

## **Low Cost/No Cost Technology Solutions Websites**

### **Elementary**

#### **Interactive Literacy Resources**

<http://literate.com>

pre-k through first grade Phonics program, guided reading, ESL activities, levelled learning activities

<http://www.roythezebra.com>

pre-K through third grade; this site offers interactive games; stories and resources that help emerging readers learn to read

<http://www.pbskids.org/lions>

games, stories, video clips and activities all aimed at reinforcing literacy; section for parents and teachers providing tips; content is sorted by specific skills

#### **Electronic Text**

<http://storynory.com>

a mixture of new stories, fairy tales, and specially adapted myths and histories

<http://www.simtalk.com/bibli/index1024.htm>

online library with screen reader availability

<http://www.mainlesson.com>

Baldwin Online Children's Literature Project  
Literature for children that is in the public domain in the United States  
copies can be made at no cost and different font sizes are available

#### **Text To Speech (TTS) Resources**

<http://www.zabaware.com>

TTS expands to the full size of the screen; available to PC only  
This application can turn any text into a .wav (wave) audio file

<http://www.naturalreaders.com>

natural sounding voices; can convert any written text such as MS Word, Webpage, PDF files, and Emails into spoken words can also convert any written text into audio files such as MP3 or WAV for your CD player or iPod; sentences are highlighted as they are read

<http://www.schoolfreeware.com>

free Mac based TTS application

Mac OS

### **Writing**

<http://teacher.scholastic.com/activities/storystarters/storystarter1.htm>

quick, daily writing activity; students spin a wheel and are given different scenarios to write about then choose a writing format and write a story

[www.writingfix.com](http://www.writingfix.com)

interactive prompts, lessons and resources; focuses on the 6 traits of writing

<http://www.readwritethink.org>

provides lessons sorted by grade level, standards, web resources and student materials to support literacy

### **Math**

<http://www.shodor.org/interactive>

provides many web-based math activities

<http://www.mathplayground.com/>

games, word problems, logic puzzles, and math videos

<http://www.webmath.com/index3.html>

tutorials in all areas of mathematics

## **Equipment Resources**

[WWW.infinitec.org](http://www.infinitec.org)

Infinitec offers an enormous amount of support to teachers, families and students. Once at the site click on the “Free Resources for Illinois”

<http://www.infinitec.org/free-resources.htm>

Infinitec’s ATEN Program provides free computers to students with disabilities

<http://www.infinitecdme.org>

Infinitec Durable Medical Equipment Exchange

<http://www.infinitec.org/free-resources.htm>

Infinitec state-wide Assistive Technology Library and Training Supports Program

<http://www.infinitec.org/autism.htm>

Online Autism Training

<http://www.iltech.org>

Illinois Assistive Technology Project

## **Low Cost/No Cost Technology Solutions Websites**

### **Secondary**

#### **Electronic Text**

<http://www.Gutenberg.org>

thousands of electronic books most are digital text but some are available as audio files  
entire book appears in plain text

<http://www.bibliomania.com/bibliomania-static/index.html>

offers thousands of books, short stories, articles and interviews

<http://www.sparknotes.com>

hundreds of books that have been summarized; they offer plot/character analyses  
No Fear Shakespeare transfers the Old English into modern equivalent

#### **Text to Speech Applications**

<http://www.cross-plus-a.com/balabolka.htm>

All computer voices installed on your system are available to Balabolka; The on-screen text can be saved as a WAV, MP3, OGG or WMA file. The program can customize font and background color.

<http://www.naturalreaders.com>

natural sounding voices; can convert any written text such as MS Word, Webpage, PDF files, and Emails into spoken words can also convert any written text into audio files such as MP3 or WAV for your CD player or iPod; Sentences are highlighted as they are read

<http://accessibar.mozdev.org/>

Accessibar is an application for increasing the accessibility of web pages. The toolbar extension is specifically for Firefox, so in order to download and use this application you need to be navigating the internet through Firefox

<http://www.schoolfreeware.com>

TTS application for Mac users

## **Writing**

<http://www.edmodo.com/>

web 2.0 tool secured site for teachers and students; teachers can post assignments and announcements; students can ask questions, turn in assignments; students and teachers can post messages; share websites; group work can be done on site

<http://mywebspirations.com/>

visual thinking tool that helps you capture ideas, organize information, diagram processes and create clear, concise written documents whether working individually or collaboratively

<http://www.readwritethink.org>

provides lessons sorted by grade level, standards, web resources and student materials to support literacy

## **Math**

<http://www.hippocampus.org>

multimedia lessons and course material to help with instruction, homework and studies; You can also find help with topics covered in popular textbooks; All general education subjects are covered.

<http://www.shodor.org/interactive>

provides many web-based math activities

<http://www.webmath.com/anything.html>

webmath provides tutorials in all areas of mathematics

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Online Autism Training

<http://www.iltech.org>

Illinois Assistive Technology Project

## **Additional Sites**

### **Early literacy**

<http://www.starfall.com>

basic literacy skills: phonemic awareness, phonics, vocabulary, fluency & comprehension

### **Online Storybooks** (picture + read aloud)

<http://www.speakaboos.com>

classic children's stories, songs and poems; beloved characters and treasured stories are given new life through amazing celebrity performances, beautiful illustrations, and original music; children develop literacy skills while learning about technology in a safe and fun environment

<http://www.storylineonline.net>

Online streaming video program featuring actors reading Childrens' books aloud; each book includes accompanying activities and lesson ideas

### **Digital Text**

<http://www.classicreader.com>

electronic version of hundreds of books broken down into chapters

<http://www.bookshare.org>

resource to access more than 50,000 books in digital audio format and embossed braille  
This site is free to U.S. students with qualifying disabilities

<http://wiredforbooks.org/kids.htm>

electronic books for children

### **Infini-Text**

Infinitec Coalition members nearly 900 novels and textbooks are available through Adobe PDF, Rich-Text format, Microsoft Word, MP3 Audio, and Kurzweil 3000

## Text to Speech

<http://www.readplease.com>

free TTS that works on Windows only

<http://www.zabaware.com>

TTS expands to the full size of the screen; available to PC only  
This application can turn any text into a .wav (wave) audio file

## Audio

<http://www.spokentext.net>

takes any text file and will convert into an audio file

<http://www.zamzar.com>

converts documents into MP3 files; PDF files into videos

<http://www.freeclassicasaudiobooks.com>

full-length audio books for MP3 players or a format that will work on an IPOD

<http://librivox.org>

download books by chapter or the entire book

<http://lightupyourbrain.com/audio-stories-for-children.html>

all stories are in MP3 format and can also be burned to a disc

[http://www.audiobooksforfree.com/screen\\_main.asp?gg=2](http://www.audiobooksforfree.com/screen_main.asp?gg=2)

stories can be downloaded to your MP3 or burned to a disc

<http://www.free-books.org>

thousands of free books to choose from

<http://www.learnoutloud.com/Free-Audio-Video>

Over 20,000 educational audio books, MP3 downloads, podcasts, and videos

<http://etc.usf.edu/lit2go/>

a collection of stories and poems in MP3 format

## **Writing**

<http://supportblogging.com>

an educational tool to help students teach to an audience

<http://bubbl.us>

graphic organizer application

<http://www.teachers.ash.org.au/jeather/writingfun/writingfun.html>

provides text organizers to assist with the writing process

## **Math**

<http://illuminations.nctm.org>

provides support to teachers and students pre- K to 12 grade, hundreds of on line activities; over 500 lesson plans, standards are listed and weblinks are provided

<http://nlvm.usu.edu/en/nav/vLibrary.html>

National Library of Virtual Manipulatives; different math activities by topic and age range

<http://thinkingblocks.com>

interactive math tool to help students solve multi-step word problems