

Is Pictello right for your student?

What is Pictello?

Pictello is an iOS application available for iPhone and iPad use. It is an easy way to create talking photo albums, talking books, visual schedules, recipes, social stories and daily/weekly schedules. You can add a picture or short video clip that is up to 30 seconds long. Add up to 5 lines of text at the top and/or the bottom of the page and ability to record sound or text-to-speech using high quality voices.

Best users:

- Students who require adapted books. Eg: Cannot independently turn a page and/or benefits from text-to-speech.

Why would you choose the Pictello application?

- To access levelled books for independent reading, reading comprehension and auditory comprehension.
- Offers a range of access methods (switch, eye gaze, mouse/joystick)

Can you answer yes to the following questions?

1. Do you need access to levelled books for reading and comprehension?
2. Does your student need help in communicating with school/home?
3. Does your student need alternate access to a book?
4. Is your student going to access the book using eye gaze? Are they able to target small targets consistently?

Access methods:

- Direct (touch)
- Cursor (mouse/joystick)
- Simple switch access: Two options- 1 switch can both turn and read the page, 2 - 1 switch can read the page and the other can turn the page

- High tech eye gaze (TD Pilot only). Please note that you cannot enlarge the targets, 0.25 seconds dwell time or longer and on level 3 or higher on the eye gaze continuum (students who have mastered targeting and dwelling).

In Pictello settings you can:

- Set to ignore repeated taps.
- Control screen orientation changes when device is rotated.
- Configure word prediction when working on writing.
- Switch between detailed Wood theme and high contrast Apple theme.
- Restrict access to editing features (open settings app on device, scroll down)
- Share the stories with other Pictello users through a free Pictello Sharing Server account, Dropbox, airdrop or iTunes file sharing. Sharing with non-Pictello users -only in PDF files.

Where to get free books:

- [Monarch Reader](#) (must be used online)
- [ARC-BC](#) (can download and be used offline)

Please note: you do need to convert the books from Monarch Reader - [Monarch Pictello converter](#)

Wired or wireless switch interfaces that work with this application:

- Blue2 Bluetooth switch (configure space and/or enter)
- Pretorian iswitch (space and/or enter)
- AeroSwitch (configure to mode 3-space)
- Pretorian Applicator (space and/or enter)
- Tapio USB/iOS Switch Interface (with USB adapter needed for the iPad)

Please note: Pictello is also accessible by switch scanning for students who use iOS switch control to navigate their device.

Joystick Access:

- Use any mouse or cursor to access Pictello.
- The Pretorian BlueLine Bluetooth Joystick buttons can be configured to swipe right to turn the page (built-in buttons or plug in an external switch).

Other resource:

- [Building Language Using Books](#)

Considerations when trialing the Pictello application:

- Consider the focus. Reading to learn or learning to read?
- What book will be motivating for the student?
- Which access method? Which is the best order to trial these?
- What is the goal of using Pictello?
- How is the team going to collect the data on whether this is working? What data is being collected to know it is successful?