

# ICT in Education Victoria (ICTEV)

*Professional Teacher's Association*

2005 Annual Conference

## Actively Interactive Conference Program

Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> May 2005, 4:45 – 5:15pm

### Software for Special Needs

#### **Speaker**

Andrew Donnison

IT Manager, Concord School



***“To Be The Best I Can Be”***

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## Introduction

- Background
- ICT Ideology
- Hardware
- Software (Main Focus)
- Additional Resources

## Background

### *Speaker Andrew Donnison*

- Working in schools supporting teachers' IT needs for over six years
- Technical support roll/ Non-teacher
- Currently studying Masters in Networking and Systems Administration



### *Concord School*

- Special needs school catering for students with mild to moderate intellectual disabilities
- Students from prep to VCAL (year 12)
- 250 Students
- Technology Centre- Three sections, 41 computers



### *School Values*

- Respect
- Personal Best
- Happiness
- Cooperation
- Honesty



## ICT Ideology

Use mainstream technology including hardware and software, wherever possible

### Benefits

- Common outside of school
  - Home
  - Workplace
  - Further educational training- TAFE etc
  - Community- Library, Internet cafés
- Required for
  - Mobile phone use
  - ATM usage

## Hardware

### *Mainstream/Common Hardware*

- Colour printers, digital cameras, digital video cameras, card readers, DVD burners
- Headphones & microphones
- Data projectors & smart boards

### *Specialists Hardware*

- Trackballs, keyboard overlays (lower case letters), switches and other input devices
  - Small mice (Travel mice)
- Speech Devices





## Software

Software must be:

- Engaging**
  - Students must respond to it and be interested in it
- Rewarding**
  - Students must experience success and a sense of achievement

### ***Mainstream Software***

- Microsoft Office
  - Word
  - PowerPoint
  - Excel, Access, Publisher, FrontPage

Very powerful, can be used to create/do many educational learning activities. Limited by people's imagination.

### ***Age Appropriateness***

Statement:

- It is difficult to find educational software for a 16 year old student who is a low level reader

Possible solutions:

- Adapt where possible;
  - the way in which some software is used
- Some students will not notice or will enjoy babyish presentation, if they enjoy using the software
- Use text-to-speech software to read aloud text to students

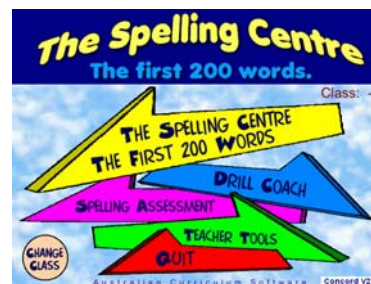




## Spelling

### Spelling Centre- First 200 Words

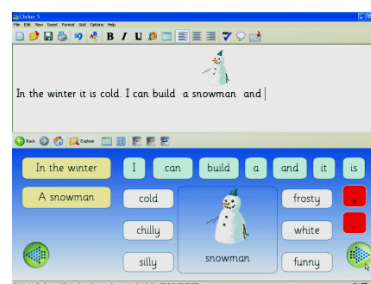
- Australian made
- Great spelling program
- Engaging & rewarding
- Students make progress through the levels
- Reasonably priced home version available



## Reading/Writing

### Clicker 4/5

- Uses grids, pictures sound and video
- Also a talking word processor
- Many ready made grids on different topics
- Not limited to reading/writing, very flexible
- Grids can be created for learning outcomes



### Microsoft Word

- Can be used with text-to-speech software
  - Read Please
  - Word Macro
- Computer based work sheets can be created

### Galaxy Kids Stories

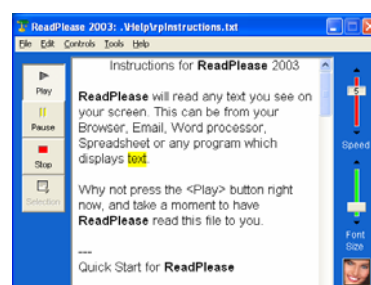
- Many different levels
- Activities involving the stories and reading
- Can be support by purchasing real books



## Text-to-Speech

### Read Please

- Free version available
- Cut and paste text into it
- Play with voices





## Natural Reader

- Trial Version available
- Can read inside a web browser



## Maths

### Galaxy Kids Maths

- Many different levels
- Many different activities involving maths topics



### Clicker 4/5

- Maths grids can be made

## Project & Creative

### Microsoft PowerPoint

- Good when working with lots of images/photos/video
- Interactive/responsive presentations can be created
- Printable in high colour

### FrontPage

- Same tools as Microsoft Word
- Project can be published to the web



### Kahootz

- Create Animations
- Engaging for students
- Creative



### Kid Pix Deluxe 4

- Engaging for students
- Creative
- Printable results
- Can read text



## ***Other Software***

- Writing with Symbols 2000
- Board Maker
- Inspiration/Kidspiration
- WiggleWorks
- Special Learning- My Time & others
- Microsoft Publisher
- Greetings 2000



## Resources

### *Featured Software*

#### **Spelling Centre- First 200 Words**

<http://www.spellingcentre.com>

Australian Curriculum Software

[acs@spellingcentre.com](mailto:acs@spellingcentre.com)

Michael & Cherie [spellingcentre@optusnet.com.au](mailto:spellingcentre@optusnet.com.au)

#### **Clicker 4/5 (S4E- See below)**

<http://www.cricksoft.com/uk/products/clicker/>

Clicker 4 Guide

<http://www.cricksoft.com/uk/products/clicker/guide4/guideuk.pdf>

Clicker 4/5 Grids

<http://www.learninggrids.com/WelcomePage.aspx?siteId=1>

#### **Read Please 2003**

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

Select "Read Please 2003". The "Plus" version requires payment

#### **Natural Reader**

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

Download (30-day trial version)

<http://www.naturalreaders.com/download.htm>

#### **Galaxy Kids Maths & Stories**

<http://www.galaxykids.com.au/>

Sunshine Multimedia (Australia) Pty Ltd

Phone: (03) 9464-7422 or 1800 244 542, Email [info@galaxykids.com.au](mailto:info@galaxykids.com.au)

Contact: Paul George



## **Kahootz**

<http://www.kahootz.com/kz/>

Introduction Tutorials

<http://www.kahootz.com/kz/template/home%2CResources.vm#intro>

## **Kid Pix Deluxe 4 (S4E- See below)**

[http://www.riverdeep.net/products/kid\\_pix/kpd4.jhtml](http://www.riverdeep.net/products/kid_pix/kpd4.jhtml)

## ***Software Purchasing***

### **Software for Education- S4E (Formally Software Rolling Fund)**

<http://www.sofweb.vic.edu.au/ict/software/s4e/index.htm>

S4E- Product Information (Contains Clicker 4 and others)

<http://www.sofweb.vic.edu.au/ict/software/s4e/atoz.htm>

Contact

Andrew Davies, DE&T Information Technology Division

East Wing Level 2, 2 Treasury Place, East Melbourne 3002

Email: [davies.andrew.c@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:davies.andrew.c@edumail.vic.gov.au)

### **Spectronics (Reviews, sales- Special needs)**

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

### **Ipex (for Microsoft Office- Word, PowerPoint & more)**

<https://www.ipex.com.au/ipex@school> (requires login)

Phone: 1300 724 665

Email: [schools@volante.com.au](mailto:schools@volante.com.au)

## **Additional Software (Freeware/Shareware/Trial)**

### **Grey Olltwit's Software- Educational**

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

### **Voice Mail**

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



## **WordWeb**

<http://wordweb.info/free/>

## **Browsealoud**

<http://www.browsealoud.com/home.asp>

## **Click-N-Type virtual keyboard**

<http://www.lakefolks.org/cnt/>

## ***Internet Sites***

### **Reference Sites**

#### **ICT in Education Victoria**

<http://www.ictev.vic.edu.au/>

#### **Sofweb**

<http://www.sofweb.vic.edu.au>

#### **IdeaBack**

<http://www.sofweb.vic.edu.au/ideabank/index.htm>

#### **Victorian Education Channel**

<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/ch/>

#### **The Oxford ACE Centre**

<http://www.ace-centre.org.uk/html/publications/publicat.html>

#### **Children's Software Revue**

<http://www2.childrensoftware.com/>

#### **AAA math**

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



## **Games/Activities Sites**

### **ABC The Playground**

<http://www.abc.net.au/children/>

### **Sunshine Books**

<http://www.sunshinebooks.com.au/online/index.html>

### **PBS for Kids**

<http://pbskids.org/games.html>

### **Lego**

<http://club.lego.com/eng/games/default.asp>

### **Orsinal**

<http://www.ferryhalim.com/orisinal/>

## **Literary**

### **Official Roald Dahl Website**

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

### **Office Eric Carle Website**

<http://www.eric-carle.com/>

## **Integrated Units /Misc**

### **Fresh Food for Kids**

<http://www.freshforkids.com.au/>

### **SaveWater.Com.au**

<http://www.savewater.com.au/>

### **NASA's Space Place**

<http://spaceplace.nasa.gov/en/kids/>