

Don't Be Afraid, It's Just Technology!

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November 2017

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HOUMET CONFERENCE
NOVEMBER 3, 2017
REGION 4 EDUCATION SERVICE CENTER
HOUSTON, TEXAS



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Through Your Child's Eyes by
Understood.org



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Accessing the General Curriculum



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Exploring Tools

WINDOWS, GOOGLE/CHROME, AND APPLE

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Types of tools: Is it AT or IT?

- Text to speech
- Speech to text
- Screen readers
- Graphic organizers
- Word Prediction, phrase prediction, spell checkers
- Management tools to support executive function
- Alternative computer access (keyboards, mice, head movement, eye gaze)
- Communication devices
- VI/AI supports

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Microsoft Tools

- Customize the ribbon in MS Office
 - Text to Speech
 - Equation Editor
- MS Windows Speech to Text
 - Control Panel/Settings, Speak Recognition
 - Need a good mic
- efofex – math and science applet- free for students with disabilities
 - <http://www.efofex.com/index.php>
 - Empowerment Foundation <http://www.efofex.com/empower.php>
- Windows apps/store (most MS Windows devices)
- For purchase software (e.g., Kurzweil)

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Google Tools

- Google [Docs](#) (can be used on most devices with the Google docs app)
- Google [Drive](#) (cloud storage- personal, education, and enterprise versions)
- Google [Apps](#) (can be used on *ANDRIOD* devices; available from the [Google Play Store](#))
- Chrome [Extensions](#) (can be used on most devices if *CHROME* Browser is installed)
- Chrome [Apps](#) (can be used on most Windows and Android devices if *CHROME* Browser is installed)

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Chrome Extensions/Apps

- Extensivity- organizes your Google apps and Chrome extensions
- Read&Write for Google Chrome
- SpeakIt extension and Chrome Speak app- text to speech
- Mercury Reader- simplify websites to just text; edit font size, +/-serif, high contrast; send to Kindle
- Lucidchart- graphic organizer

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Chrome Extensions/Apps

- VoiceNotell, Speechnotes, and Dictanote- speech to text (invest in a good unidirectional mic)
- myHomework Student planner
- Evernote Webclipper
- Grammarly- checks spelling and grammar in Chrome
- Skimzee- web page summarization, social media search and web feed aggregation
- Kami- PDF markup, note taking, text to speech

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Apple/iPad

- Text to Speech- Built in, Firefly (Kurzweil) , Claro- 3 apps PDF PRO, SCAN PEN, SPEAK
 - Built in text to speech- try it in "Notes"
- Graphic organizers: Inspiration, Ploppet
- Authoring tools: Pictello, Keynote, Book Creator, Noteability
- Word Prediction: Co-Writer, Predictable
- Speech to text: Built in, Dragon

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Other Resources

- TEA Accessible Instructional Materials
https://tea.texas.gov/Academics/Instructional_Materials/Accessible_Instructional_Materials/
 - Bookshare www.accessiblebooks4tx.org
 - Learning Ally www.learningally.org/texas
- Free Accessible online books/authoring tools
 - Tarheel reader <https://tarheelreader.org/> (Explore some books)
 - Book builder by CAST <http://bookbuilder.cast.org/> (requires flash)

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But wait, what about STAAR™ ?

STAAR Accessibility TEA TETN Presentation

▪ STAAR Accessibility TEA TETN PowerPoint Presentation from September 12, 2017:

http://tea.texas.gov/Student_Testing_and_Accountability/Testing/Student_Assessment_Overview/Accommodation_Resources/2018_Accessibility/

Scroll down to Trainings and Presentations

Accommodation Resources Webpage

<http://tea.texas.gov/student-assessment/accommodations/>

The screenshot shows the TEA Accommodation Resources webpage. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for 'Home', 'About TEA', 'Resources', 'News & Events', 'Reports & Data', 'Student Training & Professional Development', and 'Help'. The main content area is titled 'Accommodation Resources' and includes a '2018 Accessibility' section. A red box highlights the link 'Applicable to Dec. tests' under the '2018 Accessibility' section. A red arrow points from this link to the 'IMPORTANT: Read the policies!' banner at the bottom of the page.

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STAAR: Technology Use Guidelines

https://tea.texas.gov/Student_Testing_and_Accountability/Testing/Student_Assessment_Overview/Accommodation_Resources/2018_Accessibility/ -- scroll down to "Related Resources"

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STAAR: Online Tutorials and Practice Tests

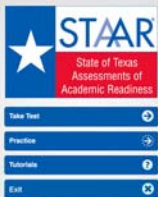
[https://tea.texas.gov/Student_Testing_and_Accountability/Testing/State_of_Texas_Assessments_of_Academic_Readiness_\(STAAR\)/STAAR_Online_Testing_Platform/](https://tea.texas.gov/Student_Testing_and_Accountability/Testing/State_of_Texas_Assessments_of_Academic_Readiness_(STAAR)/STAAR_Online_Testing_Platform/)

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Will be updated for 2018 Administration



STAAR Online Tutorials

When you open the STAAR online testing platform, you will see a menu of options, including "Tutorials."

STAAR Testing Platform Link:

[https://tea.texas.gov/Student_Testing_and_Accountability/Testing/State_of_Texas_Assessments_of_Academic_Readiness_\(STAAR\)/STAAR_Online_Testing_Platform/](https://tea.texas.gov/Student_Testing_and_Accountability/Testing/State_of_Texas_Assessments_of_Academic_Readiness_(STAAR)/STAAR_Online_Testing_Platform/)

Version 8.3.20170208 10:35:01
Secure Browser Version: Browser
Client Version: 2.78.0

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	<h2>Thank you!</h2>
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