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CST 111

Assistive Technologies Research Paper

“However difficult life may seem there is always something you can do and succeed at.” (Hawking) Stephen Hawking was a physicist who had multiple disabilities, but he never let that stop him from accomplishing his goals. With the help of assistive technologies, he was able to communicate with others to accomplish great feats. Assistive Technology consists of any form of equipment or programs that can help elevate or improve a person with disabilities’ ability to function daily. According to The National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders approximately 2 to 3 out of every 1000 children in the US are born with a detectable level of hearing loss in one or both ears. (Disorders)

One form of assistive technology that can be used is called an FM system. This device allows a teacher’s voice to be projected through a wireless microphone into the hearing aid of the student. It greatly increases the student’s ability to hear the teacher and it also blocks out most background sounds because the hearing aid is directly connected in the ear.(Santaniello) Another assistive technology is usually found on iPads or tablets; this device is referred to as (AAC) Augmentative and Alternative Communication. These are software devices that help support verbal communication by enabling students to use pictures or symbols in place of actual words so that they can communicate with others. (Santaniello) Microsoft, Mac, and android users have software that also assists with communications. These operations systems have special features in their accessibility settings that allow spoken words to be automatically converted to text so that students who can’t hear are able to read what others are saying instead. (Gunter/Gunter)

Works Cited

# Works Cited

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