

WHAT IS READ & WRITE GOLD SOFTWARE?

Read and Write Gold is designed to provide literacy support for students. It supports a Universal Design of Learning model which aids students in accessing the curriculum and completing reading, writing and research assignments. When used in conjunction with other applications, Read & Write allows students to experience greater independence and promotes inclusive classroom practices.

This software incorporates the functionality of many pieces of software. As a result, it eliminates the need for students to train on multiple technologies.

Some features of Read & Write Gold include;

- Speech Feedback
- Research Tools and Graphic Organizer
- Word Prediction / Phonetic Spell Checker
- Talking Dictionary / Homonym Support
- Audio File Creation
- French Translator
- Calculator: Standard and Scientific
- Scanning Capabilities



RESOURCES AND INFORMATION AVAILABLE ONLINE

For teachers and schools on the internal Special Education website:


http://tdsbweb/special_education/sea

For parents on the TDSB website:

<http://www.tdsb.on.ca/specialeducation/tech>


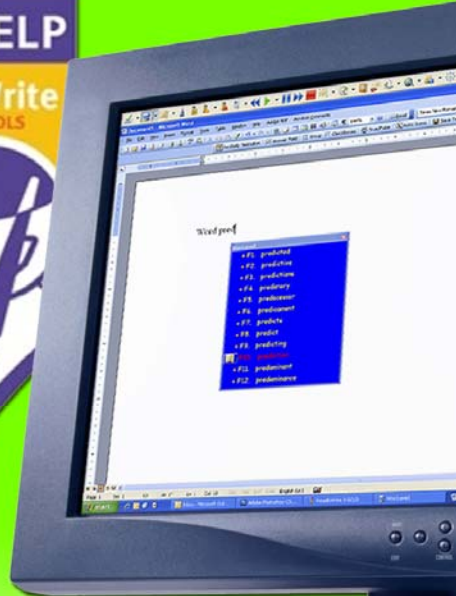

For further information, please contact:

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Supporting Board-Wide Initiatives Using Assistive Technology

Read & Write Gold Information on Software and Support for Your School



ALL SCHOOLS CAN NOW RECEIVE READ & WRITE GOLD!!!

Read and Write Gold software will now be available to ALL TDSB schools through the Special Education Department at no cost.

Students will also have access to Read and Write V.10 at home on their PC computers (V.4 for MAC). Download instructions are available on the Special Education website at:

Internal site: http://tdsbweb/special_education/sea



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND ONGOING SUPPORT

As a department, we understand the importance of an effective implementation plan, particularly when working with new technologies in an educational setting. We will not only train teachers on this new technology, but will provide professional development sessions with a focus on integration of technology into the curriculum. Part of our role is to collaborate with teachers to incorporate assistive technology into teaching and learning activities in the classroom and to build capacity among staff to share best practices.

The Assistive Technology Team of the Special Education Department is looking at a multi-faceted approach to incorporate Read and Write Gold in the classroom.

ADDITIONAL SUPPORTS AVAILABLE

There will be many opportunities to receive additional support as noted below.

1. System Wide Group Sessions

System wide sessions will be available to all school staff as well as Central staff.

Sessions will include Introductory and Advanced training sessions.

All system wide sessions will be available on Key to Learn

2. Job Embedded Professional Development and Mentoring

Members of the team can provide follow up support to help implement strategies learned during Key to Learn training sessions. This could include;

- In class modeling and mentoring
- Job embedded professional development and coaching

Please click on the internal website to access the referral form for in class support:

http://tdsbweb/special_education/sea

3. Resources and Materials

The Special Education Department has various online resources available including;

- Printed resources
- Online conferencing and webcasting
- "How to" videos

External site:

<http://www.tdsb.on.ca/specialeducation/tech>



Goals of an Inclusionary Model:

“Special needs are recognized and met through curriculum, teaching strategies, differentiated instruction and learning environments that expand opportunities for students.”