

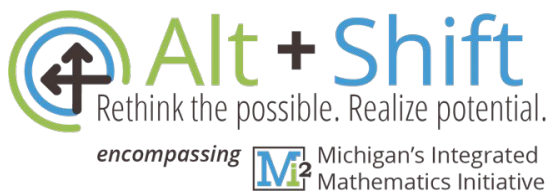


Becoming an Assistive Technology (AT) Detective at Home

Carolyn O'Hearn



Alt+Shift



Alt+Shift, encompassing Michigan's Integrated Mathematics Initiative, is an Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) Grant Funded Initiative through the Michigan Department of Education, Office of Special Education



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www.michiganallianceforfamilies.org
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AT definition

- ANY item
- Purchased off the shelf, purchased and modified, or customized/built/created
- Used to:
 - Improve (built up the skills they have)
 - Maintain (keep the skills they have functional)
 - Increase (add to the number of skills they have)
- Functional skills of individuals with disabilities

Who Could Benefit

- Possibly anybody
- Disability diagnosis can identify some of the barriers an individual may face
- AT looks to minimize or provide alternative solutions to barriers

How to Get Assistive Technology

- Team based approach
- Probably already implementing AT (with or without knowing it)
- Make sure it's documented in the IEP
- FAPE: School provides it
- Can be suggested by ANYONE



**Using Google to Learn
(or Find) More**

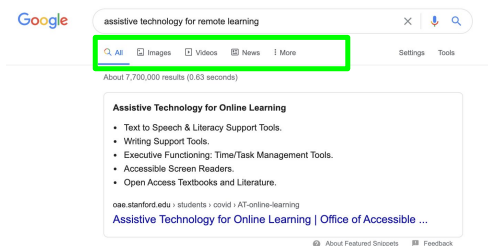
Search Engine (Google) Tricks

- Use the tabs
- Use quotation marks
- Use full words (instead of acronyms)
- Important words only
- Result details matter
- Be weary of “Best” and “Top” lists

Reference: [20 Google Search Tips to Use Google More Efficiently](https://www.lifehack.org/articles/technology/20-tips-use-google-search-efficiently.html)
(<https://www.lifehack.org/articles/technology/20-tips-use-google-search-efficiently.html>)

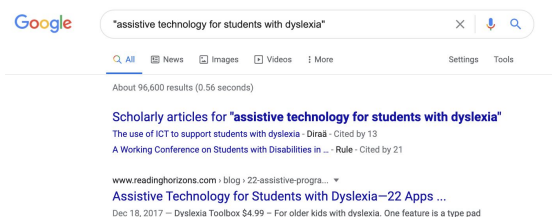
Use the Tabs

- Helps narrow your search
- May find what you’re looking for quicker



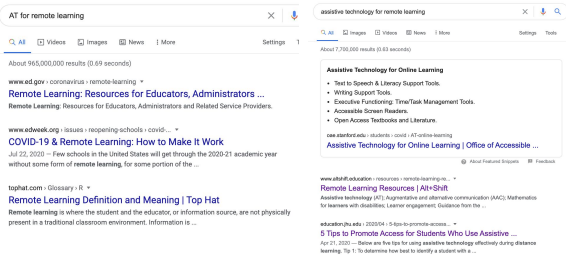
Use Quotation Marks

- When looking for something specific, quotation marks minimize the guesswork by telling the search engine to search for the whole phrase.



Use full words (instead of acronyms)

AT (or at) vs assistive technology



Important Words Only

- Google search takes what you search for and matches it with keywords in online content.
- When you search for too many words, it may limit your results, thus taking you longer to find what you're looking for.
 - **Instead of:** "apps that help my child with autism organize his schoolwork"
 - **Try:** "student apps for organization"
 - **Or:** "organization apps for autistic student"

Doing this can help Google find what you need without all the clutter.

Result Details Matter

- Top result
- Check the source
- Check the date
- Check the bolded text under the title

A screenshot of a Google search page for "assistive technology for remote learning". The search results show a list of links. Several colored arrows point to specific results: a green arrow points to the top result "Assistive Technology for Online Learning"; a blue arrow points to "Remote Learning Resources | Alt+Shift"; a yellow arrow points to "5 Tips to Promote Access for Students Who Use Assistive ..."; a red arrow points to "The Assistive Technologies That Are Helping Students with ..."; and a yellow arrow points to "5 Tips to Promote Access for Students Who Use Assistive ...".

Pros and Cons of Lists

- | Pros | Cons |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A lot of resources in one place! • Someone has done the research for you • Find new ideas in one place • Typically include links to product, service, or more information | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A lot of resources in one place! • Lists may be outdated – Technology is constantly changing • Biases from vendors, paid influencers • May not include how to implement |

Be Weary of “Best” or “Top” Lists

- “10 Best Assistive Technologies for ADHD”
[Top Alternative and Augmentative Communication \(AAC\) Apps for iPad](https://www.lifewire.com/top-alternative-and-augmentative-communication-198828)
 (https://www.lifewire.com/top-alternative-and-augmentative-communication-198828)

What is “best” for the article or for one individual may not be “best” for another individual.

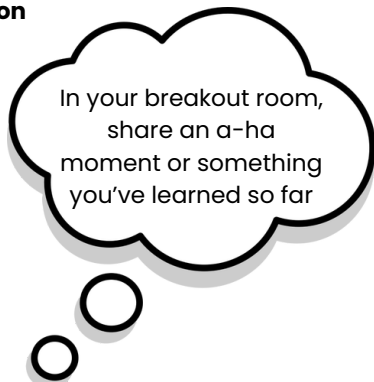
Try it! Google

5 minutes on your own

Remember the tips:

- Use the tabs
- Use quotation marks
- Use full words (instead of acronyms)
- Important words only
- Result details matter
- Be weary of “Best” and “Top” lists

Reflection





**Using YouTube to
Learn (or Find) More**



Video Platform (YouTube) Tricks

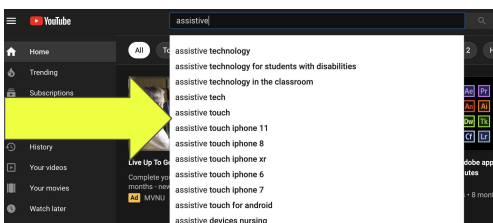
- Use short, specific phrases
- Use suggestions
- Include name of product (if known)
- Result details matter
- Read (and add) comments

Use Short, Specific Phrases

- Remove filler words
 - Does not have to be grammatically correct!
- Similar rationale to Google and using “important words only”
- Example:
 - Assistive technology (diagnosis) (skill or tool)
 - Assistive technology autism organization skills
 - Assistive technology learning disability math
 - Assistive technology dyslexia chrome

Use Suggestions


- Pop-up when you start typing a keyword
- Typically the most frequently searched for phrases with your keyword
- May help narrow your search



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-
- assistive technology for math learning disabilities
- Assistive Technology Solutions for Math**
1.5K views • 4 years ago
CDAccess
For more information, please visit us at: www.gatf.org.
- FREE WEBINAR!**
Assistive Technology for Math Learning Disabilities
Join us for a free webinar on assistive technology for math learning disabilities. This webinar will cover the latest research and best practices for using assistive technology to support math learning disabilities.
- Assistive Technology for Students with Learning Disabilities**
17 views • 2 days ago
Powerful Helping Parents
An array of assistive technology is available to help your child learn. Learn how to work with school teams to create an assistive technology plan.

Read (and Add) Comments



Everyday Deanda 1 year ago
I like the idea of using both timers together to give students a buffer and let them know their time is winding down. Don't you just love when you find great things that you weren't even looking for?


👍 3

👏 0

🔥 0

REPLY

[View reply from Cindy Lumpkin](#)




Woodstock Church Austell 1 year ago
These will be good for me to use as I practice my sermons. Where is the link to amazon?

👍 1

👏 0

🔥 0

REPLY



Chanel Mone 1 year ago (edited)
When you were talking about a kid twiddling his thumbs and saying I need more time you were describing my son right there. You didn't say how much you bought it for just mentioned that you got it on sale for 50% off and how much you seen another one online


👍 1

👏 0

🔥 0

REPLY

[Hide reply](#)



Cindy Lumpkin 1 year ago
Hi! I am sorry about that. I actually purchased at Target for 50%; I paid \$6.48. I saw it on Amazon I think for about \$10/\$12. There is another timer that I like called the Time Timer. I will do a video soon on it.

👍 0

👏 0

🔥 0

REPLY

Try it! YouTube

5 minutes on your own

Remember the tips:

- Use short, specific phrases
- Include name of product (if known)
- Result details matter
 - Who posted the video
 - When the video was posted
 - Views logged
 - Length of video

Reflection #2

Other Online Platforms

- Twitter
- Facebook
- Instagram
- Closing The Gap
 - Free exhibitor hall until November 12
 - [Daily Schedule](https://www.closingthegap.com/daily-exhibition-schedule-4-2/)
(<https://www.closingthegap.com/daily-exhibition-schedule-4-2/>)
 - Register: <https://tinyurl.com/CtGeh2020>

Opportunity! Strengthening Family-School Partnerships Project

Who:

Michigan families/caregivers and educators who are focused on removing common barriers between home and school settings.

What:

1. Brainstorm the biggest challenges in developing, improving, and maintaining partnerships between families/caregivers and educators
2. Identify promising practices to those challenges, and
3. Plan out a tangible resource that can be shared widely to help others overcome challenges in their own settings.

When:

Wednesday, November 11
Wednesday, November 18
Wednesday, December 2
Wednesday, December 9

If interested, register at: <https://tinyurl.com/SFSPP>

Thank You!

Feel free to contact me if you have questions, comments, or additional concerns:

Carolyn O'Hearn
carolyn.ohearn@altshift.education

Also, you can contact your MAF Regional Parent Mentor for questions, comments, or concerns
