Assistive Technology Strategies for Students with TBI

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Brain Injury Services
For people with cognitive disabilities, 90% of devices are DISCARDED. (Scherer, M.J. (2005))
This is because AT is not typically evaluated in the context of the whole person and their environment.”
The tool or technology is the least important thing.
The Visitor
The Complainant
The Customer

*Adapted from Solution Focused approaches*
The Visitor

- There is no problem or
- The problem belongs to someone else
- Want to get others off their back
- Sees no reason to change
• Compliment willingness to attend and listen

• What is working?

• How can you show others you can ____?

• How can I help you demonstrate your skill?
The Complainant

- Understands there is a problem
- Uncertain how to address issues
- Views self as a victim
- May not see self as part of solution or be committed to taking action
The Complainant

- Praise awareness and insight
- Ask for exceptions and analyze for ideas
- Encourage creative problem solving
- Identify small actions to take and monitor
The Consumer

- Aware of issues and ready to address
- Has concrete goals
- Willing to try new things and make changes
- Can be active partner in exploring new strategies
I got this!

The Consumer

- Praise current efforts and provide positive feedback
- Keep focused on goals and prioritize
- Prepare for setbacks and frustrations
- Reinforce growth mindset
The Power of YET
Assistive Technology for Cognition

• Types of AT for cognition with examples
• Three components of independent use
• Environmental modifications
Alerting
Reminding
Prompting
Storing and Displaying
Self-Regulating

(Adapted from Gillespie, 2012)
Alerting Technologies

Direct attention to internal or external stimuli

Drowsiness Alert

Spell Check

Spell Check is a great alerting tool!
Mid-Tech Alerting

Vibrating Pager

MotivAider

RE-vibe
Reminding Technologies

Time-dependent reminders to cue action.

MyHomework

My Study Life

Pillboxie
Reminding Technologies

Aida Reminder

(Reminder, Alarm and Voice Reminders. Remind Me App)

• Record own voice
• Pre-Alarms
• Auto-Snooze
• Images
Reminding Technologies

360 Thinking Time Tracker

• Indicates ready, midpoint and stop points
• Users can compare the planned vs. actual use of time.
Mid-Tech Reminding

WatchMinder3

VoiceCue

Time Timer
Prompting Technologies

Step-by-step prompts for present task.

- Step-by-step cues (Next Thing)
- Checklists (EpicWin)
- Functional Planning System
Prompting Technologies
Step-by-step prompts for present task.

Choiceworks

One Big Thing

ReachMyGoals
Prompting Technologies

**TickTick** is a cross-platform app with to-dos, subtasks, and reminders.
Prompting Technologies

- Use a pillbox as a visual schedule and reward system
- Place small tokens (coins, stickers, etc.) inside the box
- Try a bead in each compartment...the student can keep a string and see how many they can earn
- Put the reward activity in the last box so it’s a surprise!

From Shannon of the Speechy Musings Blog
http://tinyurl.com/y8o2bpcd
More Prompting Ideas

StepPad Mini

Visual Schedule Planner App

Low-tech solution
More Prompting Ideas

Brili for works on iOS devices, Andriod devices, and the Pebble watch. It will soon also work in your browser.
Fading Prompting Technologies

Customized keyboard with fading prompts created in the Abilipad App
Create Tutorials on Class Computer
Storing & Displaying Technologies

Countdown
(AT - Countdown reminder)

Notes
(Evernote)

Study
(Bitsboard)
Password Management
Creating Passwords

• **Wizard of Oz**
  • `?g&pOzem11`
    • Question (?) for the great and powerful (g&p) Oz in the emerald (em) city (11)

• **Space System**
  • `plnts@$UN*`
  • `Eis3rdfr0m*`
Storing and Displaying iPad Apps

Walk Through Your Day Time Banner

- 1 x 16 feet laminated banner
- Students walk on the banner to see how their day will unfold as they ‘walk across the day’.
- One day 7:00 a.m. - 11:00 p.m. with 15 minute time slots
Storing and Displaying iPad Apps

Plan My Day Academic Planner

- Students block their Chill Time, Obligated Time and Productive Time.
- The choices of Important Goal, Must Do, Should Do and Want to Do encourage prioritizing skills
- Time estimation
- To Think About & Coming Up
BeeLine Reader

HOW IT WORKS

Ever wonder why stop lights use colors and not words? It's because the human brain processes color very quickly—much more quickly than it can process words. BeeLine Reader uses the same principle to make reading easier and faster. With BeeLine Reader, the color of the text guides your eye across and between lines, eliminating "line transition errors" (accidentally skipping or repeating lines) and making reading faster, easier and more efficient.
SymbolSupport App
Accessible Wallpaper

http://www.pinterest.com/sarahpickford/accessible-wallpaper/

http://kohnphotography.com/blog/?p=621

http://www.linneyville.com
Livescribe Pen
Other Tools

- Soulver Calculator
- MyScript Calculator
- GCFLearnFree.org
Self-Regulating Technologies

Breathing or Meditation (Breathe2Relax)

Personal Strategies (Pace My Day)

Sensory-Based (Fluid)
Self-Regulating Technologies

Yoga Studio app

Doasone.com
3 CONVINCE YOURSELF
For each potential goal, tell yourself why you would pursue that path.

1. Go back to school.
or
2. Find a new job.
or
3. Take time off.

THOUGHT STARTERS
Be honest. And consider these questions:
• Are you passionate about it?
• Does it play to your strengths?
• Does it support your core values?
• How will you overcome barriers?
• How will you deal with any risk involved?

I'M STUCK BECAUSE...
I need to start exercising but just can't get my butt in gear. I work long hours and just can't seem to find the time to get a good routine going.

SO I NEED TO...
Commit
3 Components of Independent Use

Initiation
Student retrieves the device when it is required.
Student displays awareness of the device’s purpose.

Operation
Student is able to perform basic device functions.
Student displays increasing skill levels.

Management
Student is tasked with caring for the device.
Student accepts responsibility and ownership.
Environmental Modifications
Light Filters
Questions?

You can view the presentation file and other resources by visiting:

http://tinyurl.com/Summer-TBI-2017

Or contact Sarah at:
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