



Technology Tips and Tricks to Help Your Child Success at Home

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AT Facilitators for Wilmette 39 PSD
PASS 39 November Meeting
2012

Common Technology Tips and Tricks

- Setting up the desktop
- Computer accessibility features
- Tablet accessibility feature
- Microsoft word tips and tricks
- Using everyday technology
- Web 2.0 tools





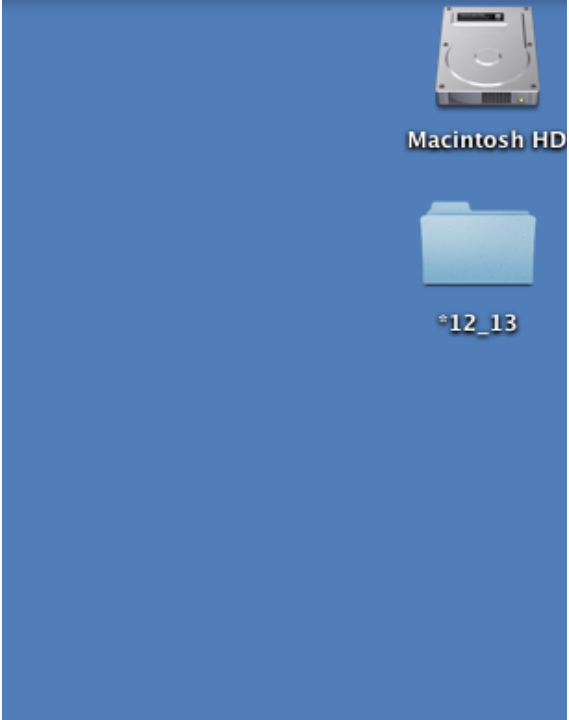
Customize your computer using Universal Access Preferences and other built in features to help improve computer technology accessibility and enhance learning for your child



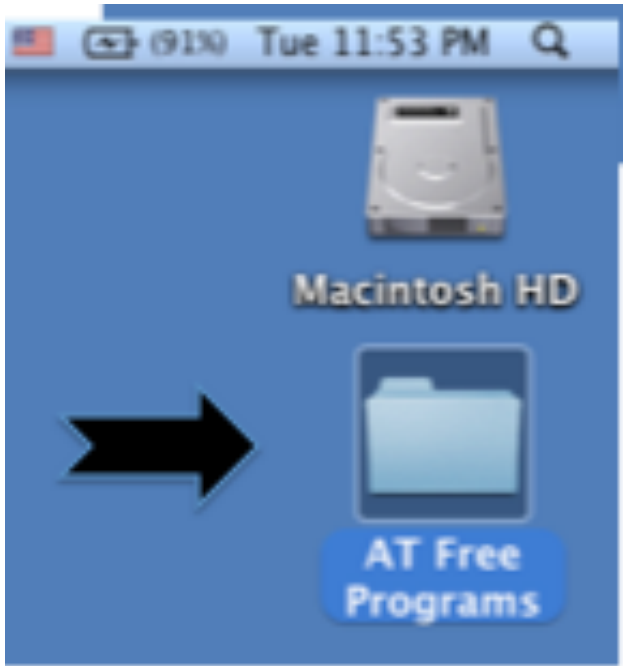
Create a clear, uncluttered desktop with no background image



Apple->System preference-> desktop/screensaver->apple solid color



Increase desktop icons, fonts and cursor size



Group Assistive Technology free tools together

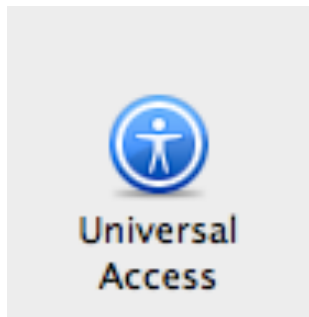


Accessibility

Universal Access for Macs



- Go to apple->system preferences -> click on universal access.



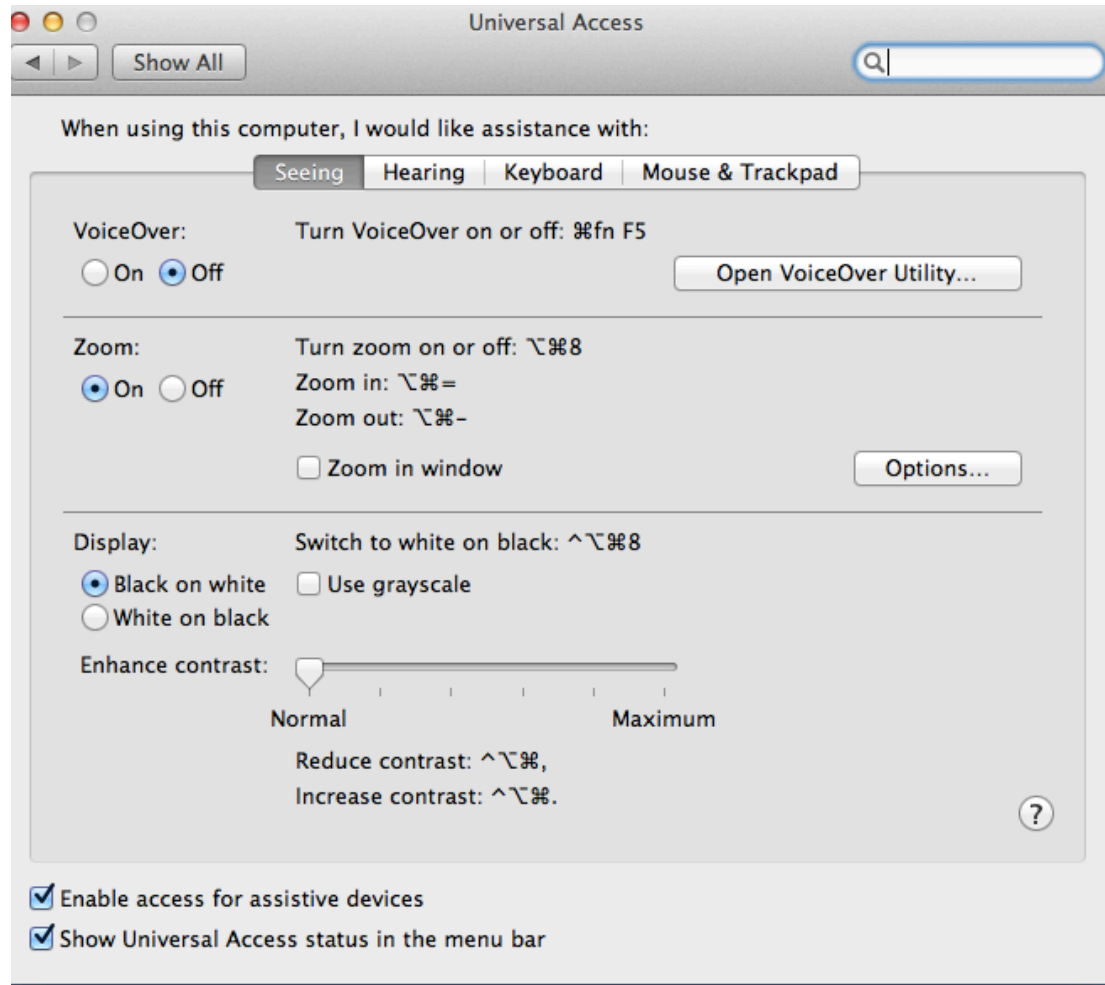
Ease of Access for Window



- Go to start->Control Panel-> Ease of Access -> Ease of Access Center



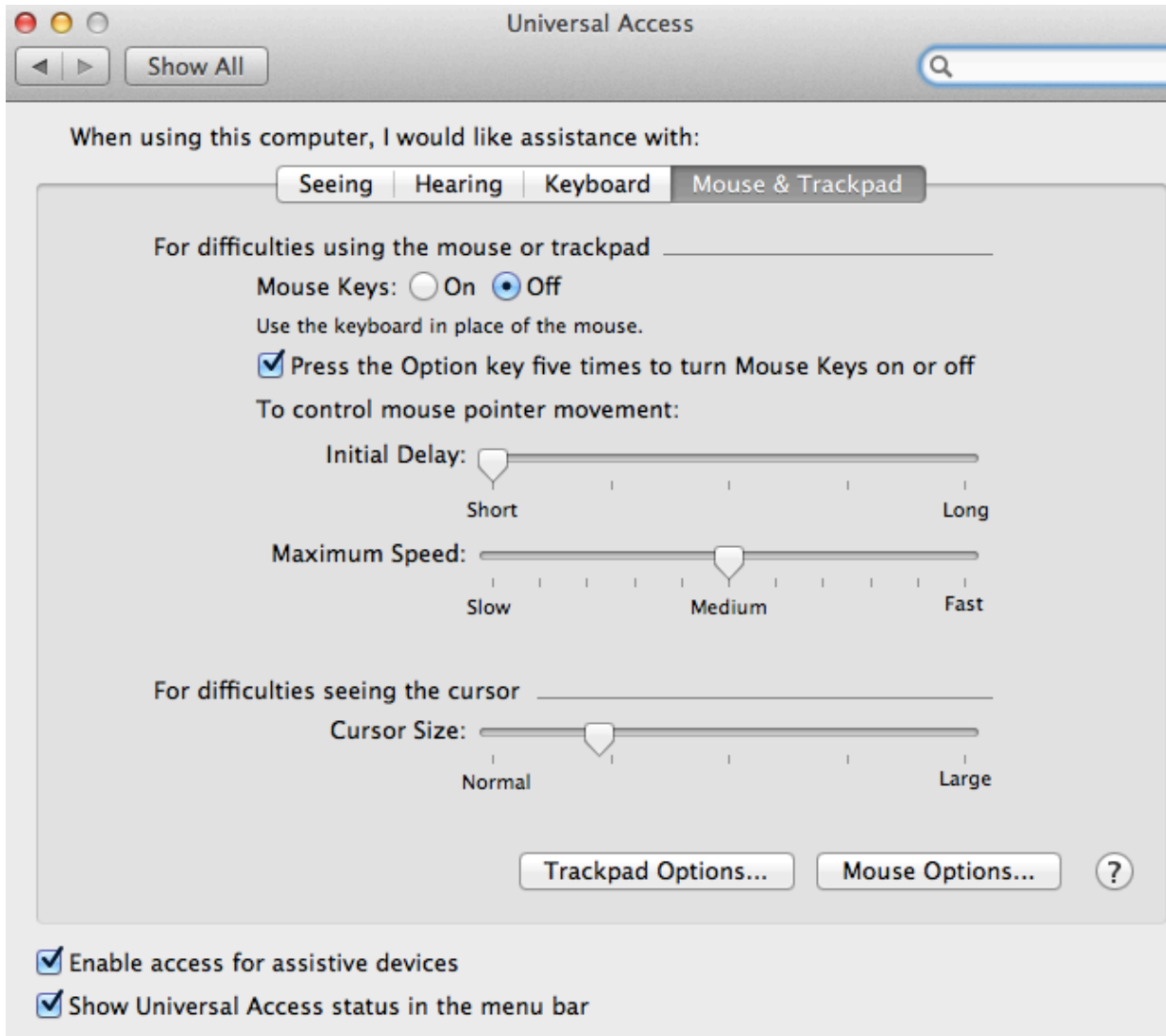
Mac Universal Access: Seeing



Tools for helping those with vision or visual processing issues

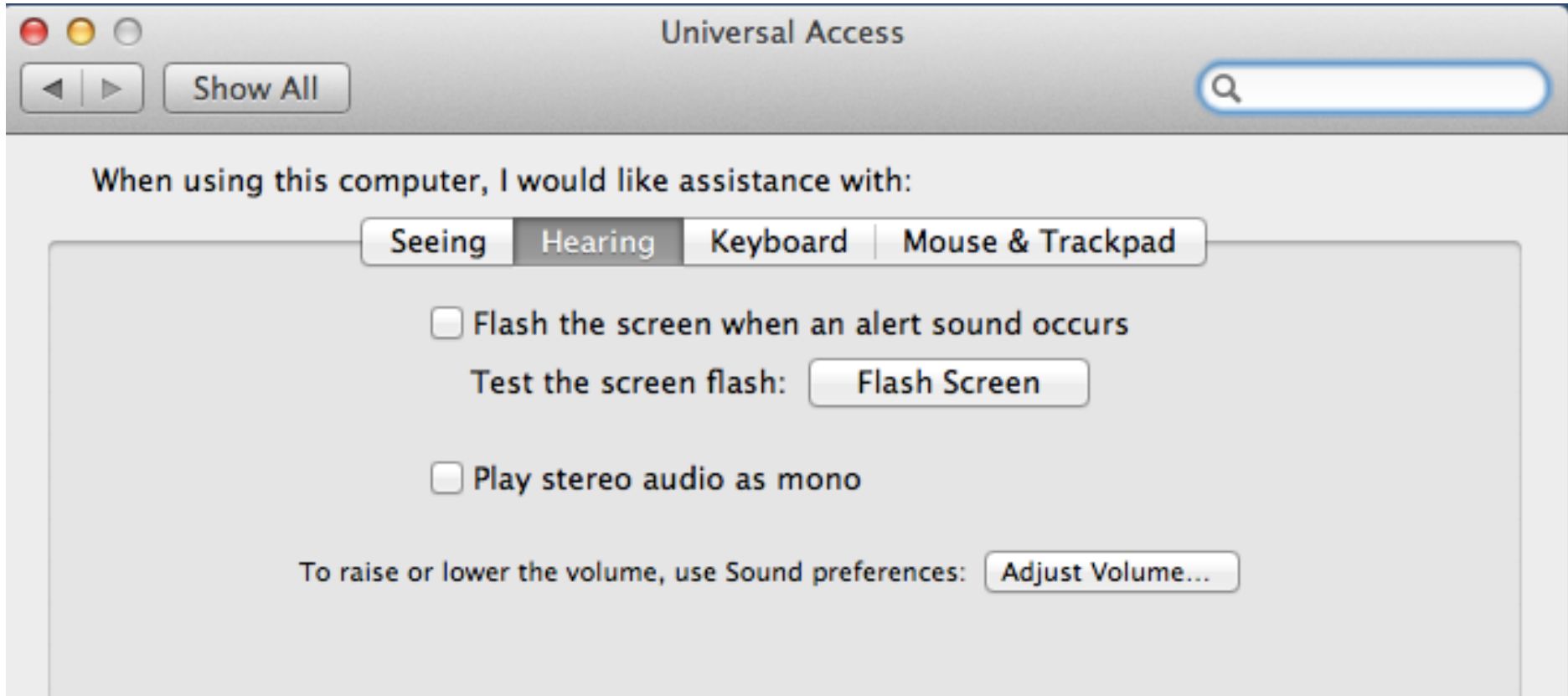
Apple->System Preferences-> Universal Access

Mac Universal Access: Mouse & Trackpad

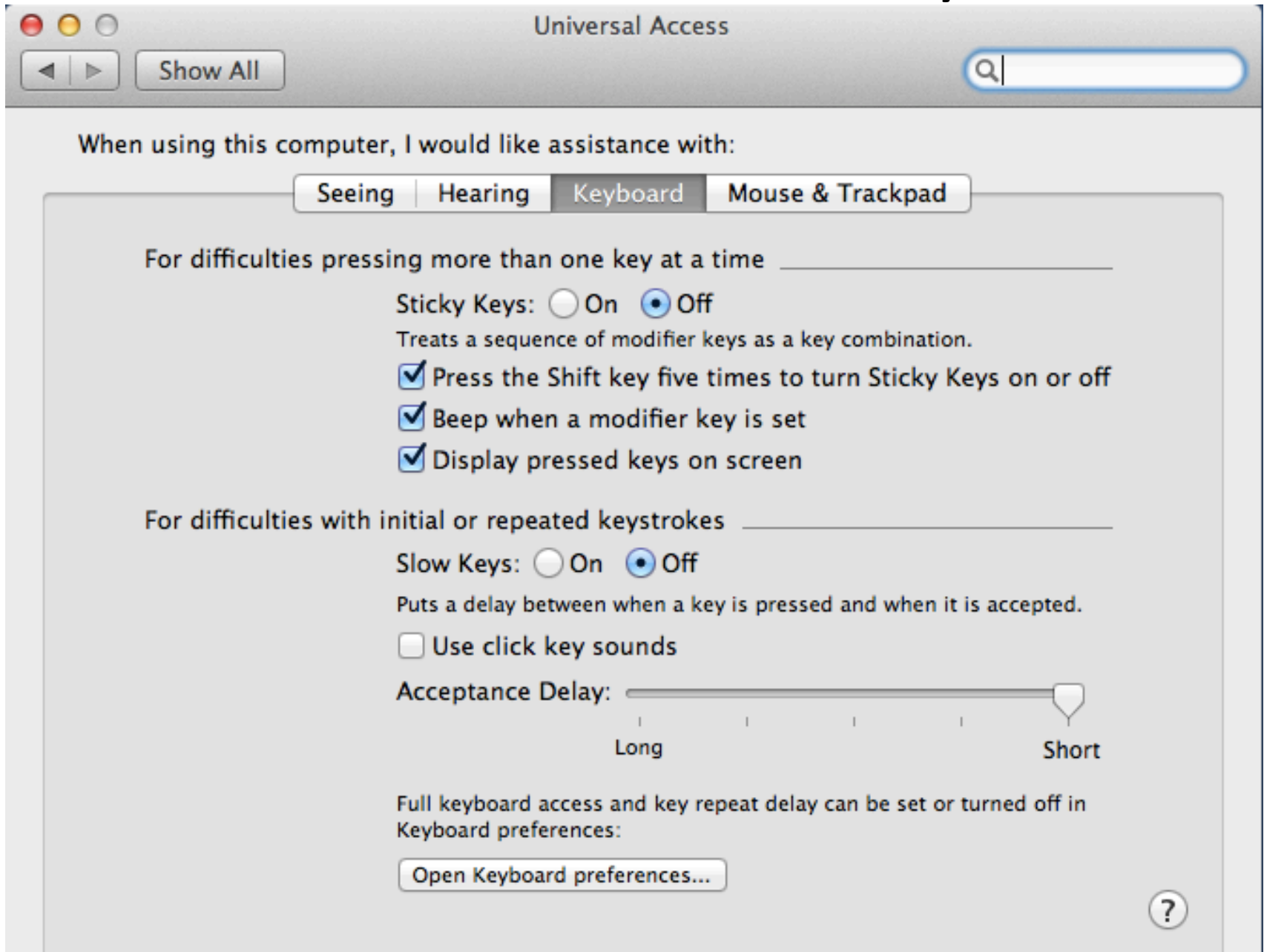


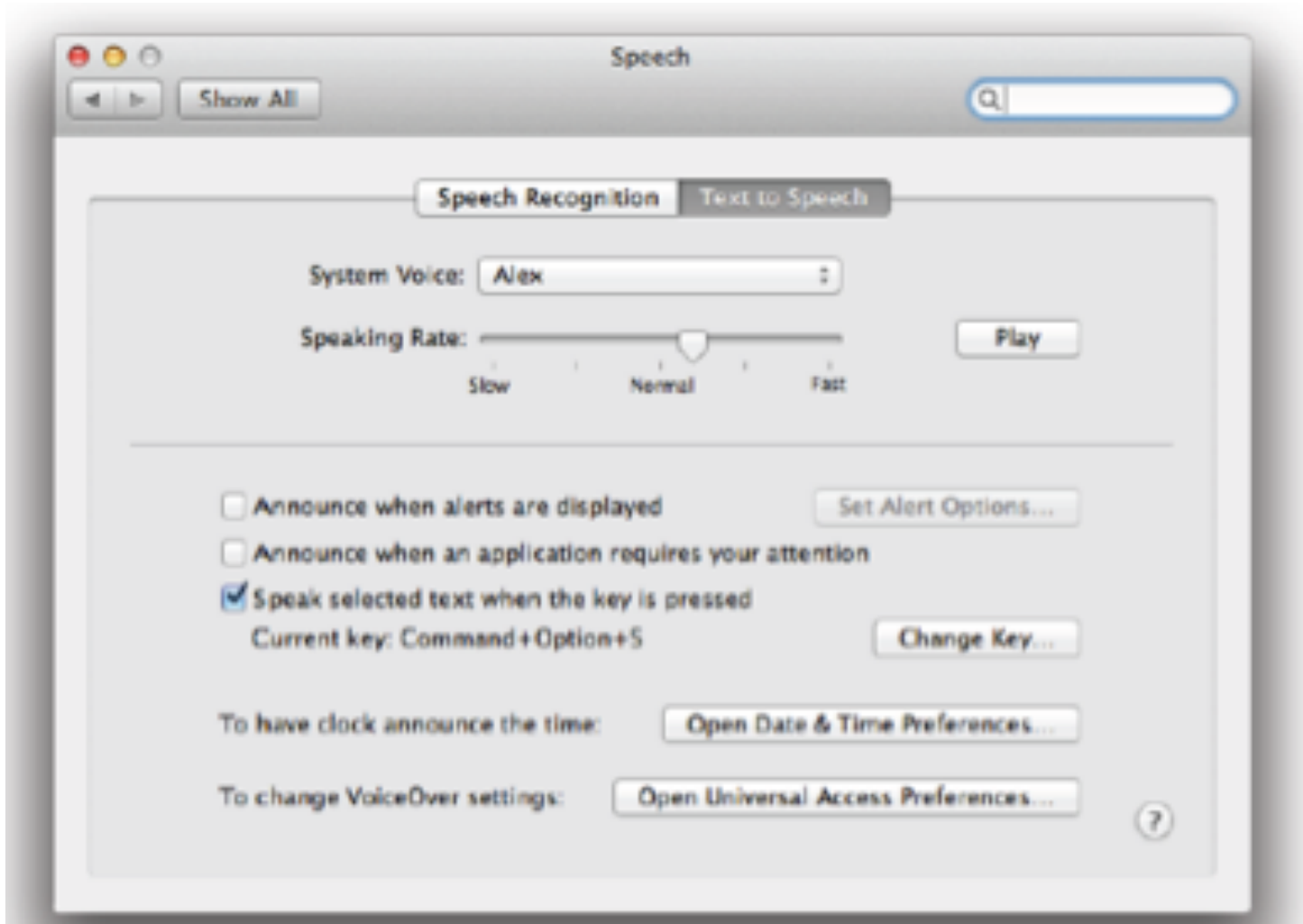
Mouse keys allow use of keyboard instead of mouse for those with limited mobility.
Cursor can be enlarged for those who have trouble tracking.
Delays can be added for children who tend

Mac Universal Access: Hearing



Mac Universal Access: Keyboard

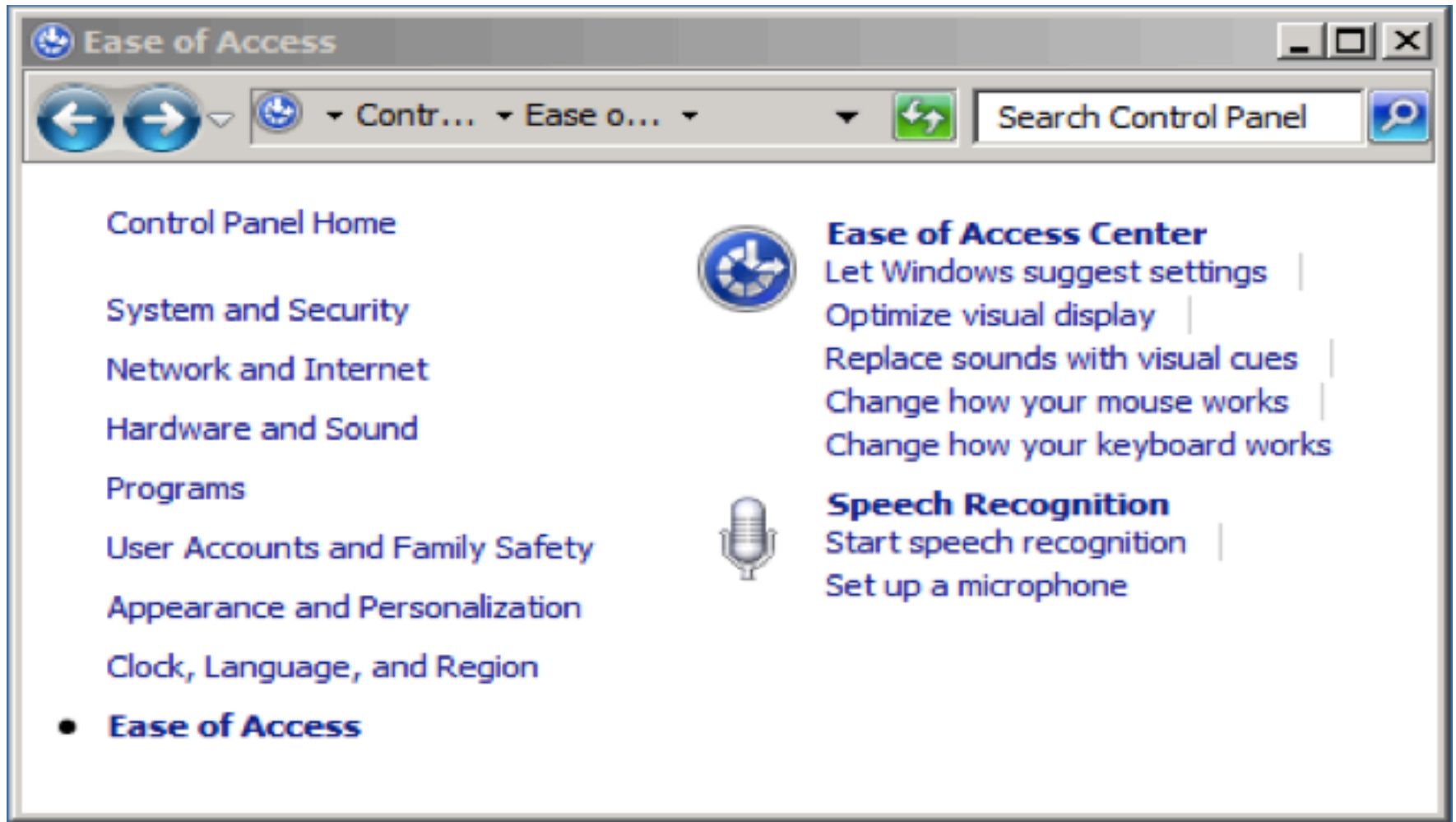




Children can benefit from hearing text on the computer screen spoken. Individuals who have difficulty decoding and understanding may comprehend printed content much better when it is read out loud. Mac has this in system preference. Windows has it in Ease of Access

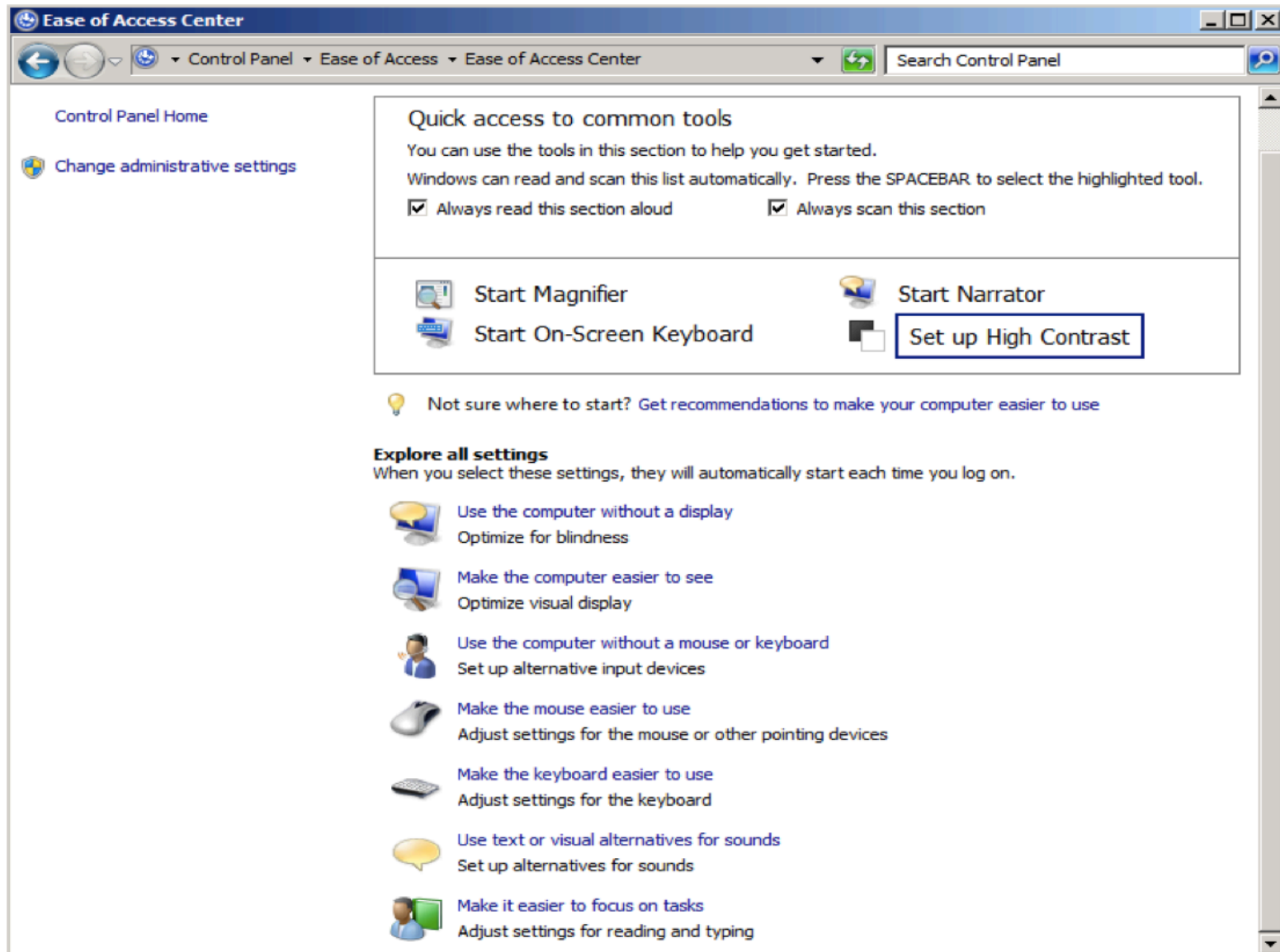
Apple->system preferences->speech-> Text to Speech

Windows 7: Ease of Access



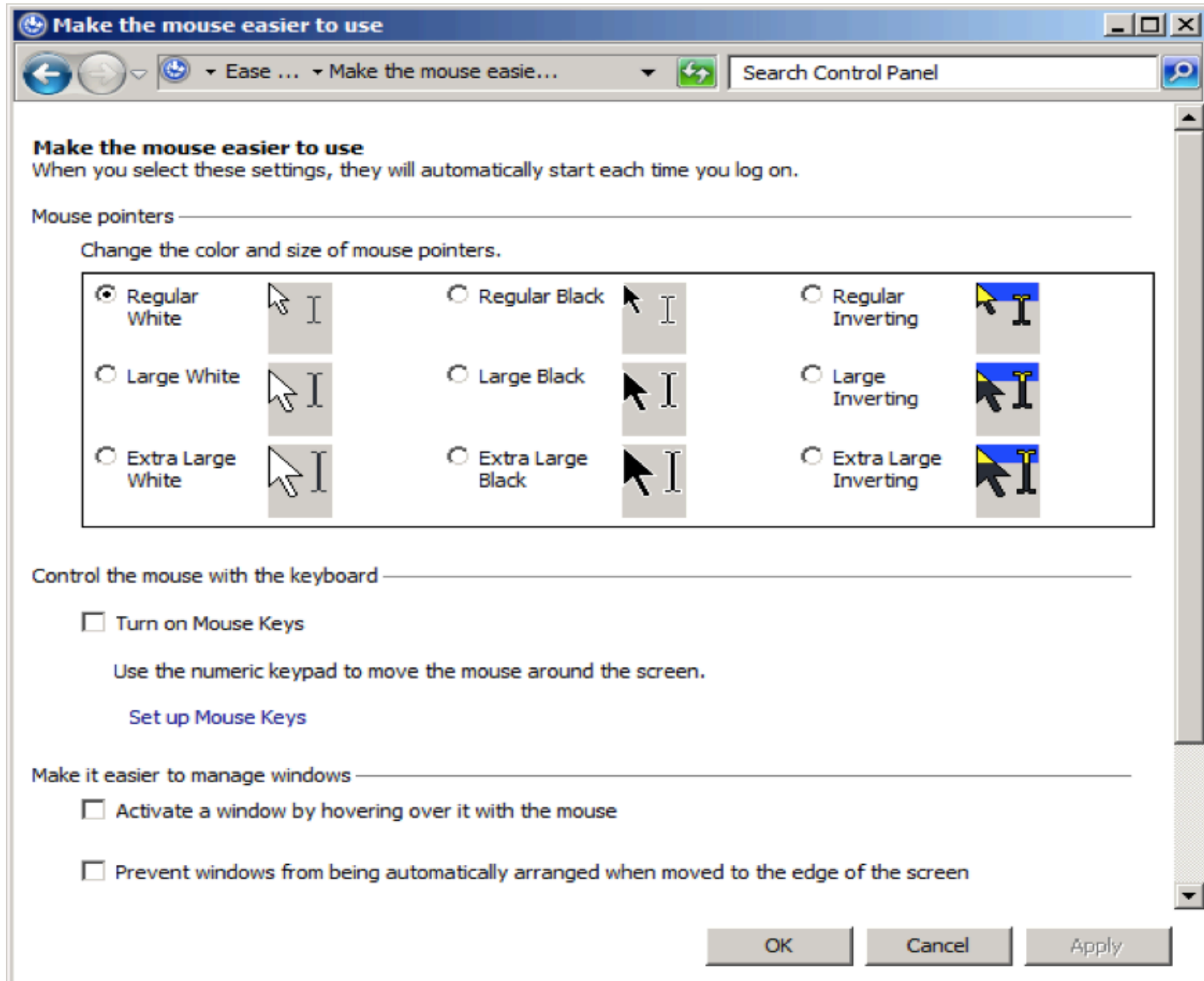
Start->Control Panel-> Ease of Access

Ease of Access Center



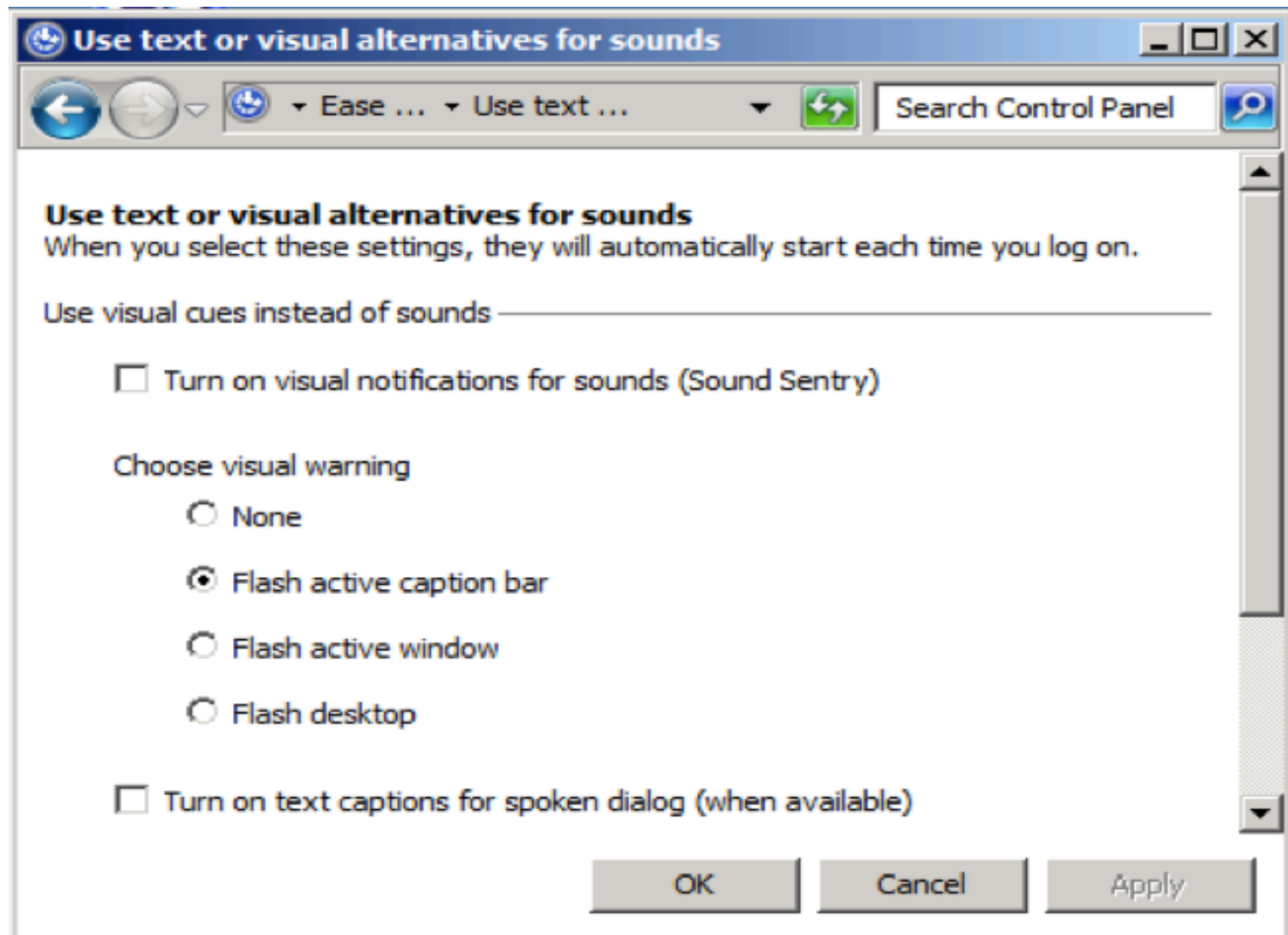
Most options can be individually accessed through this menu.
Menu is broken down by modification rather than area of need.

Ease of Access: Mouse and Trackpad

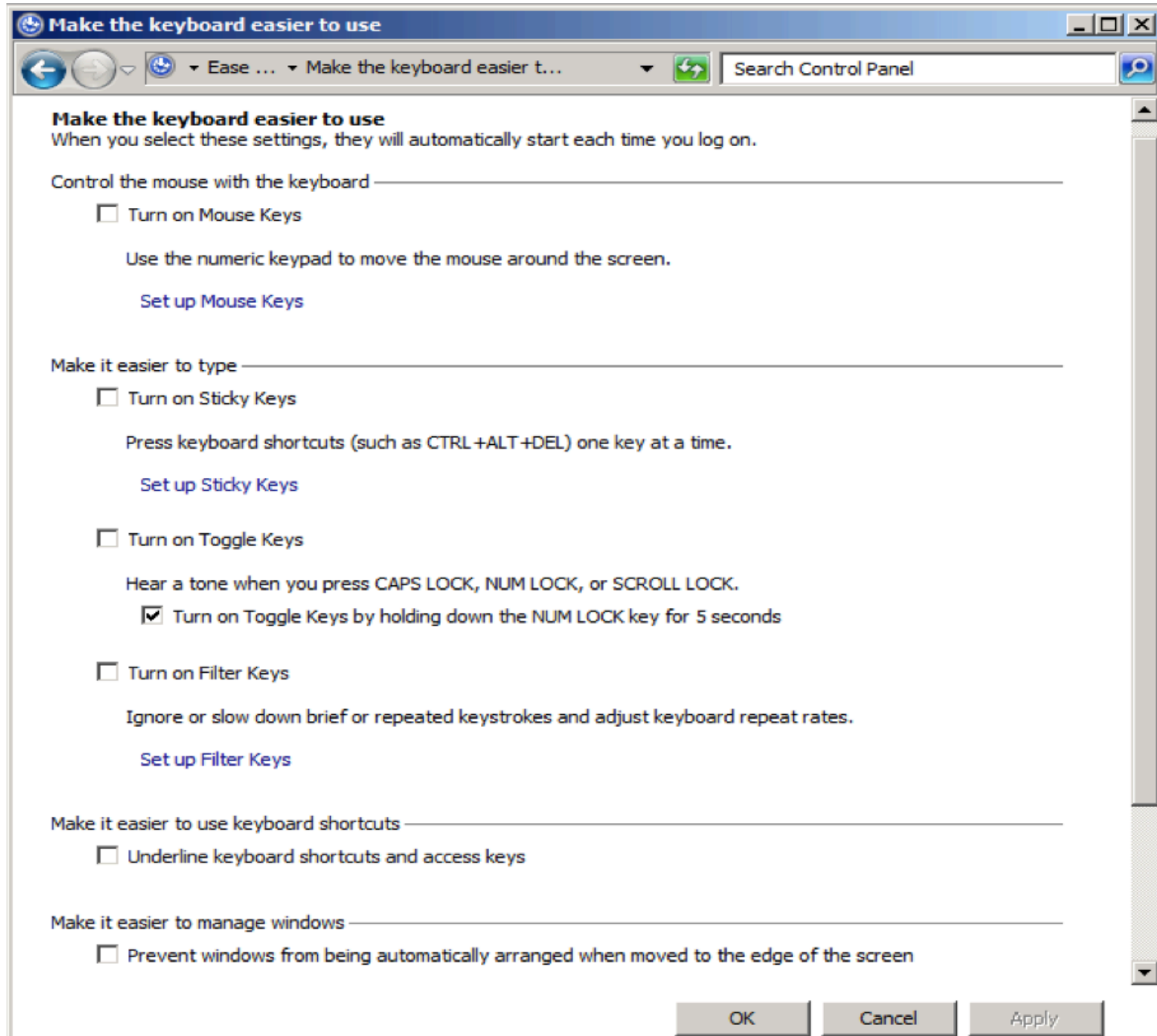


Mouse keys allow use of keyboard instead of mouse for those with limited mobility. Cursor can be enlarged for those who have trouble tracking.

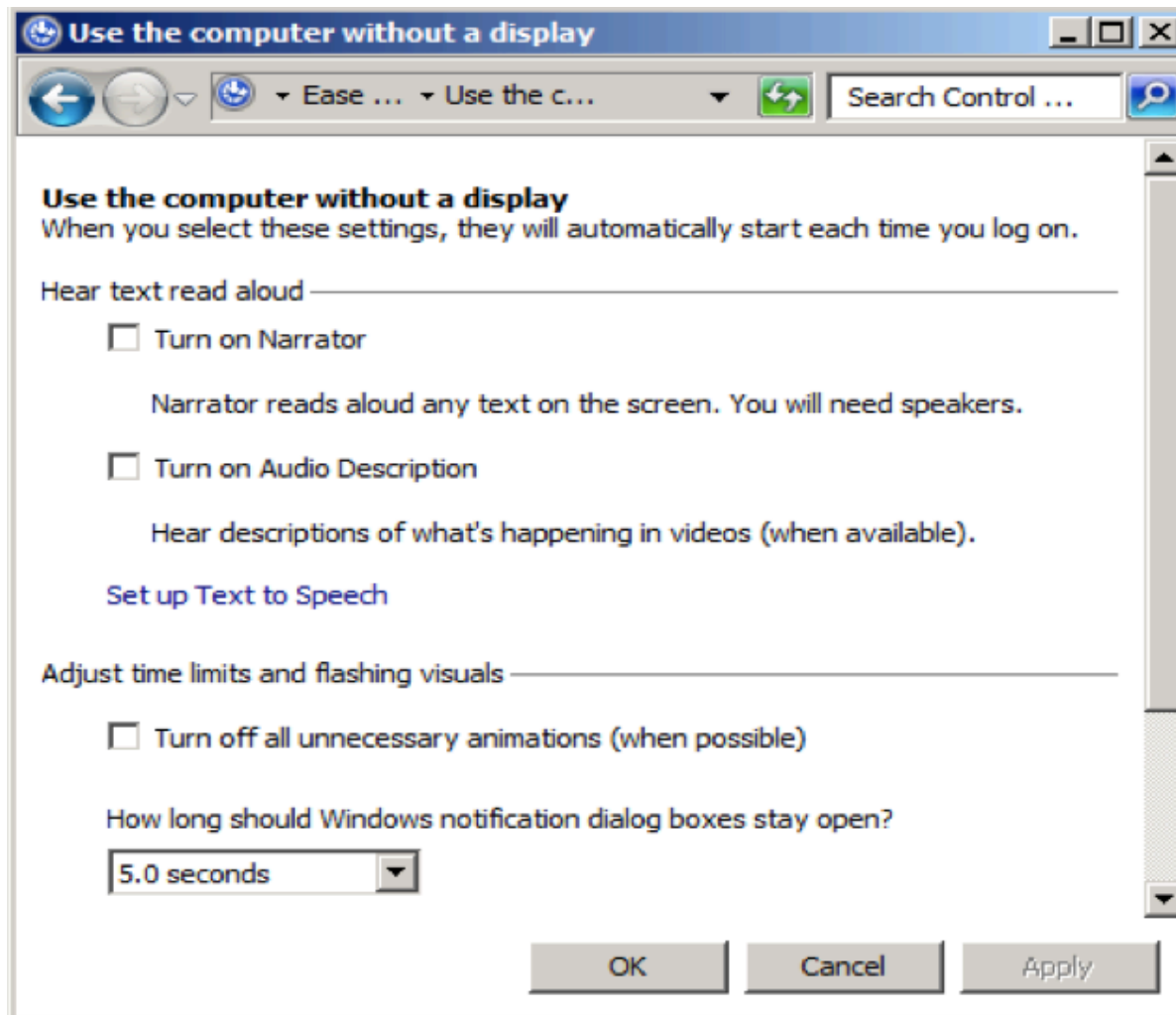
Ease of Access: Hearing



Ease of Access: Keyboard

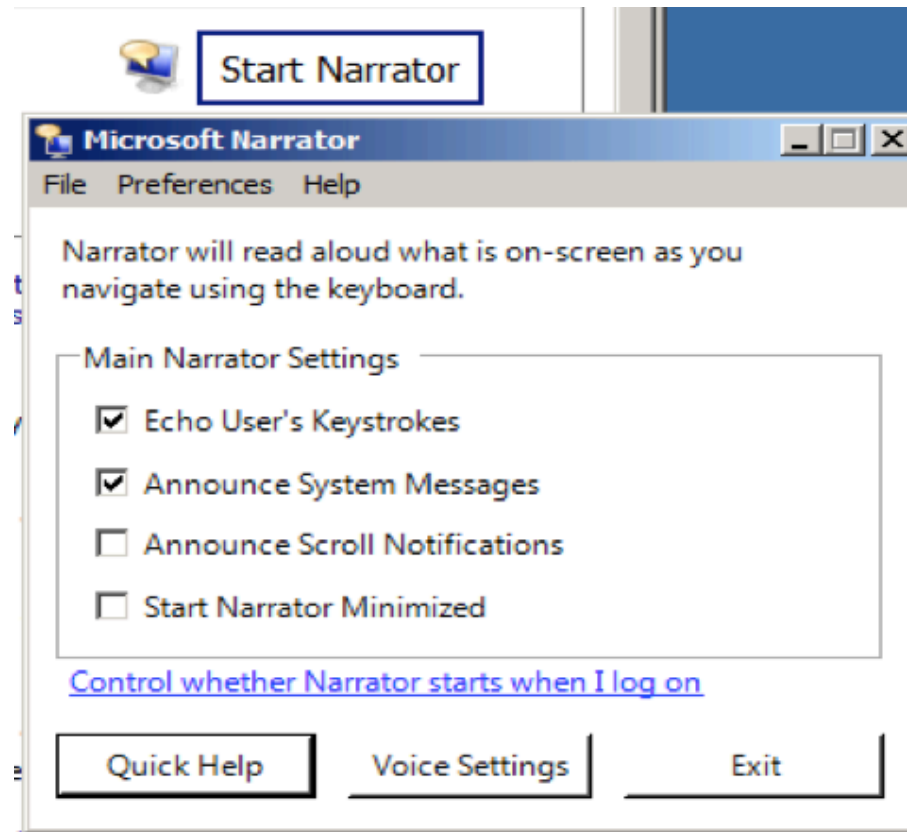


Ease of Access: Visual



Start->Control Panel->Ease of Access-> Ease of Access Center -> Use Computer Without Display

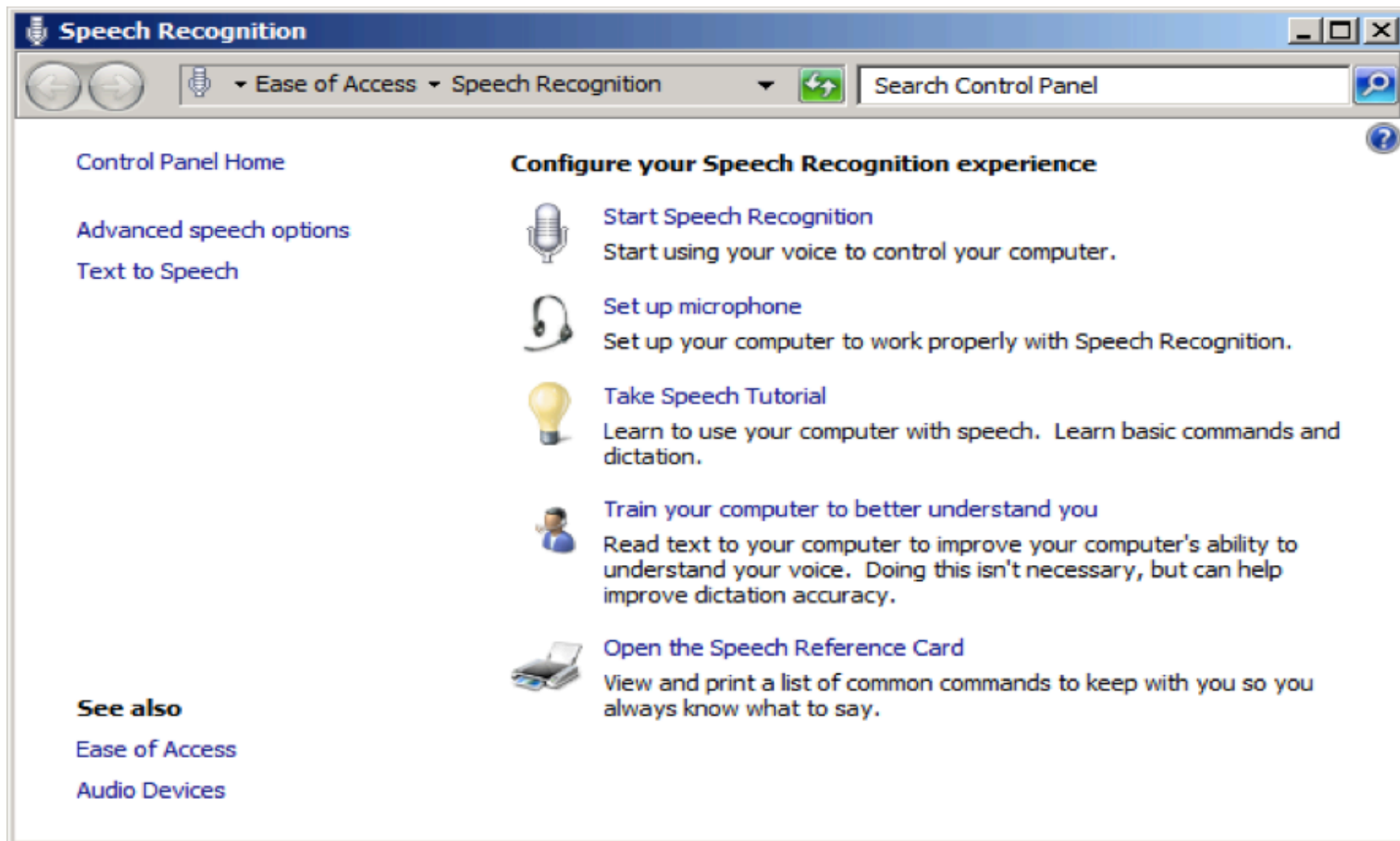
Ease of Access: Visual: Narrator



Children can benefit from hearing text on the computer screen spoken. Individuals who have difficulty decoding and understanding may comprehend printed content much better when it is read out loud.

Start->Control Panel->Ease of Access-> Ease of Access Center -> Narrator

Ease of Access: Visual: Speech Recognition








The image shows a screenshot of the Windows Speech Recognition control panel window. The window title is "Speech Recognition". The breadcrumb navigation shows "Ease of Access" > "Speech Recognition". A search bar is present with the text "Search Control Panel".

[Control Panel Home](#)

[Advanced speech options](#)

[Text to Speech](#)

Configure your Speech Recognition experience

-  [Start Speech Recognition](#)
Start using your voice to control your computer.
-  [Set up microphone](#)
Set up your computer to work properly with Speech Recognition.
-  [Take Speech Tutorial](#)
Learn to use your computer with speech. Learn basic commands and dictation.
-  [Train your computer to better understand you](#)
Read text to your computer to improve your computer's ability to understand your voice. Doing this isn't necessary, but can help improve dictation accuracy.
-  [Open the Speech Reference Card](#)
View and print a list of common commands to keep with you so you always know what to say.

See also

- [Ease of Access](#)
- [Audio Devices](#)

Windows 7: Ease of Access



Ease of Access

Let Windows suggest settings
Optimize visual display

Don't know which to set up?

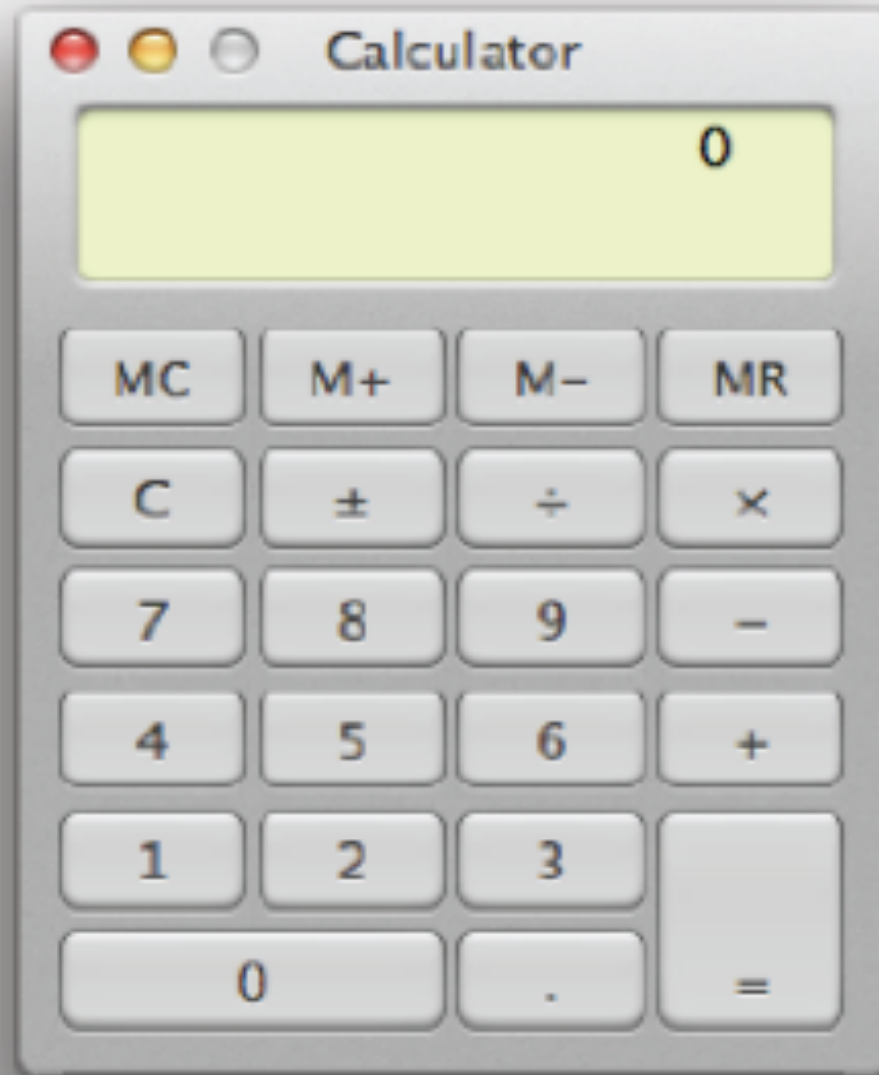
Click: Let Windows suggest settings



NaturalReader

- Professional text to speech that converts any written text into spoken words. It reads out loud and highlights the text.
- Paid version will turn text into audio file





Talking Calculator Benefit: Provides auditory feedback to help your child check the accuracy of the keys pressed and verifies the answer before transferring to paper. In applications

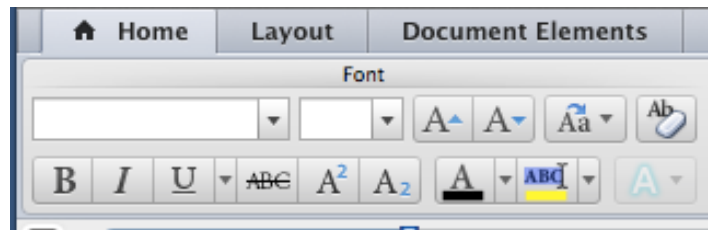
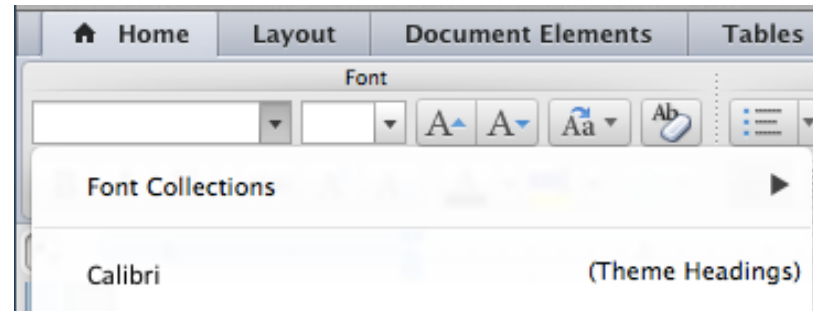
iPad Features

- Accessibility Features
- Guided access
- Dragon Dictate
- Siri



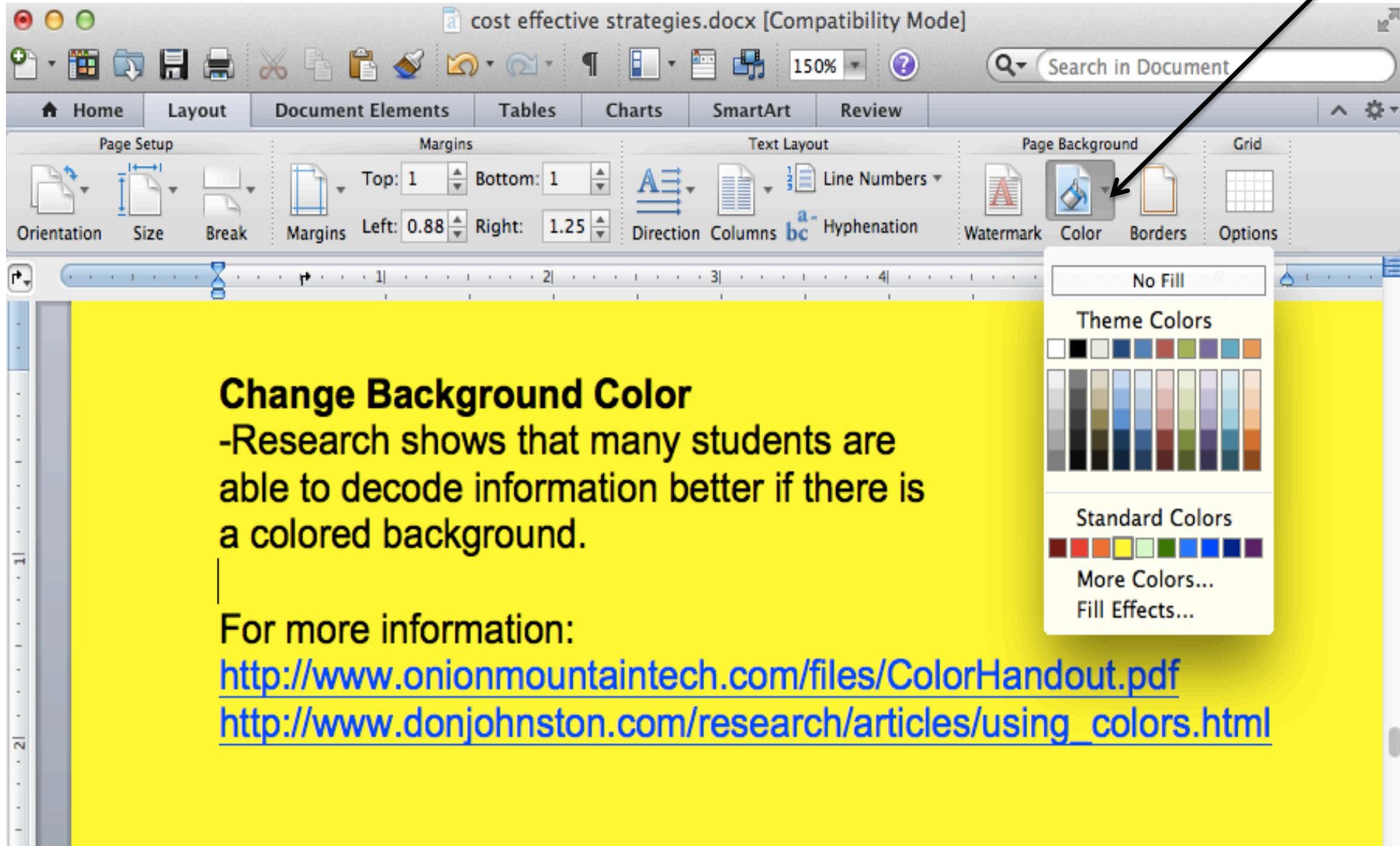
Microsoft Word: Reading

- Fonts: Pick fonts that look more like handwritten letters without the “tags”
 - Comic Sans
 - Calibri
 - Sans serif for windows
- Increase font **size**, **bold**, *italics*, underline, or **use color**
 - Helps with visual tracking and making some things stand out



- Ideas: Put vowels, digraphs, silent e in a larger font, bold, italics, color, etc. Bold stressed syllables

Microsoft Word: Reading

A screenshot of the Microsoft Word interface. The title bar shows the document name 'cost effective strategies.docx [Compatibility Mode]'. The ribbon is set to 'Page Background', with the 'Color' button selected. A color palette is open, showing 'No Fill', 'Theme Colors', and 'Standard Colors'. The document content is on a yellow background.

cost effective strategies.docx [Compatibility Mode]

Search in Document

150%

Home Layout Document Elements Tables Charts SmartArt Review

Page Setup Margins Text Layout Page Background Grid

Orientation Size Break Margins Top: 1 Bottom: 1 Left: 0.88 Right: 1.25 Direction Columns Line Numbers Hyphenation

Watermark Color Borders Options

No Fill

Theme Colors

Standard Colors

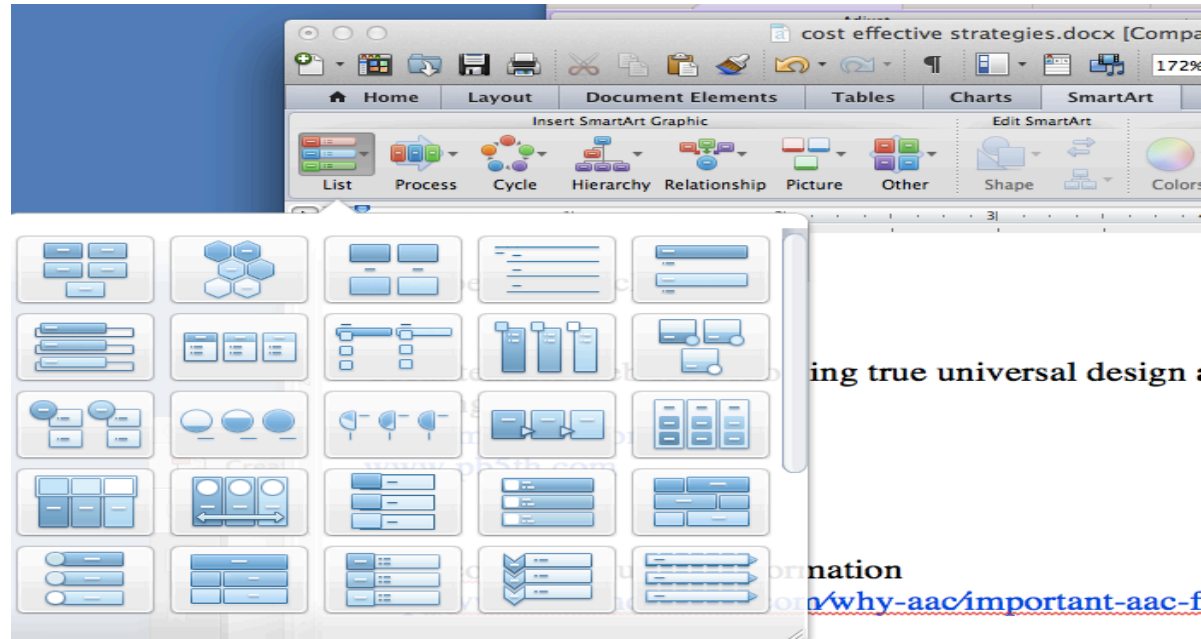
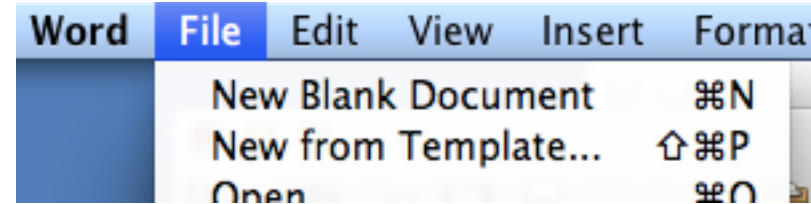
More Colors...
Fill Effects...

Change Background Color
-Research shows that many students are able to decode information better if there is a colored background.

For more information:
<http://www.onionmountaintech.com/files/ColorHandout.pdf>
http://www.donjohnston.com/research/articles/using_colors.html

Microsoft Word: Writing

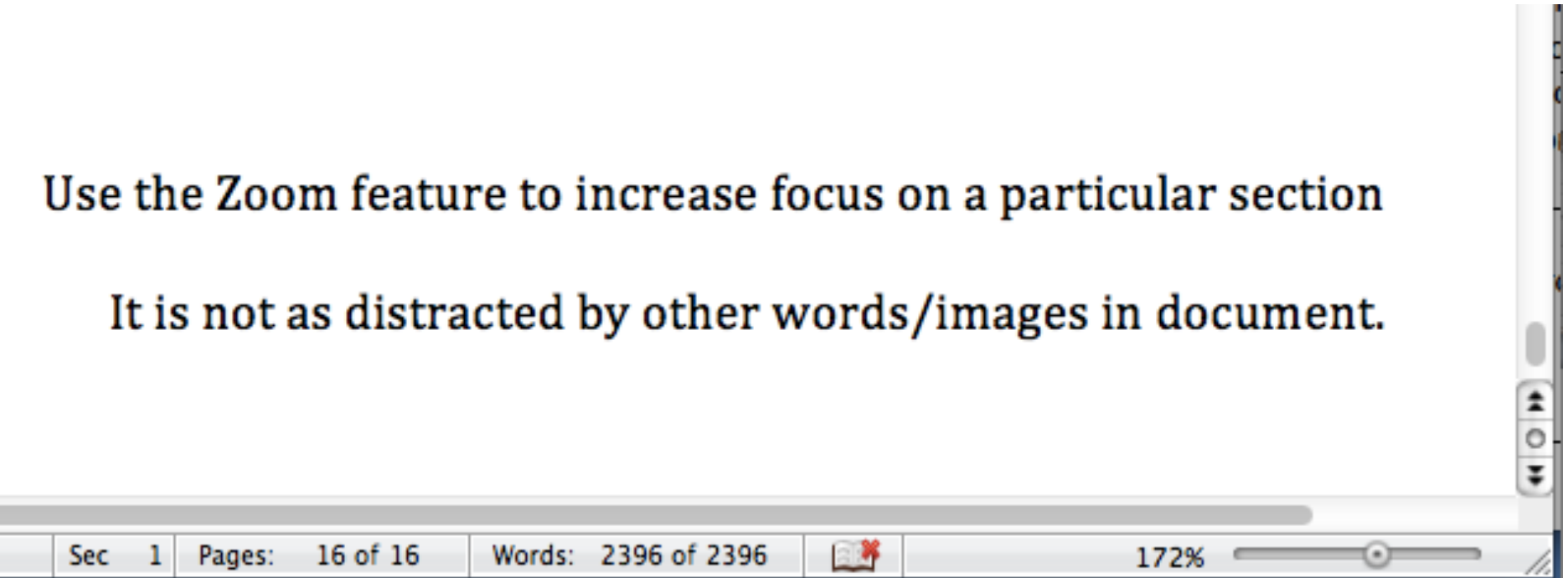
- Children can **highlight their answers** within the text instead of typing them.
- Children can use templates
- within Word
- Children can use graphic organizers
- in SmartArt



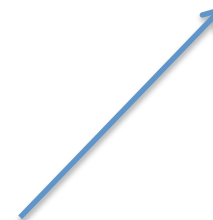
Microsoft Word: Reading Decoding

Use the Zoom feature to increase focus on a particular section

It is not as distracted by other words/images in document.



Use the VIEW-> zoom or use the Zoom Bar



Everyday Technology: Use Your Phone

- Create video modeling clips or social stories using your photo or movie app on your phone
- Download the storykit app for iphone/ipads and quickly import photos/movie clips to make a sequence chain
- Use your voice to text features on phones to have your child take notes that can be transferred later to a word document
- Don't have an iPhone: download free speech to text
- <http://www.dial2do.com>



Everyday Technology: Use Your Phone

- iPhone apps: scan, iAnnotate, pages... can scan in documents and then annotate them
- Free cell phone download of scanR. Scan document and post
- <http://scanr.en.softonic.com/pocketpc>
- **NOTE TO SELF:**
 - Use your calendar alerts for creating a schedule and setting time limits
 - Use free to-do lists:
 - Allow child to figure out best tools for themselves! Trial and error



Store It All Online



- Ever note
- Drop box
- iCloud

Benefits of Closed Caption



- A 1984 NCI study showed that hearing youngsters who watched captioned TV were able to significantly improve their vocabulary and oral reading fluency. While children are watching cartoons, videos and sitcoms, they can also be reading the captions.
- Captioned television programs create a rich learning environment by allowing students to **hear the words, see the words as captions and experience the meaning of the words by watching the images on the TV screen.**
- **This multi-sensory educational approach to reading comprehension has been found to be beneficial by reading and special education teachers as a way to motivate slow or reluctant readers, students with learning disabilities and individuals learning English as a second language.**
- [-National Captioning Institute](#)

Set Up Closed Caption on Comcast

- Turn on your television.
- Turn off your Comcast cable box. Leave your TV on
- Press the “Menu button on the cable box’s remote control
- Press the “down” arrow, located in the center of your Comcast remote control, to scroll to the “Closed Caption” option. Press the “OK” button, located in the center of the remote control
- Press the “right” arrow, located in the center of your Comcast remote control, for the “Enabled ”option. Press “OK” button
- Press the “Menu” button to exit the set up menu
- Turn on the Comcast cable box to watch programming with cable captioning feature enabled.



Reading

- <http://www.starfall.com/>
- Provides interactive books with sounds
- <http://tarheelreader.org>
- Tar Heel Reader is an open source library of books that are switch accessible, talking, internet accessible, and downloadable. Free and easy and accessible books

Reading

- <http://www.setbc.org/setbc/accessiblebooks/>
- Early reading material (up to grade 3) that has been put in PowerPoint formats or Clicker formats to increase the accessibility of the books
- <http://literate.com/Home/Index.asp>
- Interactive primary reading activities and printable activities. Reading materials for pre-school, kindergarten and grade 1 students available online

Reading

- <http://www.planetebook.com/>
- Free classic literature to download
- (middle school and up)
- <http://fullmeasure.co.uk/PowerTalk>
- Powertalk is a free program that automatically speaks any presentation or slide show running in Microsoft PowerPoint for Windows.

Reading

- <http://www.storylineonline.net/>
- Listen to stories read by Screen Actors Guild members – follow along with the text. Each book includes activities and lessons

Writing

- <http://www.writingfun.com/> (now fee based)
interactive, online, structured writing tool to help elementary age students write descriptions, narratives, poetry, explanations, procedures, etc.
- <http://ourstory.com> create a timeline story with pictures and text
- <http://www.readwritethink.org/classroom-resources/student-interactives/> These tools help students with the critical steps that come between research and writing. **ReadWriteThink** mission is to provide educators and parents with access to the highest quality practices in reading and language arts instruction by offering the very best in free materials.

Writing

- <http://www.bubbl.us/> free brainstorming and organizing tool and creates concept maps
- <http://www.mindomo.com/> online mind-mapping tool, easily share with others (free version and \$6 a month version)
- <http://www.learnalberta.ca/content/ssass/html/graphicorganizers.htm>
| 40 downloadable templates to use in a word processing program
- http://freemind.sourceforge.net/wiki/index.php/Main_Page mind mapping
- <http://www.readwritethink.org/materials/storymap/>

Math

- <http://www.oatsoft.org/Software/NumberNavigator> program that assists those with fine motor problems to set out columnar arithmetic, without the need for a spreadsheet
- <http://nces.ed.gov/nceskids/createagraph/default.aspx> free program to create graphs and charts
- <http://www.mathplayground.com/> excellent site for Math activities for K - 8, make sure to explore the Mathcasts. Mathcasts allow students to review math when THEY need to.
- <http://www.khanacademy.org/> a library of over 2,600 videos covering everything from arithmetic to physics, finance, and history and 207 practice exercises.
- <http://mathfactcafe.com/> pre-made or create your own math worksheets, \$, clocks and facts

Educational Videos

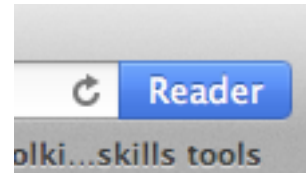
- <http://www.watchknow.org/> - free educational videos for k-12 students
- <http://www.meetmeatthecorner.org/> Virtual Field Trips for Kids takes you to meet fascinating people from all over the world.
- http://www.acinet.org/videos_by_occupation.asp
Hundreds of videos of careers in English and Spanish as well. Can be used to assist students with choosing a career or video modeling to teacher vocational skills.
- <http://zui.com/> search engine for videos and pictures for kids

Browser Tools

- Google Search tools:
- Reading level
- Chrome: extensions
 - simple dictation
- Safari Reader
- Firefox highlighter



Advanced Search



We Thank You for Attending

Thanks for coming!



Thanks!!! Have a great night

