**Website Ideas for Screen Magnification Practice with Young Students**

**Note:** It is an excellent idea to preview the websites and games so that your student doesn’t get frustrated with games that are too difficult with their vision.

**Why Do I Believe Internet Games Are Great Practice for Screen Magnification?**

1. They keep things fun and engaging for the student.
2. If you pick the right games, your sessions can reinforce what they are learning in the classroom, such as reading or math skills, including academic IEP goals.
3. Games usually give reason to practice key commands as you zoom in and out to get the right size for navigating and playing the game.
4. Games reinforce mouse skills.
5. You can help the child become more comfortable with websites they commonly use in class.
6. Just getting to a website and navigating it reinforces important computer concept s (launching the Internet browser and entering the website address or possibly using search or favorites, and understanding concepts of common website layouts).

* **ABCYa.com**- Fun educational games and other “just for fun” games that reinforce mouse skills for grades Pre-K through 5.
* **BBC Dance Mat Typing (**[**http://www.bbc.co.uk/guides/z3c6tfr**](http://www.bbc.co.uk/guides/z3c6tfr)**) –** This is a great introduction to typing that can be fairly low vision friendly if you zoom it in to the desired size (you may need to also use CTRL + and – so that it doesn’t get too grainy). Depending on the degree of vision loss, the teacher may have to move the mouse along the text.
* **CoolMath.com**- This website has both educational math games and many “just for fun games.”
* **FunBrain.com**- This website has many educational games and online books. Reading the online books can be excellent screen magnification practice.
* **National Geographic (**[**http://kids.nationalgeographic.com/**](http://kids.nationalgeographic.com/)**) –** This is a great source for science and social studies games, articles, and videos. The articles may be good reading activities for students with a higher reading level than some of the other sites mentioned.
* **PBSKids.com, Nick.com, and CartoonNetwork.com**- These TV channel websites are highly motivating and visually complex. It’s great practice to navigate the website with screen magnification on higher and then zoom out when you don’t need as much magnification for the game.
* **Starfall.com**- This website has great games for early reading and math, as well as fun games such as holiday related activities. Because many things on every page are interactive, including in the interactive books, a child can get lots of great mouse skills practice. Because most things on the page are already large, it’s a good place to have the student zoom out some and experience success using the magnification program.
* **TarHeelReader.org**- Find basic online books on nearly any subject or create your own. Preview the books in order to ensure they are written correctly because they are made by students. This is a great site for older students who are still beginning readers to find topics that are more interesting to them. Having the student read the text, explore the pictures, and click the proper buttons with screen magnification works great.
* **And So Much More**- Your school and/or public library may have memberships for other helpful sites. I intentionally left off websites that require paid memberships. Classroom teachers are using new websites all the time. It works great to use ones that the student is using in class.