Popular Searches – Assistive Technology

Families and professionals are often looking for activity materials to engage persons with dementia and interact with them. Identified here is a selected list of activity resources.

Materials may be available for loan from the Alzheimer's Association Green-Field Library or for downloading and purchase through various outlets. Search for titles in the online catalog and visit how to borrow. Items may also be available for purchase through online outlets.

Families and professionals are often looking for information on assistive technology and adaptive ideas and products for use by persons with dementia and caregivers. Identified here is a selected list of resources.

Alzheimer's Association

Perspective on everyday technologies for Alzheimer's care: research findings, directions, and challenges

Chicago, IL: Alzheimer's Association National Office.
https://www.alz.org/national/documents/etac_proceedings.pdf

Assistive Technology Articles and Product Web Sites

6 simple gadgets improving life for those with dementia.
New York, NY: Mashable, Inc.
http://mashable.com/2015/11/24/alzheimers-dementia-tech/#F0OSQvYZ.Eqy

10 tips: independence and dementia
New York, NY: About.com, New York Times Company.
http://alzheimers.about.com/od/ihavealzheimers/a/independence.htm

Alzheimer's store
South Plainfield, NJ
http://www.alzstore.com/shop-alzheimers-store-s/2054.htm

Apps
Chicago, IL: Alzheimer's Association Green-Field Library
Visit our Pinterest page to download **APPs** for androids and iPhones, computers and ipads, useful for the person with dementia, families, and healthcare professionals. A Pinterest account is required.
https://www.pinterest.com/AlzVL/apps

Assistive technology
Clare Shores, Michigan: Alzheimer's Research Association
http://www.alzra.org/eldercare/assistive-technology

Assistive technology
London, UK: Alzheimer's Society
https://www.alzheimers.org.uk/about-us/policy-and-influencing/what-we-think/assistive-technology

Assistive technology as a means of supporting people with dementia: a review
London, UK: Housing LIN
http://www.housinglin.org.uk/Topics/browse/HousingandDementia/Provision/AssistiveTechnology/?&msg=0&parent=5052&child=8563

Assistive technology for people with dementia and their caregivers at home: what might help
Washington, DC; Area Agency on Aging: Research Triangle Park, NC, Research Triangle Institute, 2010.
An ADSSP National Resource Center report on assistive technology (AT) products designed for persons with dementia and their caregivers. It is geared toward the general public, caregivers, home and community service providers, and public programs that provide long-term care services and supports.
https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/regulations/training/a8-b8-ho2.pdf

Intelligent assistive technology applications to dementia care: current capabilities, limitations, and future challenges
Bharucha, A.J.; Anand V.; Forlizzi, J.; et al. *American Journal of Geriatric Psychiatry*. Feb 2009.
http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC2768007/?tool=pubmed

NaturalReader
NaturalSoft, LTD: Richmond, BC
Text to speech software with natural sounding voices can read text documents and PDFs for Windows and Mac. Free to download.
http://www.naturalreaders.com/index.php?gclid=CO_H2ri-iL8CFRQ1MgodmSQAcw

Products to assist Alzheimer's patients at home
EasierLiving.com
http://www.easierliving.com/health-conditions/alzheimers-dementia-products

PDFs (Read Out Loud) With Your PC
Many computers have text-to-speech capabilities that read what is displayed on the screen and play it back in audio. Although the quality of the voice and reading style may be imperfect, ready-to-use speech recognition is an alternative to commercial software and significantly broadens access to materials available for persons who are visually impaired or have dyslexia. The following instructions offer an example of how a PDF can be "read" by a computer narrator and "heard" by a listener.

- The instructions assume some understanding of computers.
- Assistance from a sighted person may be necessary to get started.

How to access Audio / Voice Recognition in Windows

· Visit a Web site with a document that has been created in PDF and save it to your computer

· Open it using Adobe Reader (version 8 or higher)

· Choose **View / Read Out Loud** or **Activate Read Out Loud (depending on the wording)**

· · Listen to the text

· Troubleshoot on next page

Troubleshooting

· The **View** option on the toolbar of your Adobe Reader is essential. If you do not have **View** or you receive an error message, you may need to download the current version of Adobe Reader from www.adobe.com.

· Be sure you have "sound" capability on your computer and it is turned on through the **Control Panel**. If you can usually "hear" sounds, you're all set.

· If the pace of the voice is too fast

- · Open the **Control Panel** in Windows / choose the **Speech, Speech Recognition** or **Text to Speech** icon depending on your version

- · Choose the **Voice** tab and move the "slider" to slow the pace of the speech

- · Choose **Apply / OK**

- · Return to **View** / **Read to End of Document**

How to access Audio / Voice Recognition in Mac OS X.

· Click the PDF to launch Preview automatically

· Choose **Edit** / **Speech** / **Start Speaking**

· Choose **Edit / Speech / Stop Speaking** to stop

· For more information on accessibility using Mac OS X visit
http://www.apple.com/accessibility/macosx/vision.html.

WorldCat **– find books in Braille**
OCLC Online Computer Library Center, Inc.
http://www.worldcat.org

Choose Advanced Search
Change Keyword to **Subject** from the pull-down menu
Enter **alzheimer's disease OR dementia** in the search box
Select Braille from the **Format** pull-down menu
Click **Search**
Results will appear on a **List of records** page. Click any item to read more.
Scroll down to see a list of libraries near you that may own the item/s.
Contact your library to borrow the item/s.