

Encyclopedia of Assistive Technology

Produced by Northern Illinois University College of Education (2008)

SEE-N-READ™ reading tool is showcased in Northern Illinois University's interactive *Encyclopedia of Assistive Technology*. This program features both high and low tech performance support tools that can help regular education and LBS-I (Special Education Certification in Illinois) teachers meet the needs of children with a variety of challenges. SEE-N-READ is a research-based and classroom tested reading tool that helps build reading fluency and comprehension. The **SEE-N-READ™** reading tool meets the criteria for a low tech performance support tool as defined by DeCoste & Glennmen (1997) that states, "Low-tech includes non-electronic or electronic components that are not computer-based."

The technologies contained within this encyclopedia represent tools that are useful for students with high and low incidence disabilities. The *Encyclopedia of Assistive Technology* has been produced in a DVD format and contains a written overview, video tutorial, topic section and a general resource section. The key benefit of this program is to provide educators with research-based resources that showcase easy access to information, tutorials, and resources when using assistive technologies.

Assistive technology (AT) is any item, piece of equipment or product system, whether acquired commercially off the shelf, modified or customized, that is used to increase, maintain, or improve functional capabilities of individuals with disabilities (Technology Act of 1988). The most important characteristic of AT is that it represents any kind of product that increases or improves the abilities of the user.