

Built-in features for reaching all learners

iPad includes built-in apps and accessibility features that support all learners. Here are some examples.

Type to Siri. You can set Siri to allow typing instead of voice. Using the onscreen keyboard, students can get answers to questions, type a text, open apps, and get reminders of upcoming activities.

Dictation. Thanks to the built-in microphone and Dictation, learners are no longer limited by having to write or type their thoughts.

Speak Screen and Speak Selection. Students can have all the content on iPad read back to them or highlight a specific range of text they want to hear. They can follow along as highlighted words, sentences, or words within each sentence are read aloud.

Typing feedback and predictive text. Students can have a word spoken back to them once they've typed it, which confirms they've correctly spelled and written the word. Predictive text helps with spelling by suggesting a list of words they can hear, then choose from.

VoiceOver. VoiceOver is a revolutionary built-in screen reader that's more than a text-to-speech tool. It allows students to interact with objects onscreen, intuitively gauging their location and context through auditory clues. They can also quickly navigate between apps.

Clock, Calendar, and Reminders. These apps help students adopt organization strategies to improve executive function skills. Stopwatch and timer features of the Clock app help students stay focused on a task and transition between activities. With Calendar and Reminders, they can color-code events to manage their schedules, enhance text with symbolic emojis, and track essential tasks through visual and audio notifications.

FaceTime, Camera, and Photos. FaceTime allows students to communicate visually through sign language, gestures, and facial expressions. Using Camera, they can capture images and movies, then save them to Photos to use in their projects.

AssistiveTouch and Switch Control. AssistiveTouch makes the Multi-Touch screen more accessible to those with physical or motor challenges. Built directly into iOS, Switch Control allows students to navigate through onscreen items and perform certain actions using Bluetooth-enabled switch hardware.

Guided Access. Parents, teachers, or therapists can have students focus on one app at a time and limit the amount of time spent in an app using Guided Access. So iPad can be a powerful tool for autistic students or those with attention and sensory challenges.

