

★ Use Multiple Tools for Construction, Composition, and Creativity



## Day 230

### Share The Slant Board

One way to expand the number and types of tools students see, understand, and use is to assess any materials or tools that are already in the classroom and being used by learners with disabilities or unique learning profiles. While some of these materials and tools are expensive and used only by those who access them as accommodation, others are inexpensive and can be offered to a larger number of students, including those without identified needs.

Tabletop tools such as hand-held magnifiers, fidgets, adapted pencils, and personal timers can be introduced to all. Students with and without disabilities may also be interested in learning about and using items used for games like playing card holders, dice with textured dots, or switch-activated spinners.

Students without disabilities might also want to try using different input devices. Teach the entire class about devices like alternative keyboards and specialized mice (e.g., trackballs, joysticks).

Do you have students who need their workspace customized? If you have slant boards, desktop easels, or adjustable desks in your room, plan a lesson showcasing these materials, their benefits, and their many uses.

Communication devices and tools can also be used by all students in the inclusive classroom. Give everyone the option of greeting peers by accessing a single-message communication button as they enter the classroom. During a lesson or two, let young children use communication symbols to build sentences.

If you are unsure of how to introduce or incorporate these tools, talk to the occupational therapist, physical therapist, speech pathologist, or special educator on your team for tips and for suggestions on how to teach every student about the many benefits and uses of assistive tech.