What is AT Anyway?

AT, or assistive technology, is any item, piece of equipment, or product system, whether acquired commercially, modified, or customized, that is used to increase, maintain, or improve functional capabilities of individuals with disabilities.

Public Law 100-407

It includes a continuum of tools ranging from “low” tech options like printed materials to “mid” tech tools such as timers all the way to “high” tech tools which incorporates computers, tablets and smartphones.

Responsibility & Independence: A Paradigm Shift

Sometimes independence by the traditional definition is not a realistic goal, but with a slight paradigm shift we can help student become Empowered!

Empowered to live their lives with dignity and self-determination through

- **Responsibility** - knowing what needs to be done and being accountable for the things that need to happen.

- **Independence** - making things happen using “your people” and your tools to get things done.

Visual Supports

Visual supports are instructional tools designed to:

- Organize a sequence of events
- Supplement verbal instruction
- Cue communication

Quill, 1995

Common visual supports include:

- Schedules & Mini Schedules
- Calendars
- Choice Boards
- Rule Cards
- Lists
- Instructions
- Behavior Stories

Melissa Mulvey, M.S. CCC-SLP ATP
Jenna Wharff, Ed.M.
Karen Waddill, M.S. CCC-SLP ATP
High Tech Tools We Saw Today

30/30
Model Me Going Places
ChoiceWorks
CanPlan
Visual Cal
Shopping List
Pictello
Reminders

Additional Resources and Tools

- Do2Learn.com
- Boardmaker Online
- Pictoselector
- QuickPics
- EasySocialStories.com
- Pinterest
  - Search “visual supports”
  - Lauren Enders
- Finding Apps
  - AppCrawlr.com
  - BridgingApps
  - AppShopper (iOS only)
  - Friendshipcircle.org/apps
- iPad
  - Book Creator
  - iPrompts
  - First Then Scheduler
  - Picture Scheduler
  - Click’nTalk
  - PhotoTell
  - Waitstrip
- Android
  - Special Stories
  - iPrompts
  - First Then Scheduler
  - Visual Timer
- Windows Phone
  - Visual Prompts
- Computer
  - SymbolStix
  - Clicker 6