# aldi
## INITIATIVE

# Do you have 45 minutes? That's all you need in order to learn how to use a new assistive technology tool.

## *Jumpstart your UDL assistive technology initiatives with hands-on learning sessions.*

**Where**: at your school.

**When**: At lunch, during a staff meeting, or after school.

**What:** Enpower your team in 45 minutes with a hands-on assistive technology jumpstart session. We will discuss the specific AT tool (15 min) and how it can be universally applied in the classroom. Then we will go hands-on to apply the tools (30 min).

**Designed for**: School teams (between 2-15 people). Administrators, resource teachers, classroom teachers, integration aides, technicians all welcome.

## Description of sessions

## Text to speech

TTS is a tool that reads the text on the screen aloud to the student.

**In this session we cover:**

- How does text to speech work?
- What type of student learning profiles might text to speech benefit?
- Enabling and using available text to speech options.
- Text to speech options for mobile devices.

# Writing with literacy support tools

Literacy support tools are software or apps that combine several features to support the writing process.

**In this session we cover:**

- Text to speech within the writing process
- Word prediction within the writing process
- Other features included in specific products, if available to school (ex.vocabulary support, annotation).

Software needed: Claroread **or** WordQ **or** Google Read and Write.
Apps needed, iOS: iWordQ **or** iReadWrite **or** Claro

# Graphic organizers/Mindmapping

Graphic organizer/mindmapping software or apps allow the student to organize their ideas visually, as a support to oral language or a pre-writing tool.

**In this session we cover:**

- Using available free mobile tools to create a basic mindmap.
- Using free mobile tools to create a mindmap for the purposes of a writing outline.

# Speech recognition (one hour minimum for this session)

Speech recognition allows the student to express him/herself and write through oral language.

**In this session we cover:**

- The matching process for speech recognition (environment/task/skill)
- How to enable free speech recognition on a laptop and a mobile device.
- How to begin working with students with speech recognition for the writing process.

# Annotation

Annotation is the ability to "mark up" a document or text in order to extract meaning from text. Students learn reading strategies through annotation such as questioning, reflecting on the text, predicting, and highlighting important information.

**In this session we cover:**

- Why annotation builds active readers and increases comprehension.
- A free tool to start annotating (mobile or laptop, depending on staff preference and availability).

# Screencasting

Screencasting is a recording of what's on your screen-generally used for creating tutorials for students. A tool that is a large component of a "flipped" learning model.

**In this session we cover:**

- What's the idea behind making a great screencast?
- What is the purpose of screencasting, specifically for students with special needs?
- A free tool to create your own screencasts (either mobile, Smart Notebook or laptop, depending on availability and preference).

## Contact:

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