CLB-Referenced and Other Online Resources for Supporting Disabled Language Learners

Sight Loss Integration Teacher Toolkit

This resource, funded by IRCC, was co-developed by the Immigration Services Association of Nova Scotia (ISANS) and AnuVision Coaching & Consulting, in consultation with CNIB Halifax, in 2024. The purpose of this toolkit is to address some of the above issues and to empower teachers to support learners with partial or complete sight loss in the classroom.
The developers have implemented a number of guides and practical tips for teachers to integrate into their lesson plans for both face-to-face and virtual classes. It is hoped is that this toolkit will reduce stress, build confidence, and set teachers and learners up for success to create a rich experience for everyone.

https://isans.ca/wp-content/uploads/2024/05/Integrated-Sight-Loss-ISL-Teacher-Toolkit.pdf

The resource includes chapters on these topics:

- Definitions

- Eye Conditions

- Myths and Facts about Sight Loss

- Recommendations from Administrators

- Practical Tips for Teachers

- Low Tech Devices

- Assistive Technology

- Mobile Applications

- Adapted Literacy Lesson Plan

- Adapted CLB 2 Lesson Plan

- Adapted CLB 6 Lesson Plan

- CCLB CLB 1-2 Multi-Level Module Notes

- FAQs

- Resources

MS Immersive Reader

In Microsoft's own words, "Immersive Reader provides options for a comfortable and easy to process experience by allowing you to listen to the text read aloud or adjust how text appears by modifying spacing, color and more." Can be used in:

- Word (access through View tab)

- OneNote

- Outlook

- Edge

- Teams

- Flipgrid

How to access Immersive Reader in MS Word: On the ribbon, click to open the View tab, then click Immersive Reader in the View menu, and the feature will be activated.

There is also a User guide: *Use Immersive Reader in Word* (includes tabs for Windows, macOS, Web, Office for iOS). The guide is available at this link:

https://support.microsoft.com/en-gb/office/use-immersive-reader-in-word-a857949f-c91e-4c97-977c-a4efcaf9b3c1

Clear Print Accessibility Guidelines

This resource is published by the Canadian National Institute for the Blind (CNIB). CNIB's goal is to create a better Canada – a barrier-free Canada – where every individual, regardless of vision loss, is able to fully participate in the world around them. It means ensuring that the way we communicate with each other is accessible – things like signs, ads, books, websites, brochures, product packages and so many other communication materials we absorb in everyday life. We do that by making the print we produce as clear and readable as possible.

https://cnib.ca/sites/default/files/2018-07/CNIB%20Clear%20Print%20Guide.pdf

The resource addresses the following topics:

- Contrast

- Type Colour

- Point Size

- Leading

- Font family and font style

- Font heaviness

- Letter spacing

- Margins and columns

- Paper finish

- Clean design and simplicity

ZoomText

ZoomText, produced by Ai Squared, is a fully integrated magnification and reading program tailored for low-vision users (primarily for low-vision users). It offers 36x magnification, but text becomes more pixelated and less clear. There is a free download of TextMagnifier/Reader Software at:

https://support.freedomscientific.com/Downloads/ZoomText

OpenDyslexic Font

OpenDyslexic is a specialized font that may help those with dyslexia. Free to use: the newest version of OpenDyslexic now uses the SIL-OFL license (for personal use, business use, education, commercial, books, e-book readers, applications, websites etc.). Available in regular, **bold**, *italic*, ***bold-italic*** and monospaced font styles, this font is designed to mitigate some common reading errors caused by dyslexia. It also includes two typefaces: OpenDyslexic, and OpenDyslexic-Alta. Currently, it is the optional choice on many websites and formats (Wikipedia, Instapaper, Kobo eReader, and Amazon Kindle Paperwhite), A Google Chrome extension is also available. Download OpenDyslexic font at:

https://opendyslexic.org/

ℰℰℰ