

# Personal Books



**Promoting communication, literacy, socialization, & leisure**

**Why  
Reading?**

# Reading is a LifeLong Skill

**Learning:** reading is a fundamental skills for developing academics

**Leisure:** teaching and fostering independent leisure activities

**Social:** shared book reading encourages socialization, sharing, turn-taking, etc.

**Functional:** reading signs

**Communication:** improving spoken, receptive, memory, and phonemic skills

**Why  
Personal  
Books?**

# Encourage Buy In and Motivation

## Relatable Material

Themselves!

Frequently visited places: home, school, community

Topics they know about

## Enticing Material

Favorite things: characters, people, food, places, etc.

Accomplishments: art projects, bike ride, performance, etc.

# Increase Communication Skills

## Modeling

Sentence and phrase structures

Vocabulary

## Language Scaffolding

Provides context

Visual supports

## Conversing

Discuss the book contents



# Build On Strengths

## Visual Learning

Frequently a strength

Reading = visual language

## Social Interactions

Frequently a personality trait

Talk about books



# Accommodations and Modifications

Accommodate reading level

Create books with curricular content

Encourage participation

Facilitate peer interaction



# **Making Personal Books**

# So many options- Here are our favorites

## Apps

Pictello

Book Creator

## Software

Boardmaker

## Equipment/Materials

Talking Photo Albums

Arts and Crafts

# Pictello



Create, playback, and share visual stories  
and talking books

<http://www.assistiveware.com/pictello-video-all-their-stories>

## Features:

Text-highlighting

Julia **discovers** gelato



Insert personal photos and videos

Print & share digitally

\$19.99 at AppStore (iOS)



# Book Creator

Create artistic, personal, books with photos, comics, videos, etc.

<https://vimeo.com/28808238>

Sticker and comic library

Include more than one picture or video on a page

Printing and digital sharing

For use with Apple, Android, and Windows based devices

Free with in-app purchases

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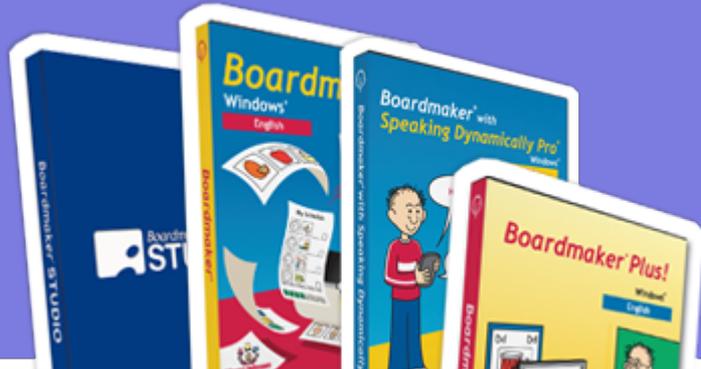
# Boardmaker

Extensive symbol libraries that can be customized and used to

Numerous product lines to fit various needs: print/digital boards, activities

Speaking capabilities

Used for adapting curriculum with symbols



# Splish Splash with the Roos



Katie steps in the water.



Naya gets wet.



We



love



Splish Splash!

# All About Casey



My family.



I swing.



I eat crackers.



# Talking Photo Album

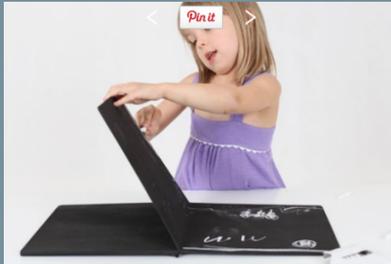
Light-tech Pictello



Speech output album that holds standard photos. Includes a total of 24 pages, each with an individual message/recording capacity of 10 seconds. User presses play button to activate speech.

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# Old Fashioned Arts and Crafts



Chalkboard Books

I Spy Books

Recycled Board Books

Picture Books



<http://www.apartmenttherapy.com/5-books-to-diy-for-your-kids-179423>

# **Implementing Personal Books**

# Creating Opportunities

## School Based

About Me

Curricular modifications

Alternative assignment

*“One of the most important ways in which parents of children and teenagers with Down syndrome can help them to be ready to read and be interested in books, is to read to them and talk to them about the stories they have read.” (Trenholm, B. & Mirenda, P., 2006)*

## Home Based

Create books

Summer reading

Night time reading

# Resources

# Special reads for special needs

Natalie Hale

[www.specialreads.com](http://www.specialreads.com)

Natalie is a renowned reading specialist for individuals with DS.

Find specific recommendations for font, images, etc.



# Tutorials

Boardmaker:

<http://www.mayer-johnson.com/support/learn/tutorials/>

Pictello:

<http://www.assistiveware.com/product/pictello/resources>

Book Creator:

<http://www.redjumper.net/blog/2016/05/free-book-creator-training-teachers/>

Talking Photo Album:

<http://www.attainmentcompany.com/sites/default/files/pdf/support/TPA-UsersGuide.pdf>

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