



# ADAPT-A-BOOK IDEAS

## Page Fluffers

Extra space allows small hands, tight fingers, or even children who hold dowels in their hands or who wear headsticks, to more easily turn pages.

- Hot glue pieces of sponge in the upper right hand corners of book pages to add a little extra space between pages
- You may also use adhesive back carpet padding, cross stitch mounting foam, or weather stripping to put on pages and puff them out.
- You can hot glue popsicle sticks to pages or just add large paper clips to pages.
- Placing a magnet in a glove or on a sweat band or head stick can help child to turn pages that have metal paper clips attached to them.

## Props

Use materials that engage children with the books being read.

- Make photocopied cut-outs of the characters. Laminate them and use to help “read” the book, introduce the topic and as a way for kids to pick books independently.
- Choice boards can be used for specific books or as commenting vocabulary across books (e.g., turn the page, show me, different book, read it again.)

## Positioning

Free your hands or help your child hold the book independently.

- Place hook side Velcro (rough, sticking out surface) on the back cover of children's books. The Velcro strips will adhere to carpet so that the book won't slip and slide while the child is turning pages.
- Placing books at an angle and by lifting them up closer to the child can often help them to turn and see pages more easily. Book stands are available in most book and office supply stores. It's a good idea to attach books to stands with Velcro to avoid the book falling off. The book stand itself should also be secured in front of the child.

## Alternate Format

Books can be presented in many different formats to meet individual needs. Copyright laws should be followed. It is generally accepted that making a SINGLE copy of a book that has been purchased to adapt for use by someone with a disability is permitted.

- Re-make a paper book. Cut the book apart so that each page and the cover can be laminated or slid into a page protector. Put the pages into a 3-ring binder or photo album. Add page fluffers and props as needed.
- Scan a book. Arrange the electronic pages using PowerPoint. The book can then be read as a slide show and the pages turned by clicking the mouse. There are also software programs (e.g., IntelliPics Studio) that support creating books with multiple adaptations.
- Purchase or record your child's favorite stories on cassette tapes.
- Books on videotape can be purchased or you can make them yourself. By videotaping books yourself, you'll know that the print is being shown. Simply zoom in on a page with a camcorder and have someone read and point to the words as you record.
- Register with an on-line e-book service or Recordings for Blind & Dyslexic to receive free copies of e-books or books-on-tape.

## E-text & E-info Internet Sites

Adapted Books for Special Needs Learners

<http://www.woco-k12.org/wcoserrc/webpages/books.html>

Alex Catalogue of Electronic Texts

<http://www.infomotions.com/alex/>

American Museum of Natural History

<http://www.amnh.org/>

American Library Association

<http://www.ala.org/parentspage/greatsites/>

Awesome Library

<http://www.awesomelibrary.org/Classroom/Technology/Technology.html>

BookShare.org

<http://www.bookshare.org/web/Welcome.html>

California State University, Northridge: Current events ... for kids.

<http://www.csun.edu/~hcedu013/cevents.html>

Class Homework

<http://www.classhomework.com/>

Creative Communicating

<http://www.creative-comm.com>

Discovery School

<http://school.discovery.com/students/>

IntelliTools

<http://www.intellitools.com>

Internet Public Library, Youth Division

<http://www.ipl.org/youth/>

Library of Congress

<http://lcweb2.loc.gov/amhome.html>

NASA

<http://www.nasa.gov>

National Geographic for Kids

<http://www.nationalgeographic.com/kids/>

National Park Service/Historic Places

<http://www.cr.nps.gov/nr/twhp/>

Online Book Page

<http://digital.library.upenn.edu/books/>

Online Classic Literature Library

<http://www.literature.org/authors/>

Pink Monkey

<http://www.pinkmonkey.com>

Project Gutenberg

<http://promo.net/pg/>

Science Learning Network

<http://www.sln.org/>

SparkNotes-Classic Books Online

<http://www.sparknotes.com/texts>