



## **Keyboarding Speed**

## Suggestions for building keyboarding familiarity:

- Encourage students to use the left thumb and index finger on the left side of the keyboard (from A to G and from Q to Z), and the right thumb and finger on the right side of the keyboard (from H to P).
- Use the keyboarding log below to track daily progress.
- Over the course of 4 to 6 weeks, use the Typing Timer on the Alphasmart 3000 or NEO in the following ways:
  - Type the full alphabet using the Typing Timer. Do this 3 times and record the highest word-per-minute score on the keyboarding log. Do this as a 5 to 10 minute daily activity. Once the student's score is stable, move to the next activity.
  - Type each letter of the alphabet with a space between each letter (example: a b c d e). (If possible, encourage the student to use the thumb on the spacebar.) Do this 3 times and record the highest word-per-minute score. Again, do this as a 5 to 10 minute daily activity. Once the student's score is stable, move to the next activity.
  - Dictate simple sentences at the student's level of spelling ability. Have the student practice this sentence until the student's word-per-minute score is stable at or above a level commensurate with their rate of handwriting. Then provide a new sentence to practice.

## **Functional written productivity rates:**

Generally, students are functional keyboardists when their keyboarding rate is commensurate with typical handwriting rates.

• Upper elementary grades: 7 to 10 WPM

Secondary levels: 12 to 16 WPM

Keyboarding Speed Log (2-25 words per minute)	
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During the Week of	

		Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Number of words per minute	25	•				
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	22					
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Student Name:	<del></del>	
	Keyboarding Log (5-30 words per minute)	
	During the Week of	
Directions:		

		Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
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	28					
	27					
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Number of words per minute	9					
	8					
	7					
	6					
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