

Assistive Technology for Mac OS X, iPod, iPhone and Apple Users

<http://atmac.org>

[Round-Up: iPad User Stories](#) - 2010-09-09 00:06:33-04



There have been a plethora of stories in the mainstream news and in blogs about the iPad and the amazing positive effects it's having for people with various disabilities. Children with autism are the subject of many of these stories, but there are plenty of others who are getting amazing results from their iPads too.

I haven't been able to keep up with all the stories, but here's a round-up of some of them. If you know of more, please leave a comment at the bottom of this post:

[Making weird cool](#) - Robert Rummel-Hudson talks about why he thinks the iPad is a game-changer for AAC and why it's important to have devices that don't say "I have a disability!" as soon as you walk into a room with one.

[Zach's A Mac](#) - Zach is a 3 1/2 year old boy with cerebral palsy who's learning to use an iPad.



I use my iPad while wearing fingerless gloves to help prevent accidental touches by the palm of my hand.

[The iPad: a Near-Miracle for My Son With Autism](#) - Shannon Des Roches Rosa writes about her son Leo and how the iPad has helped him.

[iHelp for Autism](#) by the SF Weekly is a long and well balanced story which explains some of the iPads possibilities as well as its limitations, talking to teachers and other experts as well as parents of kids with autism. This article also includes sections about Leo and Des Roches.

[Opinion: Why The iPad Isn't For Me](#) - Paul has quadriplegia and is an ardent iPod Touch user but for him the iPad would be a step backwards in terms of accessibility. In this article he explains why.

Karen Janowski has written [Why I Love the iPad for Education: Initial Observations](#). Karen is an assistive and educational technology consultant who writes excellently and makes many good points.

From the wonderful Katilea, an adult AAC user, we have several great posts about her new iPad:

- [Proloquo2Go and iPad: A Marriage made in Heaven!](#)
- [Physical Accessibility on iPad in General, for People with Fine Motor Difficulties](#)
- [AAC: Mainstream V Dedicated Devices](#)
- [iPad useful for Ataxians?](#)

[N0thingbuteverything](#) has written several articles about the iPad as used by her 5 year old son, 'S', who has cerebral palsy:

- [Proloquo2go and the iPad Review](#) - a detailed review of Proloquo2Go and the iPad
- [Proloquo2go: What I learnt next](#) - More reviewing of Proloquo2Go, as well as a wish list of things she'd like to see in future upgrades.

Kate Ahern from Teaching Learners With Multiple Special Needs has written [iPossibilities for Those with Significant Special Needs and their Teams](#) listing many apps suitable for those at the more severe end of the 'special needs' spectrum.



Trying out an iPad in Russia - this is definitely a world-wide phenomena.

Eric Sailers, a speech language pathologist who writes at [SLP Sharing](#) has also written several iPad articles:

- [How I became the speech guy with an iPad](#)
- [Reasons why I love iPad for speech-language therapy](#)
- [iPad apps I used during extended school year \(ESY\)](#)

Finally one of my favourite bloggers, [Glenda Watson Hyatt](#), who has cerebral palsy also got herself an iPad and has been surprised by its usefulness:

- [The iPad as an Affordable Communicator: Initial Review](#)
- [The iPad as an Affordable Communicator: A Follow-up Review](#)
- [Writing Under the Stars: A Follow-Up iPad Review](#)

In personal news, I have just got my own Mac back after it spent two weeks out of action after the video card, so I had only the iPad and my iPod Touch to keep me occupied. I learned a lot about using the iPad which I'm going to show you in future posts. Unfortunately I also got tendonitis in my hands from using them too much, and I have a hernia repair operation scheduled in a week's time, so I'll be at least partially out of action for a few more weeks and ATMac will be slow. Please be patient with me while I work on healing! Hope you enjoyed the stories above - what other iPad disability-related stories have you seen?

- Ricky Buchanan

Share this

Do you know somebody else who would find this interesting or useful? Please forward it to them.

Did somebody forward this post to you? Visit [ATMac](#) and subscribe to receive the posts for free!

This article was originally published at "[Round-Up: iPad User Stories](#)" and is copyright (C) Ricky Buchanan 2010. Please do not republish without permission.

Related posts:

- [iPad Assistive Technology/Disability Round-Up](#)
- [Accessibility and the iPad: First Impressions](#)
- [iPad/iPhone/iPod Touch AAC Apps Rundown](#)

