

DIY Assistive Technology

Special Learning Center

ASSISTIVE TECH/ADAPTIVE EQUIPMENT WITH EVERYDAY MATERIALS

PENCIL GRIPS: MODEL MAGIC

Model magic is a non-toxic, inexpensive material found at craft stores that can be molded into various shapes and hardens overnight. It can be formed around pencils or utensils to help with grip. Make sure the model magic is only on the part where child grasps the pencil and is not too thick or round to where it changes the way they grasp it.

Photo:<https://pin.it/1NGc2WP>



PENCIL GRIP: BALLOON ENDS

The ends of balloons can be cut off and wrapped around pencils or kitchen utensils to help with grip.

Photo: <https://www.theoottoolbox.com/homemade-pencil-grip-with-balloons-diy/>



PVC PIPE CRAYON ADAPTER

Crayola Pipsqueak markers fit inside ½" PVC! Depending on sizing, PVC pipe can hold markers, crayons, and glue sticks. These items can also be fit into PVC with foam or wire insert in regular crayons or markers

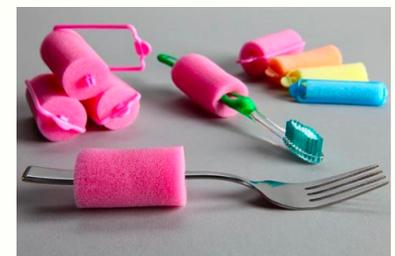
Photo:<http://therapyfun4kids.blogspot.com/2013/11/pvc-pipe-crayon-adaptation.html>



PENCIL/TOOTHBRUSH/SPOON/FORK GRIPS-HAIR CURLERS

Another great way to improve grip on tricky objects to hold. Make sure foam is small enough to where child is still using natural grip similar to above.

Photo:https://gettecla.com/blogs/news/diy-assistive-technologies?utm_source=pinterest&utm_medium=social



CRAYON TIP!

Broken pencils or crayons can be used to encourage a mature grip. Their smaller size encourages a better grasp.

DIY Assistive Technology

Special Learning Center

ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY/ADAPTIVE
EQUIPMENT WITH EVERYDAY MATERIALS



CHEAP TABLET STANDS

PVC pipe can be used for a sturdy, inexpensive stand

Gear ties can also be used and can be found at most hardware stores

Photos:<https://www.makeuseof.com/tag/3-easy-ways-tablet-stand/>



CHEAP TABLET PROTECTOR

Tablets can get very dirty and sticky fast!
A quick and simple solution is to slide it into a 1 or 2.5 gallon freezer bag depending on the tablet case

Clear packing tape can be used to secure the excess plastic

Photo:<https://pin.it/5ExwO7u>



DIY Assistive Technology

Special Learning Center

ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY/ADAPTIVE
EQUIPMENT WITH EVERYDAY MATERIALS

ADAPTED SEATING:T-STOOL

Active seating that is great for kids who tip on their regular classroom chair, typically don't work with their feet on the floor, are frequently tired, or are in need of frequent movement

A T-Stool requires both feet on the floor for balance, which promotes a grounded position for optimal learning

Photo:<https://www.instructables.com/One-Leg-Therapy-Stool-Autism/>



PARALLEL BARS

Create your own parallel bars that can be adjusted to any height with a few simple steps using PVC pipes. Instructions:

<https://coltenrobert.com/do-it-yourself-tutorials-for-special-needs-equipment/do-it-yourself-parallel-bars-for-kids/>



DIY SCOOTER BOARD

Wooden scooter with foam seat:

<http://brighterspecialneeds.blogspot.com/2013/10/diy-scooter-board-for-ot.html?m=1>



DIY Assistive Technology

Special Learning Center

ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY/ADAPTIVE
EQUIPMENT WITH EVERYDAY MATERIALS

WOODEN SCOOTER USING 4 MATERIALS:

<https://afewshortcuts.com/diy-scootboard/>



TRICYCLE FOOT PEDALS

How to adapt foot plates on a bike pedal:

Construct full pedal for tricycle or bike:
<https://coltenrobert.com/do-it-yourself-tutorials-for-special-needs-equipment/do-it-yourself-adaptive-pedals/>



VELCRO LOOP FOR BIKE PEDALS

<https://www.wired.com/2009/08/make-it-velcro-speed-straps-for-fixed-gear-riders/>



DIY Assistive Technology

Special Learning Center

LEARN TO ADAPT TOYS!!!

Sign up for free through Columbia, MO's local organization, Switched Adapted Toys:

Download instructional manuals
(<https://www.switchedtoys.org/toy-manuals>) or
watch how-to videos
(<https://www.switchedtoys.org/how-to-videos>)
to learn how to adapt toys for your child