

Tech Tip of the Week



Transition Planning

With transition meetings beginning soon, in Birth to 3 and Preschool programs, there is a lot of planning and organizing occurring. We are fortunate that most of our kids are moving within the same system. Despite this, teachers, therapist and instructional assistants change, new curriculums may be introduced, the school day is different and the knowledge and experience of the receiving program regarding Assistive Technology may be limited.

One way to assist the child and their family in making this transition, no matter where they are going, is by providing a “picture” to the receiving program of how the child is using the assistive technology.

This can be as detailed as digital portfolio, with year long work samples, voice and video recordings saved on a DVD **or** as simple as an end of the year sample, saved to a software program*, of the child:

- ☞ using a voice out-put device during circle time,
- ☞ a built up handle on their spoon at snack time,
- ☞ a picture schedule to help them with what to do when they arrive in the classroom
- ☞ adaptations on the playground to increase accessibility

By providing this “picture” of what the child’s strengths are, what they can do, what they like to do and how they learn and participate best, there is greater chance of the assistive technology being supported and used in the new environment.

For more information check out:

University of Kansas Circle of Inclusion portfolio example:

<http://www.circleofinclusion.org/english/demo/lawrenceraintree/portfolio/favorites.html>

Closing the Gap article “Documenting Children’s Progress Through Multimedia Projects”.

Oct/Nov 2005 vol.24, no.4

<http://www.intellitools.com/about/pressroom/articles/CTGMultimedia.pdf>



(* software programs such as My Own Bookshelf, Intellitools, and PowerPoint have “readers” that can be used on computers that do not have these programs installed)