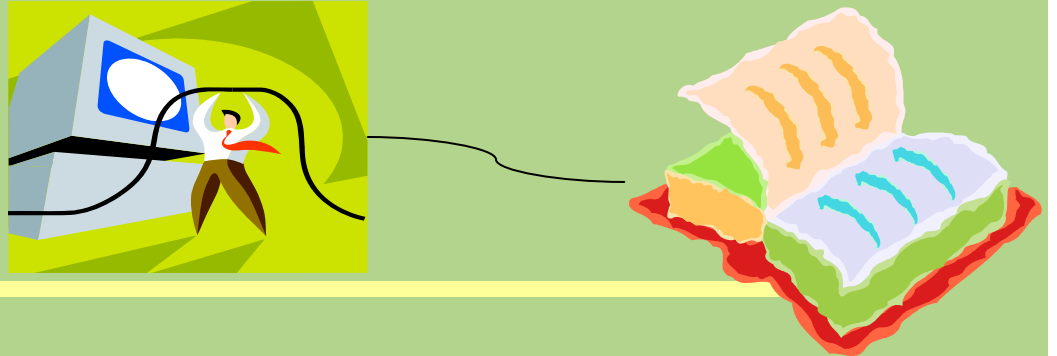


Digital Reading at Home: Free Text Readers and Bookshare



Denise C. DeCoste, Ed.D
and Kathleen Hamm, HIAT
Michelle Valenti, Parent, MCIE



You will learn about:

- **Text readers**
 - **Free reader: ReadPlease/ Reading Bar**
 - **Finding text on the Internet**
 - **Accessiblebookcollection.org**
 - **Bookshare**
 - **Autosummarize**
-

3 types of readers

- **Strategic**- use reading strategies and read at or above grade level
- **Reluctant**-can read any material but have text comprehension difficulties and few reading strategies.
- **Remedial**- read several grade levels below peers, limited vocabulary and few reading strategies

West-Christy, (2003)

What is text reader software?

- Text readers read text aloud on a computer and some have other features built in to support reading to writing connections



Text Reader software does not “teach” reading.



Text reader software

Text readers provide reading support for students who:

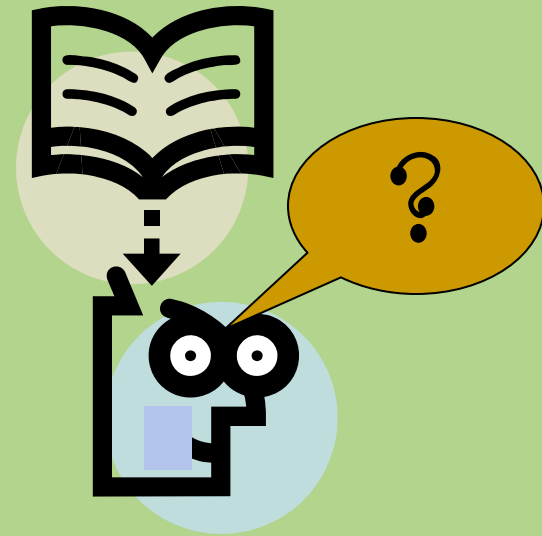
- Can focus on and integrate auditory and visual information
- Can comprehend appropriate digitized content
- Struggle with decoding and/or fluency

How do text readers benefit struggling readers?

- Text readers help students attend better to their reading, reduce reading distractibility, read with less fatigue, read for longer periods of time, and read faster to complete reading assignments in less time
- (Hecker, Burns, Elkind, Elkind & Katz, 2002).

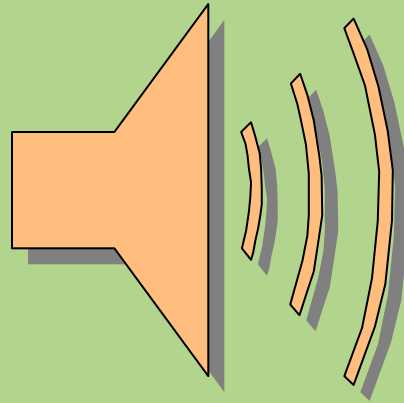
Struggling readers: Keeping pace with academic content

While districts are engaged in the use of many reading improvement programs, many struggling readers lack the skills to independently read which affects their ability to keep pace with academic content.



Struggling Readers: Audio book accommodations

- **Books on tape take advantage of listening comprehension, but do not enhance print processing.**



Struggling Readers: Verbatim reader accommodations

- Verbatim adult reading accommodations do not enhance reading skills.
- Student reluctance to ask an adult to slow down, to repeat, to explain.
- Lack of engagement with print affects word recognition, reading fluency and reading comprehension

ReadPlease 2003

www.readplease.com offers a free text reader. You can copy and paste text from any website or word processing document into ReadPlease and it will speak the text.

Students can also use ReadPlease to hear words they write spoken aloud. It can help students edit their written work.

System Requirements for ReadPlease 2003

Pentium - 200 MHz

16 MB RAM

20 MB Hard Drive space

Windows

95/98/ME/NT/2000/XP



Software that lets your computer talk...



Normal vision | Low vision

Navigation

- Home
- Products
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- Order/Listen
- Support
- News
- Contact Us

RB Tutorials

- VXML and ReadingBar
[Click here...](#)
- ReadPlease
CommandScript
[Click here...](#)

Welcome to ReadPlease®!

Developer of award-winning text-to-speech software for **Windows®** based operating systems.

ReadPlease 2003 / ReadPlease Plus 2003

Reads any text you see on your screen - all purpose text-to-speech software.

ReadPlease 2003 - **FREE!** ReadPlease Plus 2003

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ReadingBar 2 for Internet Explorer®

Reads any web page, makes mp3/wav files, zooms any page, text-only version web pages, translates and much more!

Find out what's new [here...](#)

[More Info](#) →

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[Download](#) ✓

What ReadPlease Customers are saying...

"I use ReadPlease as a proofing tool for my columns and newsletters: Hearing text read aloud can help you find errors that your eyes might not find even with repeated re-readings."

- Fred Langa, langa.com

"I am dyslexic and find ReadPlease fantastic, (I have tried 10 other text-to-speech engines and yours is by far the best)."

- Roy Glanfeld

Downloads

ReadPlease Product Downloads, and free voices for ReadPlease.



Quick Links

- [ReadPlease/ReadPlease Plus 2003](#)
- [ReadPlease Upgrade Patch](#)
- [ReadingBar 2 - Trial version](#)
- [Free Voice Downloads](#)

ReadPlease 2003 - **FREE!** ReadPlease Plus 2003 - Trial version

[ReadPlease/ReadPlease Plus 2003](#) (free and trial version) - ReadPlease 2003 is a free version that never expires. ReadPlease Plus 2003 has a free trial period of 30-days after which you may purchase a registration code to unlock the software. This download includes both versions of ReadPlease.

Free Languages (Lernout & Hauspie Voices), ([download here...](#))



[ReadPlease 2003 / ReadPlease Plus 2003 Trial \(11MB\)](#)

Check out the comparison chart between ReadPlease 2003 and ReadPlease Plus 2003 [here](#).

System Requirements for ReadPlease 2003

ReadingBar: Reads the Internet (30-day free trial)

ReadingBar 2 - Trial version

[ReadingBar 2 \(30-day free trial\)](#) - Once the trial period expires you may purchase a new version from our [store](#) or contact our sales department through our [helpdesk](#) to purchase a registration code to unlock the software.



[ReadingBar 2 Trial version \(18 MB\)](#)

System Requirements for ReadingBar 2

Pentium - 300 MHz

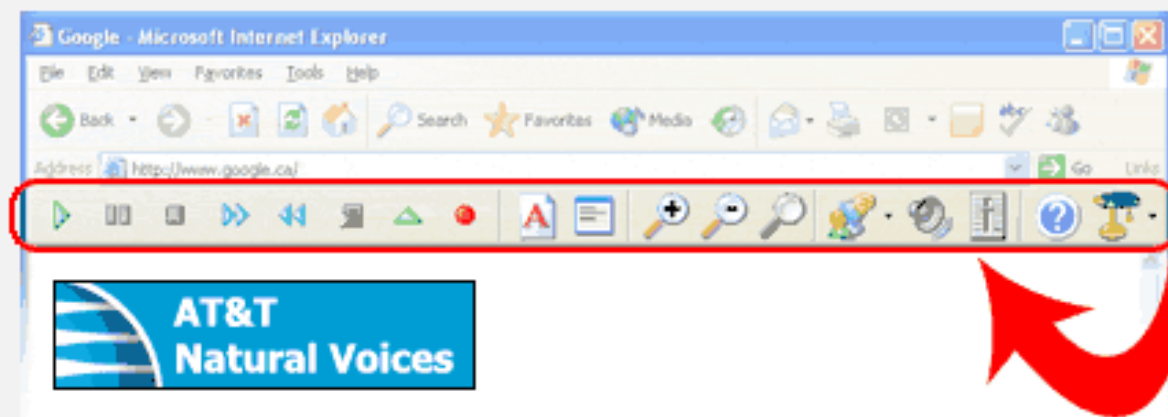
128 MB RAM

60 MB Hard Drive space

Windows 98/ME/NT/2000/XP

[\(Back to Top\)](#)

ReadingBar 2 for Internet Explorer®



Features:

- ▶ Reads any web page aloud to you
- ▶ Highlights words in Internet Explorer
- ▶ Easily creates .mp3 or .wav files from web pages
- ▶ Generates text only version from any web page
- ▶ Magnifies pages, text, pictures and scrollbars
- ▶ Translates web pages into four languages
- ▶ Dictionary lookup, add your own pronunciation
- ▶ Reading Window (just like ReadPlease PLUS 2003)
- ▶ Text-to-speech with Mike, Mary and Sam
- ▶ Microsoft Windows only

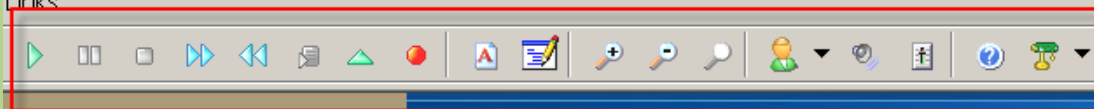
ReadingBar 2

File Edit View Favorites Tools Help



Address <http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/>

Links








ReadingBar

www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org
Montgomery County Public Schools
ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND

Search GO

Index of Topics

[HOME](#) [ABOUT US](#) [SCHOOLS](#) [COMMUNITY](#) [BOARD OF EDUCATION](#) [FOR PARENTS](#) [FOR STUDENTS](#) [FOR STAFF](#)

-  [Attend open house on Columbus Day](#)
-  [Attend Community Forum Oct. 16](#)
-  [Walk to School Day celebrated](#)
 video
-  [Scavenger hunt emphasizes service](#)

[More Stories...](#)

Read: [QuickNotes](#)
Watch: [News Update](#)
Plan: [School Calendar](#)

Parents Can Attend Open House on Columbus Day

Schools have scheduled open houses for their parent communities on Columbus Day, **Monday, Oct. 13**. Parents and guardians are welcome to drop by their child's school during the day and observe in the classroom. Feel free to contact your child's school for any special activities that they may have scheduled to welcome parents.



Superintendent

Our Call to Action:
Raise standards for all students and close the achievement gap by race and ethnicity.

[Superintendent's Web Site](#)

Information in Other Languages

[中文](#) [français](#) [한국어](#) [español](#) [Việt Nam](#)

OF COMMUNITY INTEREST

No school Friday, Oct. 17
MSTA teacher convention. Administrative offices open.

e-mail news in six languages

SIGN UP for *QuickNotes*

PRESS RELEASES

> MCPS Celebrates Walk to School Day

Finding Text on the Internet



Literary works in the public domain



Public domain e-text

- Louisa May Alcott
 - Hans Christian Anderson
 - Wizard of Oz
 - Peter Pan
 - Tom Swift books
 - Lewis Carroll
 - Robert Louis Stevenson
 - Shakespeare
 - Edgar Allen Poe
 - Mark Twain
 - Secret Garden
 - A Child's garden of verses
 - Alice in wonderland
 - Anne of Green Gables
 - Red Badge of Courage
-

The Internet has a wealth of resources

Explore the internet first for:

- Public domain text
- Home subscription e-text
- Educational websites



www.gutenberg.org

Eight Cousins by Louisa May Alcott - Project Gutenberg - Microsoft Internet Explorer

File Edit View Favorites Tools Help

Back Forward Stop Home Search Favorites Refresh Print Mail Stop

Address <http://www.gutenberg.org/etext/2726> Go

Google Search PageRank 1 blocked ABC Check AutoFill Options

Links Customize Links RealPlayer Windows Google Center for Technology in Education Welcome to Kehila Chadasha

Eight Cousins by Louisa May Alcott

[Read online](#) — [Help on this page](#) — [New Search](#)

Bibliographic Record

Creator	Alcott, Louisa May, 1832-1888
Title	Eight Cousins
Language	English
LoC Class	PS: Language and Literatures: American literature
EText-No.	2726
Release Date	2001-07-01
Copyrighted	No

Formats Available For Download

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Internet

<http://www.online-literature.com/>

Author List

Authors	Authors	Authors
<u>Adams, Andy</u>	<u>Adams, Henry</u>	<u>Adams, Samuel Hopkins</u>
<u>Aesop,</u>	<u>Alcott, Louisa May</u>	<u>Aldrich, Thomas Bailey</u>
<u>Alger, Horatio</u>	<u>Alighieri, Dante</u>	<u>Allen, Grant</u>
<u>Altsheler, Joseph A.</u>	<u>Andersen, Hans Christian</u>	<u>Anderson, Sherwood</u>
<u>Andreyev, Leonid N.</u>	<u>Anonymous,</u>	<u>Appleton, Victor</u>
<u>Aristophanes,</u>	<u>Aristotle,</u>	<u>Arnim, Elizabeth von</u>
<u>Arthur, T.S.</u>	<u>Artzybashev, Mikhail Petrovich</u>	<u>Atherton, Gertrude Franklin Horn</u>
<u>Augustine, Saint</u>	<u>Austen, Jane</u>	<u>Bachelor, Irving</u>
<u>Bailey, Arthur Scott</u>	<u>Balzac, Honore de</u>	<u>Bangs, John Kendrick</u>
<u>Barbour, Maynard</u>	<u>Barbour, Ralph Henry</u>	<u>Barr, Amelia E.</u>
<u>Barr, Robert</u>	<u>Barrie, James M.</u>	<u>Baum, L. Frank</u>
<u>Beach, Rex Ellingwood</u>	<u>Bierce, Ambrose</u>	<u>Blackmore, R.D.</u>
<u>Blake, William</u>	<u>Bower, B.M.</u>	<u>Bronte, Emily</u>
<u>Bronte, Anne</u>	<u>Bronte, Charlotte</u>	<u>Browning, Robert</u>
<u>Browning, Elizabeth Barrett</u>	<u>Buchan, John</u>	<u>Bulfinch, Thomas</u>

The Odyssey by Homer

Book 1

Tell me, O muse, of that ingenious hero who travelled far and wide after he had sacked the famous town of Troy. Many cities did he visit, and many were the nations with whose manners and customs he was acquainted; moreover he suffered much by sea while trying to save his own life and bring his men safely home; but do what he might he could not save his men, for they perished through their own sheer folly in eating the cattle of the Sun-god Hyperion; so the god prevented them from ever reaching home. Tell me, too, about all these things, O daughter of Jove, from whatsoever source you may know them.

So now all who escaped death in battle or by shipwreck had got safely home except Ulysses, and he, though he was longing to return to his wife and country, was detained by the goddess Calypso, who had got him into a large cave and wanted to marry him. But as years went by, there came a time when the gods settled that he should go back to Ithaca; even then, however, when he was among his own people, his troubles were not yet over; nevertheless all the gods had now begun to pity him except Neptune, who still persecuted him without ceasing and would not let him get home.

Now Neptune had gone off to the Ethiopians, who are at the world's end, and lie in two halves, the one looking West and the other East. He had gone there to accept a hecatomb of sheep and oxen, and was enjoying himself at his festival; but the other gods met in the house of Olympian Jove, and the sire of gods and men spoke first. At that moment he was thinking of Aegisthus, who had been killed by Agamemnon's son Orestes; so he said to the other gods:

"See now, how men lay blame upon us gods for what is after all nothing but their own folly. Look at Aegisthus; he must needs make love to Agamemnon's wife unrighteously and then kill Agamemnon, though he knew it would be the death of him; for I sent Mercury to warn him not to do either of these things, inasmuch as Orestes would be sure to take his revenge when he grew up and wanted to return home. Mercury told him this in all good will but he would not listen, and now he has paid for everything in full."

<http://quarles.unbc.ca/midsummer/>

A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM



SCENE:

Athens, and a wood near it.

ACT I

SCENE 1

Athens. The palace of THESEUS.



[Enter THESEUS, HIPPOLYTA, PHILOSTRATE, and Attendants]

THESEUS

Now, fair Hippolyta, our nuptial hour
Draws on apace; four happy days bring in
Another moon: but, O, methinks, how slow
This old moon wanes! she lingers my desires,
Like to a step-dame or a dowager
Long withering out a young man's revenue.



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

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Biographies

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[The Waste Land](#)
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[Blade Runner](#)
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[Beowulf](#)
[Ethan Frome](#)
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DRAMA (383)

[The Glass Menagerie](#)
[Antigone](#)
[Glengarry Glen Ross](#)
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NON-FICTION (105)

[Coming of Age in Mississippi](#)
[In Cold Blood](#)
[Walden](#)
[Profiles in Courage](#)
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SHAKESPEARE (150)

[A Midsummer Night's Dream](#)
[Macbeth](#)
[Romeo and Juliet](#)
[View All...](#)



To reinforce reading fluency



http://www.eastoftheweb.com/short-stories/childrenindex.html

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- ... and more

teachers

- [Study questions & activities](#)
- [Forum](#)
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- ... and more

story guides

random story

Mr Sticky
by [Mo McAuley](#)
One day a tiny water snail appears in Abby's fish tank.
- Length: 3 pages
- Age Rating: U
- Rating: ★★★★★

[another random story >](#)

top stories

Hansel and Gretel
by [Brothers Grimm](#)
A dark tale of abandoned children featuring the celebrated gingerbread house.
- Length: 11 pages
- Age Rating: U
- Rating: ★★★★★

High and Lifted Up
by [Mike Krath](#)
A children's story about a boy who turns into a leaf.
- Length: 2 pages
- Age Rating: U
- Rating: ★★

Thumbelina
by [Hans Christian Andersen](#)
The adventures of a tiny girl who is found inside the petals of a Tulip.
- Length: 11 pages
- Age Rating: U
- Rating: ★★★★★

Hobnail
by [Crystal Arboqast](#)
Scary bedtime story about a mother and daughter's night-time journey home.
- Length: 4 pages
- Age Rating: PG
- Rating: ★★★★★

The Hare Who Would Not Be King
by [Tish Farrell](#)
The animals of the African plains elect a new king.
- Length: 3 pages
- Age Rating: U

Mr. Sticky
by [Mo McAuley](#)
One day a tiny water snail appears in Abby's fish tank.
- Length: 3 pages
- Age Rating: U

The Tale Of Princess Laughing Dove
by [Tish Farrell](#)
The story of an ugly man who dreams of finding someone to love him.
- Length: 5 pages

The Twelve Dancing Princesses
by [Brothers Grimm](#)
A soldier risks his life to uncover the secret of twelve beautiful princesses.
- Length: 4 pages
- Age Rating: U
- Rating: ★★★★★



<http://kids.mysterynet.com/>



Kids Mysteries

Mysteries to solve, scary stories, and magic tricks

[Privacy Policy](#)



[MysteryNet's Kids](#)

Solve-it

Can you solve The Case of the Ruined Roses?



[MysteryNet's Kids](#)

Quick-solve

Can Max solve the case of the Snack Shack?



[MysteryNet's Kids](#)

Chiller

Can you face The Darkmaster's Challenge?



[MysteryNet's Kids](#)

Magic Trick

Make a card vanish into thin air!




[MysteryNet's](#)
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<p>Stories by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Peter Raymond- Hilary Jenkins- Nicholas Kish- Tim Macy- YZ Chin- James Ross <p style="text-align: right;">... and more</p>	<p><u>From Ledge to Ledge</u> by Oliver Ho A white porcelain hand seems to signal change in an arcade worker's life.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Length: 9 pages- Age Rating: PG- Rating: ★★★★★ <p style="text-align: right;">daily channel page ></p>	<p><u>A Baby Tramp</u> by Ambrose Bierce In the town of Blackburg - home of raining frogs, crimson snow and Hettie Parlow's ghost - a young tramp stands on a street corner in the rain.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Length: 4 pages- Age Rating: PG- Rating: ★★★★★ <p style="text-align: right;">another random story ></p>	<p><u>86th Street and the Summer of Love</u> by Colin C. Conway Gang violence against the backdrop of a distant war</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Length: 9 pages- Age Rating: 15- Rating: ★★★★★ <p><u>Death By Scrabble</u> by Charlie Fish A game of Scrabble has serious consequences.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Length: 4 pages- Age Rating: PG- Rating: ★★★★★ <p><u>Choosing Shoes</u> by Helen Bourne A cleaner talks about her double life.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Length: 7 pages- Age Rating: 18- Rating: ★★★★★ <p><u>Responsibility and Corruption on Elm Avenue</u></p>
<p>word games</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Eight Letters ...- Daily Cryptoquote- Definetime- Wordsearch <p style="text-align: right;">... and more</p>	<p> <u>Hole For A Fence Post</u> by Peter Raymond Angie helps her brothers make a hole for a fence post.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Length: 13 pages- Age Rating: 15	<p> <u>Learning The Western Alphabet</u> by Hilary Jenkins A love story in two voices: Martin Green, an English teacher in China in the 1980s, and MingMing, his young Chinese 'minder'</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Length: 25 pages- Age Rating: 15	
<p>teachers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Study questions & activities- Forum- Games <p style="text-align: right;">... and more</p>			



Educational websites



Some MCPS subscription websites are available to students at home.

The list is located at

<http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/students/homework.cfm>

Or

MCPS homepage > students > homework

Students need to go to their school media center to get passwords.

HSA PREP ONLINE
Algebra & English Practice Questions



Learn Algebra with **THE MATH DUDE!**
TV · ONLINE · IPOD



LINKS FOR STUDENTS

► Most Requested

- > Calendars
- > Menus
- Menús en español
- > **Emergency Closings**
- > Contact Information

► Schools

- > School-odex
- > School Web Sites
- > School Statistics and Test Results
- > System of Shared Accountability
- > Green Schools Focus
- > Extended Hours Program

► Curriculum

- > Course Bulletin (9-12)
- > Student Online Learning
- > Student Service Learning

FOR STUDENTS > HOMEWORK RESOURCES

Homework Resources: Get help now!



MCPS Resources	Subscription Services	Other Resources
<p>Homework Board Assignments</p> <p>Homework Hotline Call-in cable TV show</p> <p>Internet Safety</p> <p>Digital Vertical File Clip art, photos, graph paper, more</p> <p>Pictures from Communities Around the World Ghana, Japan, Mexico</p>	<p>All services are available for home use. Ask your school media specialist for user name and password.</p> <p>All Schools/All Grades</p> <p>Annals of American History</p> <p>Encyclopædia Britannica Online School Edition</p> <p>Enciclopedia Universal en Español</p> <p>netTrekker (Search Engine)</p> <p>NoodleTools</p> <p>SIRS Discoverer</p> <p>SIRS Knowledge Source</p> <p>TeachingBooks.net (Literature Resource)</p> <p>Webster's New International Dictionary</p> <p>World Book Online</p> <p>World Data Analyst</p> <p>Elementary Schools Computers Only</p> <p>Facts for Learning</p>	<p>Montgomery County Public Libraries Kidsite Teensite</p> <p>Maryland State Government</p> <p>Sailor Sailor Kids Maryland's Online Public Information Network</p> <p>U.S. Government FirstGov for Kids List of government kids' sites by subject.</p> <p>Newspapers</p> <p>Baltimore Sun</p> <p>Gazette Newspapers</p> <p>Sentinel Newspapers</p> <p>Washington Examiner</p> <p>Washington Post</p> <p>Washington Times</p>

Locating E-text, E-books, and Other Website Sources

Go to:

<http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/hiat/websites>



HIAT Home

▶ Most Requested

- > Draft:Builder Teacher Quick Guide (PDF)
- > Written Productivity Profile (PDF)

▶ Training

- > HIAT training
- > Online tutorials
- > Tech quick guides
- > Course participants' surveys

▶ Resources

- > About digital text
- > Classroom strategies
- > Purchasing resources
- > Printable tools
- > Search the HIAT website

▶ Tech Quick Guides

▶ Educational Websites

- > Curriculum
- > E-text
- > E-books

HIAT → Websites

Websites to Support All Students

Educational websites are a critical ingredient of universal design for learning. MCPS is a subscriber to many fee-based educational websites. [See the list of MCPS online subscriptions.](#)

Curriculum	E-Text	E-Books
Websites that support teaching across a variety of subjects. Go to curriculum sites	Sites to find e-text to use with text reader software. Find entire books, poems, folktales. Go to e-text sites	Audio and e-book downloads and online books in a variety of formats. Go to e-books sites
Graphics	Math	Reading and Writing
Find graphics to support building the creation of universally designed teaching materials. Go to graphics sites	Websites with teaching resources and online games and tutorials. Go to math sites	Sites to support teaching of reading and writing with teacher tools and online activities for kids. Go to reading and writing sites
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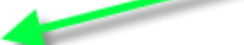
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