[**UDL and Technology**](http://stretchandbeflexible.wikispaces.com/UDL%2Band%2B%2BTechnology)

Technology Tools for UDL and Student Engagement


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| **Instructional Scaffolds - Engagement*** Highlight, or visually mark up, text to support visual navigation of content.
* Use visual reading guides (physical and digital) to support consistent visual movement through a text while reading.
* Simplify digital and online text by removing distractions on the page.
* Use text summarizers to reduce the amount of content in a text so students can learn the core ideas, then add the rest of the content.
* Change the size and type of font used.
* Adjust the spacing between letters, words, sentences, and paragraphs.
* Reduce the width of the columns of text.
* Use trans-formative tools, such as text-to-speech, to scaffolding difficulty in decoding text.
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**Resources**

* Natural Reader - <http://www.naturalreaders.com/> . a free text-to-speech tool for Windows systems.
* Macintosh built-in Text-to-Speech - <http://www.wikihow.com/Activate-Text-to-Speech-in-Mac-OSx>
* Balabolka - <http://www.cross-plus-a.com/balabolka.htm> . a free text-to-speech and text-to-audio tool for Windows systems.
* ATbar - <https://www.atbar.org/> . a free Windows cross-browser toolbar that includes text-to-speech, control of font sizes, and other supports.
* Read:Outloud - <http://donjohnston.com/readoutloud> . an affordable text reader for Windows and Macintosh that includes a variety of study tools and information organization tools.
* Snap&Read - <http://donjohnston.com/snap-read> . an affordable tool that "floats" over other programs and will read any text, including text that is part of a graphic or picture.
* Read & Write Gold - <http://www.texthelp.com/North-America> . a customizable "floating" toolbar that integrates reading, writing, studying, and research support tools.
* Kurzweil 3000 & firefly - <http://www.kurzweiledu.com/products/kurzweil-3000-firefly-overview.html> . full featured literacy support software that includes text-to-speech, adjustments for fonts, color highlighters, and more.
* Reading & Study Digital Tools - <http://www.tlc-mtss.com/assets/digital_tools.pdf> . digital PDF book with instructions on how to use comment features, mark-up features, text-to-speech, and more in a variety of programs.
* Readability - <https://www.readability.com/> . a free online tool that cleans up web pages and removes distractions, allowing a student to focus on the main content.
* Online Text Summarizer - <http://www.tools4noobs.com/summarize/> . free online tool that summarizes text. You can paste text in or paste in a URL and decide how much to summarize.
* Typefaces for Dyslexia - <http://bdatech.org/what-technology/typefaces-for-dyslexia/> . article on fonts that support students who have dyslexia, including links to download fonts that are free.
* Noisli - <http://www.noisli.com/#about> - free online tool that provides background noise and soothing colors to help minimize distractions

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| **Instructional Scaffolds - Representation*** Use graphic organizers, concept maps, mind maps, timelines, outlines, etc. to organize information and visually integrate different bits of information or events with each other.
* Highlight, or visually mark up, text to support visual organization of content.
* Provide or use advance organizers to get a big picture of the organization of the text before reading the main content.
* Consistently use text mark-up strategies to support a thoughtful processing of the text.
* Consistently use mental models, such as K-W-L,Compare-Contrast, etc.
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**Resources**

* Infographics for Teachers - <http://www.educatorstechnology.com/search/label/infographic%20making%20tools> . infographics can be a great tool to provide students with the big picture and sequence of information.
* TeachersFirst: Infographics - <http://www.teachersfirst.com/iste/infographics/resources.cfm>
* Student Infographics - <http://www.teachersfirst.com/iste/infographics/examples.cfm>
* Free Printable Graphic Organizers - <https://www.teachervision.com/graphic-organizers/printable/6293.html?s2>
* Intel: Tools for Student-Centered Learning - <http://www.intel.com/content/www/us/en/education/k12/teachers.html> . a collection of tools that students can use to organize ideas and develop the rationale for an argument.
* Inspiration & Kidspiration - <http://www.inspiration.com/> . excellent graphic organizer tools
* Popplet - <http://popplet.com/> . online and iPad tool for organizing thoughts through mind maps, word walls, etc.
* MindMup - <http://www.mindmup.com/> . a free, quick and easy online mind mapping tool
* Rationale - <https://www.rationaleonline.com> . software that guides a student in argumentative writing
* Tiki-Toki - <http://www.tiki-toki.com/> . create beautiful, interactive online timelines.
* Timeline from readwritethink - <http://www.readwritethink.org/files/resources/interactives/timeline_2/> . a free online tool that can be used to sequence events that are not calendar based
* Timetoast - <http://www.timetoast.com/> . an online time line tool that quickly switches from timeline to text views.
* Active Reading Strategies - <http://www.inlets.net/ars.html> . a variety of text mark-up strategies
* Reading & Study Digital Tools - <http://www.tlc-mtss.com/assets/digital_tools.pdf> . digital PDF book with instructions on how to use comment features, mark-up features, text-to-speech, and more in a variety of programs
* Read:Outloud Outline Templates - <http://donjohnston.com/readoutloud-resources> . outlines for use with Read:Outloud that guide the student through mental models such as K-W-L, Prediction, Main Ideas, etc.
* OmniOutliner - <http://www.omnigroup.com/omnioutliner> . a feature rich outlining writing tool for the Macintosh and iPad.

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| **Instructional Scaffolds - Action and Expression*** Use discussion guides, graphic organizers, or outlines ahead of time that support the organization of main ideas to share, then use them as prompts when sharing with others.
* Prepare fact cue cards prior to sharing.
* Prepare vocabulary cue cards or lists prior to sharing.
* Review text mark-ups and notes on facts, questions, and reactions to the text prior to sharing.
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**Resources**

* Free Printable Graphic Organizers - <https://www.teachervision.com/graphic-organizers/printable/6293.html?s2> . extensive collection of ready to print and use graphic organizers.
* Popplet - <http://popplet.com/> . online and iPad tool for organizing thoughts through mind maps, word walls, etc. The portability of having this tool on a mobile device enables a student to have this support while in a group sharing activity.
* Inspiration & Kidspiration - <http://www.inspiration.com/> . graphic organizer software that can move between diagram and outline views. iOS versions are available.
* Wordbar - <http://www.cricksoft.com/us/products/tools/writeonline/default/vocabulary.aspx> . a writing tool, part of WriteOnline, that provides a visual vocabulary, for Windows and Macintosh. Projecting a screen of vocabulary words during collaborative reading activities can support all students in selecting words to use while sharing.
* Flashcard Machine - <http://www.flashcardmachine.com/> . a free online tool, available in pay versions for mobile devices. Students can create flash cards for facts and vocabulary and print them out to use as cue cards when sharing.
* Free Printable Flash Card Maker - <http://www.kitzkikz.com/flashcards/> . a free simple online tool for making and printing flash cards that can be used as cue cards.
* How to Teach Public Speaking to Elementary Students - <http://everydaylife.globalpost.com/teach-public-speaking-elementary-students-11035.html> . tips to help students prepare for speaking.
* Preparing Speeches - <http://www.hawaii.edu/mauispeech/html/preparing_speeches.html> . tips and guidelines on developing and giving a speech
* Free Online Teleprompter - <http://www.cueprompter.com/> . free tools to use as an aid in presenting

*Tip - Use graphic organizers, outliners, or basic word processors on mobile devices as speaking and sharing teleprompters.*

[*Technology and Learning Connections*](http://www.tlc-mtss.com/)
[*AT & UDL Loan Library*](https://www.at-udl.net/)
[*AT & UDL Resource Library*](https://at-udl.com/library/)

[*Read & Write Free for Teachers*](https://www.texthelp.com/en-us/products/read-write/free-for-teachers.aspx)