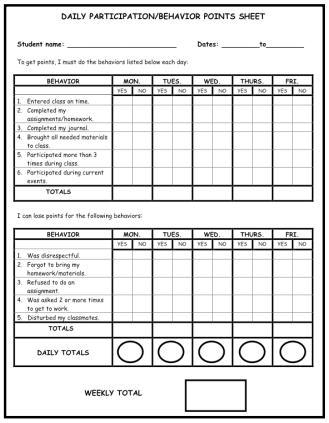

DAILY PARTICIPATION/BEHAVIOR POINTS SHEET

Student name: _____ Dates: _____to_____

To get points, I must do the behaviors listed below each day:

BEHAVIOR	MON.		TUES.		WED.		THURS.		FRI.	
	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO
1. Entered class on time.										
2. Completed my assignments/homework.										
3. Completed my journal.										
4. Brought all needed materials to class.										
5. Participated more than 3 times during class.										
6. Participated during current events.										
TOTALS										

I can lose points for the following behaviors:

BEHAVIOR	MON.		TUES.		WED.		THURS.		FRI.	
	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO
1. Was disrespectful.										
2. Forgot to bring my homework/materials.										
3. Refused to do an assignment.										
4. Was asked 2 or more times to get to work.										
5. Disturbed my classmates.										
TOTALS										
DAILY TOTALS	◯		◯		◯		◯		◯	

WEEKLY TOTAL ☐

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Problem: Students have difficulty understanding the passage of time and don't attend to clocks

Solution: Visual "Timers"

- Use a token system to show the passage of time
- Use anything that works
- We've used poker chips, pennies, nickels, circling letters, etc.

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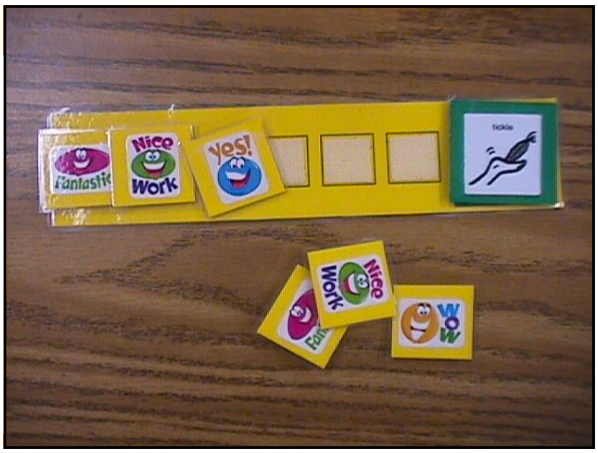

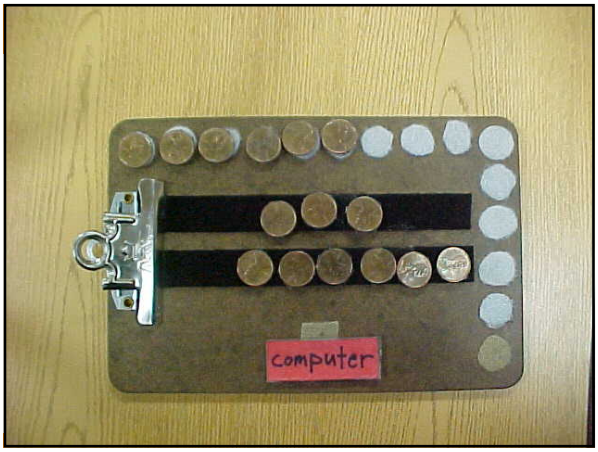

sit	quiet	work	break

poker chips velcroed on

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Visual Timers

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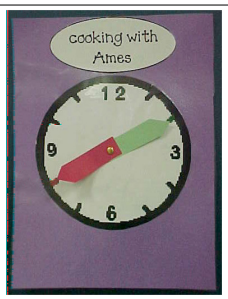
Clock: Start and Finish



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Portable Timer (no batteries needed)

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Sensory

- relaxation techniques
- motor menu
- exercising book

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Relaxation Techniques

1. Breathe in slow.
   Breath out slow.
   Do 10-15 times.

2. Rub hands slowly from top of leg to knee.
   Do 10-15 times.

3. Squeeze stress ball hard.
   Relax.
   Do 10-15 times.

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Oral Motor Menu

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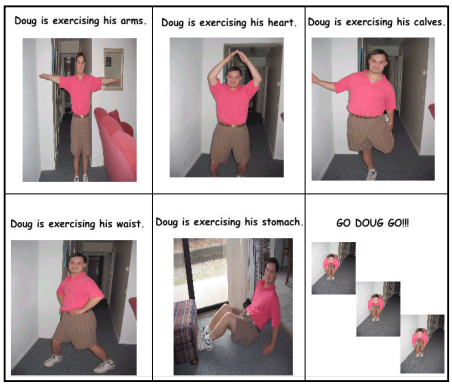
My Exercise Book



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Structure/Organization

- schedules
- classroom rules

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Problem: Students don't know what is going to happen next which may result in behavior problems (uncertainty, anxiety)

Solution: Schedules

- Schedule for the day
  - On the wall
  - Portable
  - Symbols/Text
- Can be done to structure time within a scheduled activity

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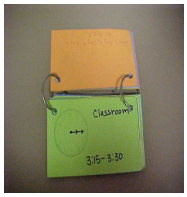

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PDAs and Online Calendars

-Built in Palm calendar
-Can also download or buy freeware and shareware
- student planners
- alarm clocks
- digital reminders

-Also available on the DANA (portable word processer with Palm features)
-online calendars
Google Calendars

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Social Stories

- Activity Sequencing
- Explaining social rules and expectations

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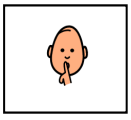
1. I like going to the movie theater.

4. Then I get my movie snacks.

2. When I get there I buy my ticket

5. Now it's time to find my seat.

3. I'll go to the bathroom so I don't have to go during the movie.



6. Finally the movie starts. Remember., shhhh!

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Going to the Movies

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Supporting language with text/pictures

- PowerPoint books
- Social Encyclopedia
- News-2-You

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Pete's a Pizza

Pete's in a bad mood. Just when he's supposed to play ball with the guys, it decides to rain

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Social Encyclopedia

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Suggested Items for Table of Contents

- Journal
  - Date, conflict, resolution
- When others don't understand me
  - social perspective
- When I don't understand others
  - teasing, bullying, jokes, body language
- Personal Space
- How to be a friend
- Changes
- Social Dictionary
  - Patience, jealousy, coping
- Recess
- Relaxation techniques
- Feelings

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News-2-You®

A Weekly Publication for Individuals with Special Needs

by Dave and Jacquie Clark

- Symbol-based, current events newspaper
- Published weekly
- Can be adapted for many age levels
- Typically uses Boardmaker symbols
- Comes in both higher level, regular and simplified editions
- Comes with two communication boards
- vocabulary words related to the newspaper

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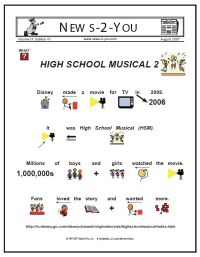
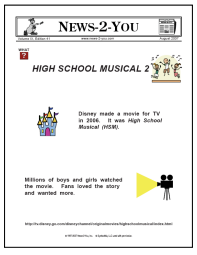
News-2-You





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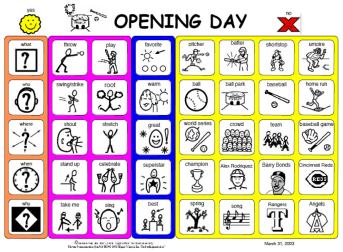
CHAMPIONS FOR CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES

More Than Just a Communication Board



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CHAMPIONS FOR CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES

Software Tools

- Board Making Tools
- Symbol Supported Text Tools
- Tools for Creating Social Stories
- Resources

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Board Making Tools

- Boardmaker
- Overboard
- PHOTOsyms
- Picture This
- TheraSimplicity
- Word

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Boardmaker

www.mayer-johnson.com

Create printed materials, activities & communication boards

- *–4,500 color and black and white symbols*
- *–Customizable*
- *–350 templates*
- *–44 languages*
- *–Symbolate*
- *–Video, voice, and animation*
- *–Windows and Mac*
- *–Free 30 day Windows trial*
- *–$329 Boardmaker*

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Overboard

www.gusinc.com/Overboard/index.html

- 5,500 communication symbols
- Available for XP/Vista/Mac OSX
- Online tutorials available in MediaPlayer and Quicktime
- Free communication device templates
- Demo version available
- $169/$199 (Microsoft speech/NEO speech)
- Microsoft XP, Vista and Mac OSX compatible.

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PHOTOsyms

http://www.photosyms.org

- Designed to be used with your pictures
- Not designed as a board making tool
- Designed to be an easy photo editing tool
- Easy to use with only a few features
- Available for both Mac and PC
- Works in Flash
- Meant to be printed (not saved)
- Can be saved by choosing save to PDF when printing (Mac) or Cute PDF (PC)
- Free

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Picture This… Pro Features

www.silverliningmm.com

- Over 5,000 photos
- Search phonetically or by word
- Print labels in English, French, German, Spanish or Italian
- Easily move and copy pictures
- Print any custom-sized card with or without colored borders
- Print colored labels above or below the picture
- Use the clipboard to copy pictures into and out of Picture This...
- Windows '95, '98, ME, 2000, NT, XP or Vista or a Macintosh running Mac OS 8.5 or higher.
- $89.00, Standard Edition $50

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CHAMPIONS FOR CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES

Visual Essentials Features

www.silverliningmm.com

Contains over 3,500 photos plus layouts and templates so that you can easily create visuals for:

- **Behavior Management**
  - School Rules
  - Social Rules at Home and in the Community
  - Token Boards
  - Behavior Charts
- **Nonverbal Communication**
  - Sign Language
  - Picture Exchange Cards
  - Symbols (such as "more" and "all done")
- **Photo Schedules**
  - Living Skills such as toileting, grooming and chores
  - Home and School Schedules
  - Schedules for Community Outings
  - Activity Schedules
- Windows '95 or higher, or Mac OS 8.5 or higher (natively in OSX)
- $69.95

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CHAMPIONS FOR CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES

Places You Go Things You Do

www.silverliningmm.com

- Over 3,500 photos
- Search phonetically or by word
- Print labels in English, French, German, Spanish or Italian
- Easily move and copy pictures
- 58 folders within the following main topic areas: appointments, classes, dining, leisure, places, shopping, sports, and travel.
- Windows 95 or higher and Mac OS 7.6 or higher.
- $39.95

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PeekaViewer Features

www.silverliningmm.com

- Find Photos from any Collection Faster
- Search by Keyword
- Preview Photos
- Print Any Size Card
- Windows 95, 98, ME, NT, 2000, XP or Mac OS 7.6 or higher.
- $29.95

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TheraSimplicity Features

www.therasimplicity.com

Online collection of useful tools, illustrations, symbols, worksheets, and reference materials for therapists in a wide range of professions.

- Divided into sections (books in a library)
- Can customize your own materials or access hundreds of pre-made materials
- No extra cost for addition of content to the site
- Manage your materials with PDF
- $189 one year subscription

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Microsoft Word

Pros

- Readily available
- Import variety of symbol formats (Clip art, online images, digital photos)
- Save boards as templates

Cons

- Not intended as a symbol program
- Resizing
- Formatting
- Adding text to cells

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Talking/Visual Word Processors

- Boardmaker 6 (symbolate) by Mayer-Johnson
- Clicker 5 by Crick Software
- Communicate: SymWriter by Widgit
- Pixture It by Slater Software
- PixWriter by Slater Software

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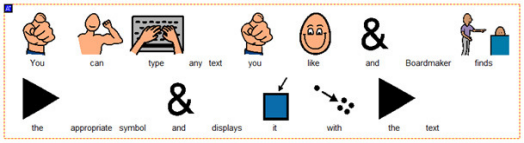
CHAMPIONS FOR CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES

Boardmaker by Mayer Johnson

www.mayerjohnson.com



- Symbolate feature
- Symbols for words appear as you type
- Add symbol support to sentences, stories and other text
- Avalible in Boardmaker, Boardmaker Plus, and Boardmaker with SDPro
- Version 6
- $329.00

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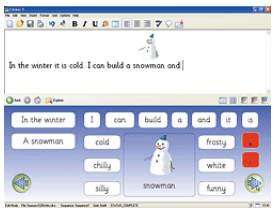
Clicker 5

www.cricksoft.com



- Tool for writing
- Talking word processor with picture support
- Utilizes a Franklin spell checker
- Multiple grid options
- Grid Sharing
  - www.learninggrids.com
- Compatible with both Mac and PC
- $229.00

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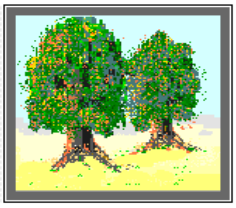
Picture It

www.slatersoftware.com



- Allows kids to independently read text
- Can be printed and read over and over
- Gives visual as well as auditory support
- Word by word highlighting in reader mode
- Windows XP and Mac OS 10 compatible (not Vista)
- $302.00

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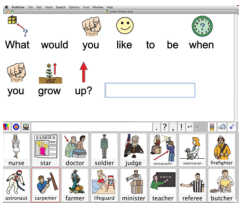
CHAMPIONS FOR CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES

PixWriter

www.slatersoftware.com

- Tool for writing
- Talking word processor with picture support
- Use the program to compose emails
- Options for 4, 16, 36, or 64 grid layouts
- Can type word or use grid to select whole word
- Windows XP and Mac OS X compatible (Not Vista)
- $109.00



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Symbol World

-Web based resource designed to provide a web site with materials suitable for symbol readers of all ages

-Supported by Widgit and Mayer Johnson symbols

-Divided into four sections
- -eLive
- -Learning
- -Stories
- -MyWorld

SymbolWorld.org

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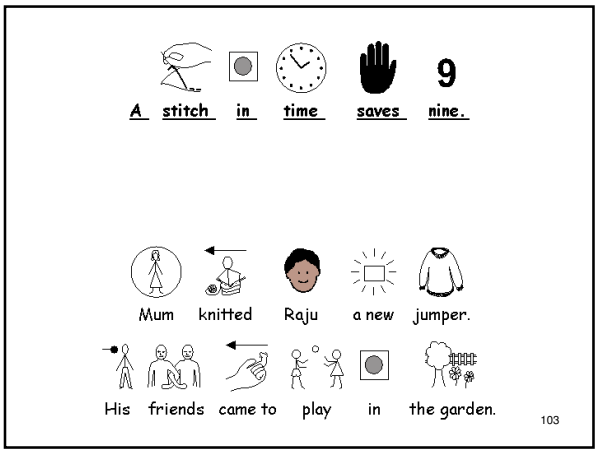
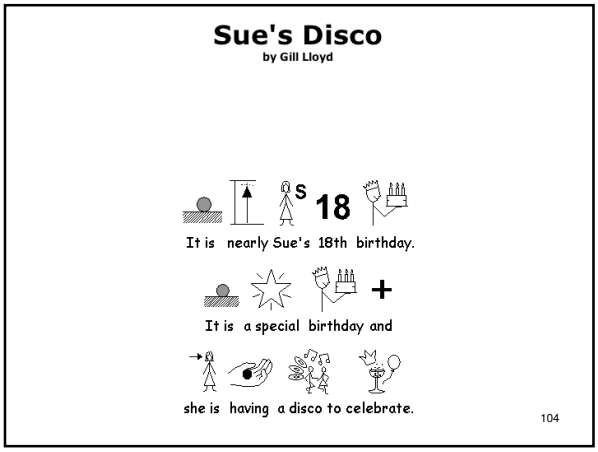




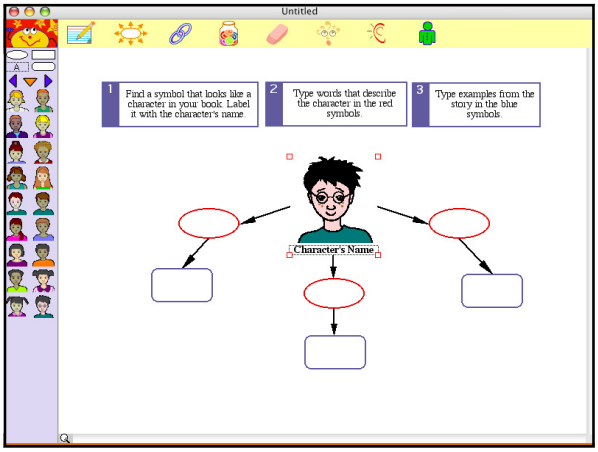
Mind Mapping

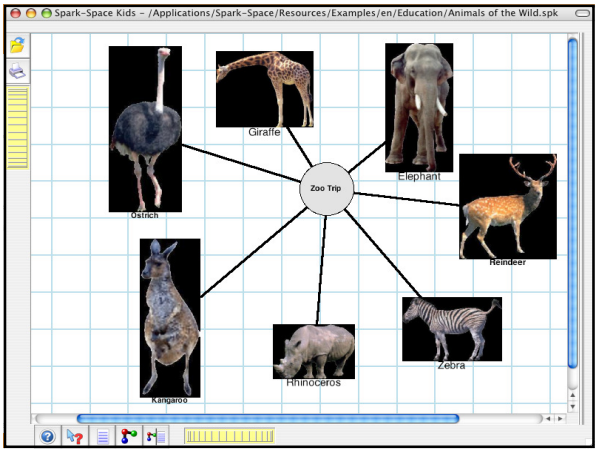
- Inspiration/Kidspiration/SparkSpace
  - Visual mapping
  - VENN diagrams
  - Categorization
  - Story mapping/story starters
- Draft Builder
- Writer's Companion

Mind Mapping Software

-Visual way to think, write and comprehend
-www.inspiration.com
-Cost varies on vendor (approximately $70.00

-available in different languages
-Kidspark for kids up to age 10
www.spark-space.com
-£99





DRAFT Builder SOLO

-Writing Organizational Tool by Don Johnston
-Available in both Mac and PC
-$149.00 for an individual license

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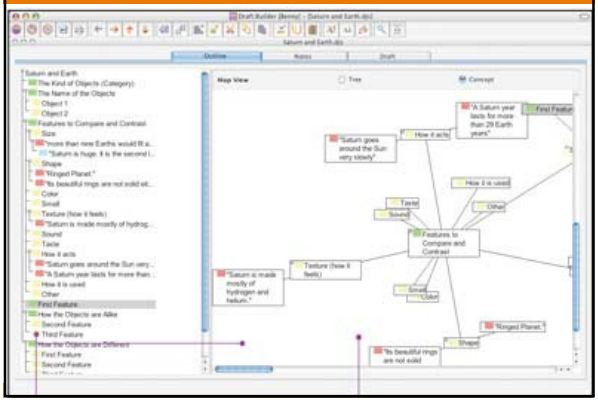
Organizing Ideas



Writer's Companion™

BrainstormOrganizeSequenceEditPublish

-Writing Organizational Tool
-Available in both Mac and PC
-$59.00 for an individual license

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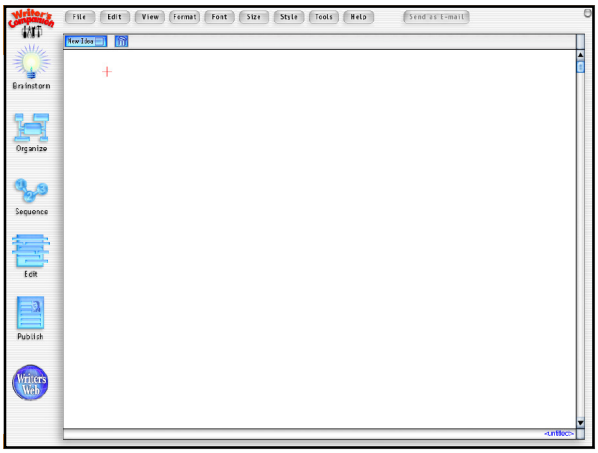

Tar Heel Reader

- Free online book making resource
- Tap into open source photos via Flickr
- Ability to upload own pictures
- Create and share
- http://www.tarheelreader.org
- To create books register use password = Literacy!

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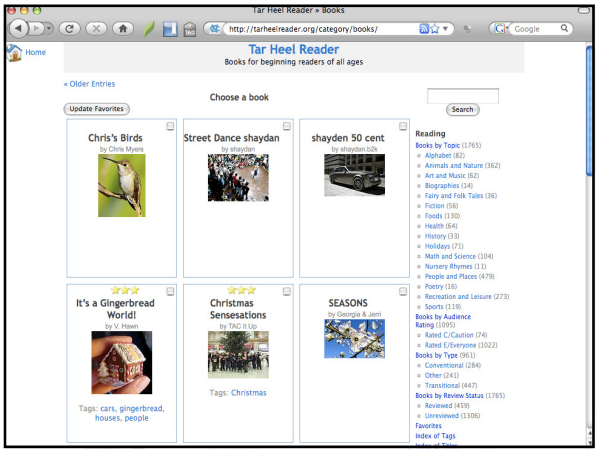

Symbol Resources

- Clip Art CD's
- Pics4Learning
- Clip Art for Teachers
- clipart.org
- Coburn Delivers
- Google Images
- Yahoo Images
- Flikr

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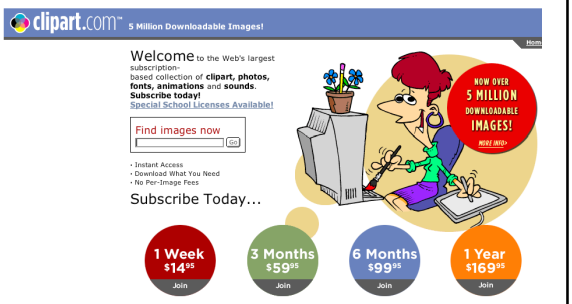

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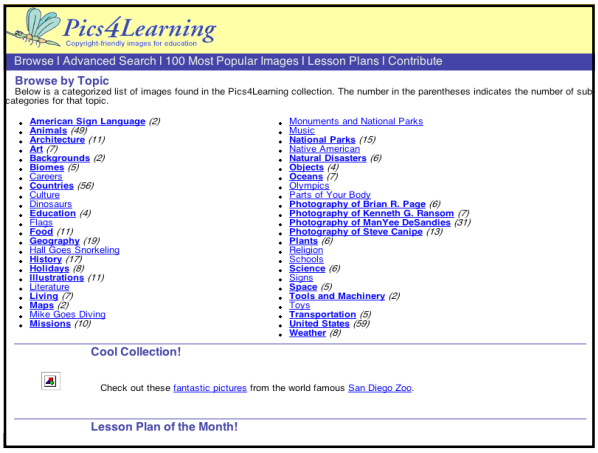

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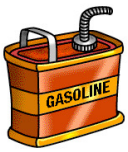

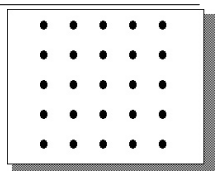

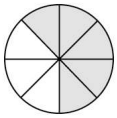

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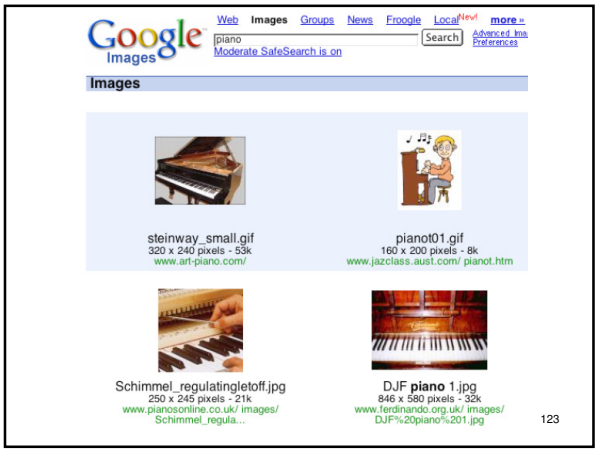

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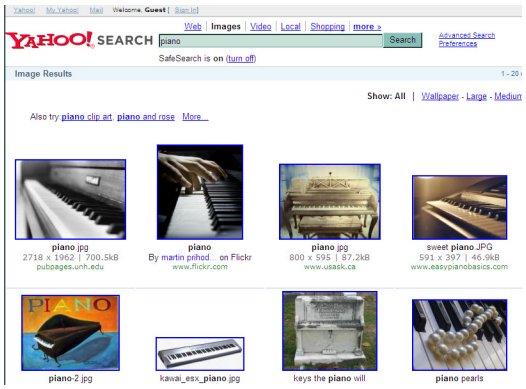

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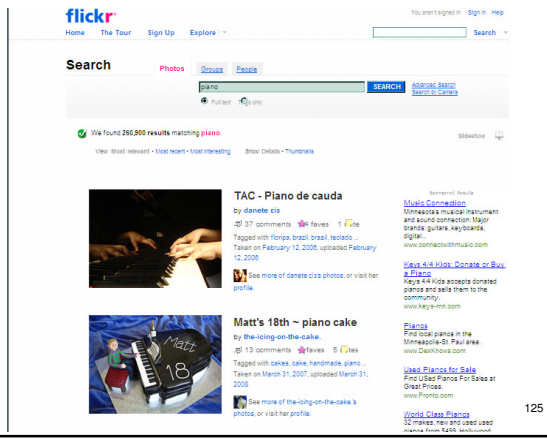

RESOURCES - Books

The New Social Story Book, Illustrated Edition
Original Stories Revised by Carol Gray

Visual Strategies for Improving Communication: Volume I Practical Supports for School and Home
Linda A. Hodgdon, M.ED., CCC-SLP

Solving Behavior Problems in Autism: Improving Communication with Visual Strategies
Linda A. Hodgdon, M.ED., CCC-SLP

Do-Watch-Listen-Say: Social and Communication Intervention for Children with Autism
Kathleen Ann Quill

Symbol Resources - Websites

BoardMaker
http://www.mayerjohnson.com

Overboard
http://www.gusinc.com/Overboard/index.html

Speaking of Speech
http://www.speakingofspeech.com

TheraSimplicity
http://www.therasimplicity.com

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Symbol Resources - websites

do2Learn
http://dotolearn.com/

clipart.com
http://www.clipart.com

Clip Art for Teachers
http://www.clipartforteachers.com

Coborn's Delivers
http://www.cobornsdelivers.com

Flickr
http://www.flickr.com/

Google Images
http://www.google.com – images

Literacy Support Pictures
http://www.slatersoftware.com/PixLibrary.html?CHEER.GIF=Cheer!

Pics4Learning
http://www.pics4learning.com

Yahoo Images
http://www.yahoo.com - images

Use Visual Strategies
www.usevisualstrategies.com

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Resources - websites

Clicker 5
http://www.cricksoft.com

Draft Builder
http://www.donjohnston.com

Inspiration/Kidspiration
http://www.inspiration.com

Spark-Space
http://www.spark-space.com

The Writers Companion
http://www.writerscomp.com

PictureIt & PixWriter
http://www.slatersoftware.com

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Questions?

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Evaluations

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