

A Great New Year for Special Education

WHY is 2009 going to be a great year for students with learning disabilities?

1. Accessible instructional materials will be readily available in 2009! There's more momentum than ever before, and the next year will take us a huge step forward.
2. New pricing brings accessible technologies within reach of more students. Learn more about our [Read:OutLoud Schoolwide Licenses](#) !
3. The new administration plans to take a giant step forward to support special education and technology in our schools. (Keeping our fingers crossed!)
4. [New research](#) demonstrates what we already knew from personal experience--student outcomes improve when we combine good instruction with accessible technology.
Read more in the article below under New Research.

Together, in 2009, we can make great strides toward empowering our students to reach their fullest potential by providing them with the best accessible technologies available.

Accessible Instructional Materials News

[Bookshare](#), the world's fastest growing digital library of accessible books, textbooks and periodicals, has just launched a new version of their website for more than 45,000 members. Bookshare members will soon be able to download a free version of Read:OutLoud that will read Bookshare accessible texts. Find out more about [Read:OutLoud Bookshare Edition](#) and while you're there, sign up to be notified when it's ready.

George Mason University in Virginia has rolled out a huge initiative to provide accessible instructional materials to qualified students across the state, with 2,000 schools gaining access to Read:OutLoud. Learn more about this initiative in our [press release](#).

IN THIS ISSUE

[A Great New Year for Special Education](#)

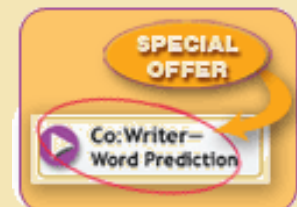
[Accessible Instructional Materials News](#)

[NEW Research from The Journal of Special Education Technology](#)

[Upcoming Webinars - Accessible Instructional Materials - Joy Zabala](#)

[New Case Study Format - See Frank & Co:Writer Cook Up Good Results!](#)

[New Tech Support FAQs](#)



[Watch our 5-minute product demo](#) and **save \$80 on**

NEW Research from The Journal of Special Education Technology

The Journal of Special Education Technology (JSET), a Division of the Council for Exceptional Children (CEC) just published an independent study "Using Software to Enhance the Writing Skills of Students with Special Needs." Researchers/Educators examined the impact of assistive technology on the writing skills of students with disabilities. This research compared students' writing outcomes using word prediction and talking word processor tools to their handwritten work samples. Read the results in our [press release](#) or read the [research summary](#) online. The complete research was published in the October 2008 JSET Issue, Volume 23(2), pg. 33-43.

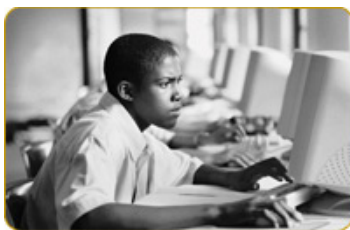
DON JOHNSTON HAPPENINGS

Upcoming Webinars - Accessible Instructional Materials - Joy Zabala

Accessible Instructional Materials are gaining tremendous momentum. We are hosting two free webinars in February with Joy Zabala and Diana Foster Carl on this topic and they quickly filled to capacity when 260 schools signed up. We're trying to schedule another session for those who weren't able to sign up earlier. We will also record and post the session for you to view online. Check the CITED website for more information on [Moving Forward with Technology webinars](#). In the meantime, you can watch any of our [past webinar recordings](#).

USING TECHNOLOGY IN THE CLASSROOM

New Case Study Format - See Frank & Co:Writer Cook Up Good Results!



Check out our new [Case Studies Come Alive page](#)...where Frank's Applesauce recipe, written using Co:Writer, is cooking up great results!

New Tech Support FAQs

Visit our [Product Resources Section](#) and [Technical Support](#) page. FAQs are listed as Support Topics under each product.

Latest Topics - click the button to get the solution

- As you upgrade to Windows Vista, you may lose speech functions. Keyword search: vista

[View Now](#)

- If you use security software such as Deep Freeze, you lose

Co:Writer!

Offer limited and may end at any time without notice.

QUICK TIPS

More Resources

New Co:Writer Topic Dictionaries

Abraham Lincoln
Frederick Douglass
Olaudah Equiano

[American English](#) [British English](#)

February is Black History Month:

Martin Luther King, Jr.
Rosa Parks

[AE-History](#) [BE - History](#)

[Product Support](#) [Articles](#)

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Free Webinars

Go to the CITED website for upcoming [Moving Forward with Technology webinars](#).

[Watch past webinar recordings](#) or download resources.

If you use security software such as Deep Freeze, you lose your Don Johnston program data. Keyword search: deep freeze

[View Now](#)

- If you use Co:Writer SmartApplet, learn how to make a smooth transition between new hardware and old software. Keyword search: smartapplet new alphasmart

[View Now](#)

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