Free Accessible Software for Children

April 2014

Here are a few examples of websites with free, accessible software which we think you might find useful and enjoy. We often install this software and/or put links to these websites on our clients' computers and, in our experience, it is all good stuff! We don't think you will have any problems by visiting these sites - but obviously we can't take any responsibility for any difficulties you may have.

We do advise that you have good up to date **anti-virus software** installed on your computer. We recommend AVG-Free which you can download here: http://free.avg.com/gb-en/free-antivirus-download. The free version is excellent, has everything you need and is free for personal use - just make sure you keep selecting the "free" option (and uncheck the offer of any other toolbars / add-ins unless you want them!).

You can download this document, find out about our service and discover links to more accessible software from the Pass IT On website: www.passitoncomputers.co.uk.

Zac Browser - www.zacbrowser.com/

Download and install Zac Browser to allow children to access games (a lot of games), activities (based on diverse interests) and videos (that allow a stimulating experience and encourage children to talk). All games, activities and videos are specifically chosen for their positive effect on children with autism.
Contains: Aquarium, Television, Games, Music, Stories, Activities, Zac Apps, Surprise

Priory Woods -
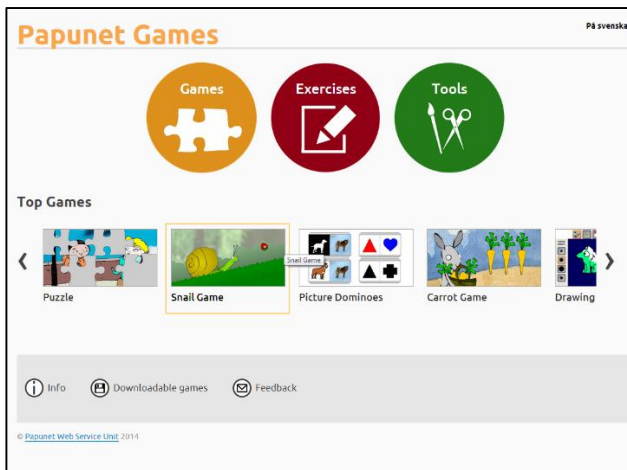www.priorywoods.middlesbrough.sch.uk (Then click on "Resources")

A <u>fantastic</u> site with:
- Cause & Effect/Targeting Activities - (switch activated videos)
- Interactive Talking Story Books
- Useful Educational Programs

Help Kidz Learn www.helpkidzlearn.com

Fun, accessible games, activities & tools designed specifically for young children & those with learning difficulties.
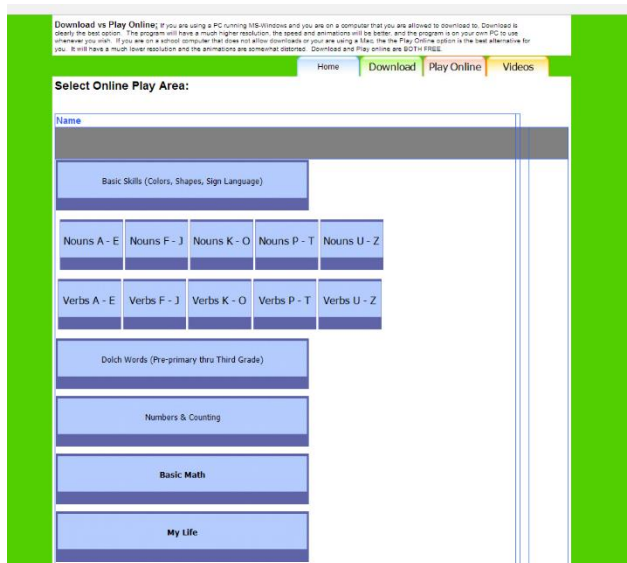
Papunet Games www.papunet.net/games/

Easy-to-use game pages designed for the needs of people who use plain language and AAC methods (pictures, signs and Bliss symbols).

The pages include: games, exercises, tools

Many of the exercises are also suitable for practicing skills that are needed in communicating with pictures, Bliss symbols or manual signs. Most of the content on the pages is operated with the spacebar and enter key, or their corresponding switches.
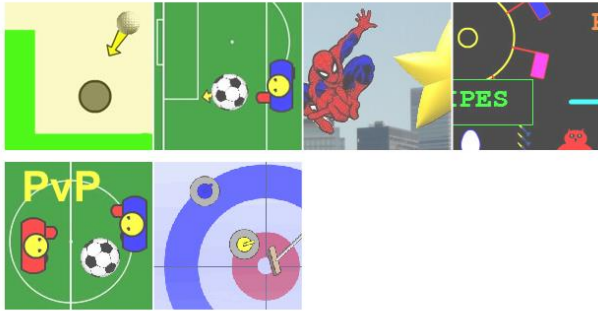
Hiyah.net - www.hiyah.net/online.htm
A website developed by the mum of 2 boys who both showed an interest in the computer, but didn't know how to use the mouse or keyboard. These educational games can be used simply by pressing the spacebar.
The programs are based on high interest subjects, such as nursery rhymes, holidays, and birthday themes. For children with limited language skills, the programs can help give meaning to words and concepts. Holidays, birthdays, going to the doctor, dentist, or getting a haircut, are all broken down into sequential steps to thoroughly explain the event. For children 18 months to 6 years of age (or higher for children with language delays).
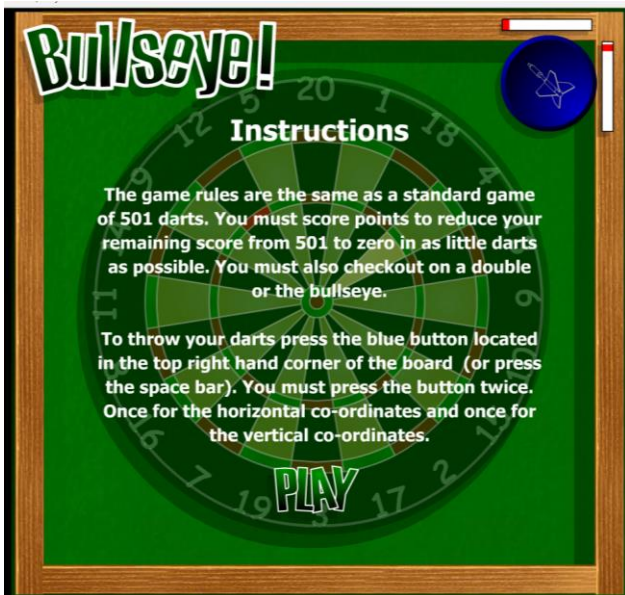
Scott McKay - www.scottmckay.com
6 switch accessible games:
- golf
- football
- SpiderMan
- Carnival
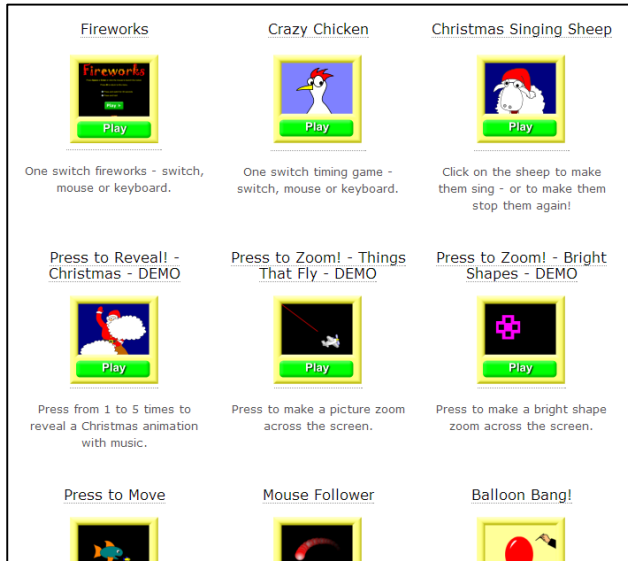- Player v/ Player Football
- Curling

Also a page with access to hundreds of pre-made activities for immediate use with IntelliTools Classroom Suite. This is a forum which you have to join in order to access the downloads

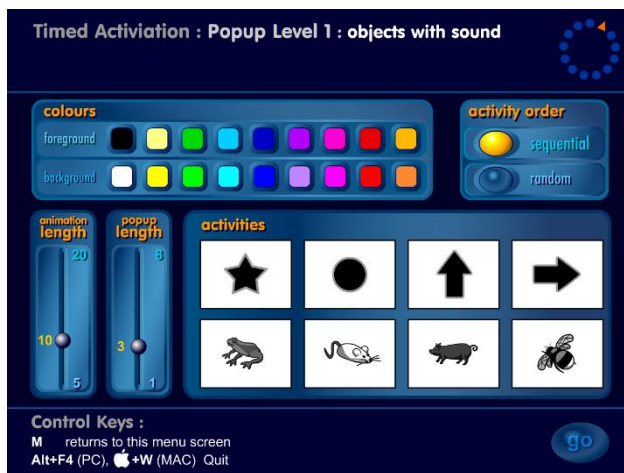**Switch accessible darts -**
www.idiombox.com/oneswitch/Bullseye!.swf

Darts - control with space bar / mouse.

Shiny Games - www.shinylearning.co.uk/freegames/

Free switch accessible games and demos. Play the games online in your browser. All these games and demos can be played with a switch, the mouse, the keyboard or a touch screen/interactive whiteboard unless otherwise stated.
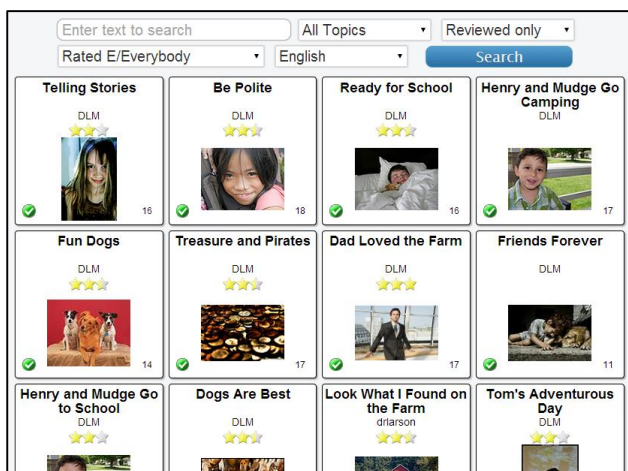

SEN Switcher - www.northerngrid.org/resource/sen-switcher

SENSwitcher is a suite of programs designed to help teach early ICT skills to people with profound and multiple learning difficulties, those who need to develop skills with assistive input devices and very young children new to computers.

SEN Switcher is an online switch enabled application - from purely experiential through cause and effect, switch building, timed activation, targeting and row scanning.

Tar Heel Reader - www.tarheelreader.org

Free, easy-to-read, accessible books on a wide range of topics. Each book can be speech enabled and accessed using multiple interfaces, including touch screens, the IntelliKeys with custom overlays, and 1 to 3 switches.

You may write your own books using pictures from the huge collection at Flickr or pictures you upload.