Mac OS X Accessibility

Accessibility Features to Support AIM

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Overview

Mac OS X 10.8 accessibility features

1. Invert colors
2. Zoom
3. Onscreen keyboard
4. Large text
5. Text to speech
6. Dictation & speech
7. VoiceOver
Support for AIM

How to use these features to provide instructional materials in the following accessible formats:

1. Large print
2. Digital text
3. DAISY audio
4. Refreshable braille displays
Learning Outcomes

Participants will be able to:

• Identify the accessibility features in OS X
• Match accessibility features to AIM type
• Identify additional resources
Mac OS X

ACCESSIBILITY PREFERENCES
Tools Covered So Far

- Invert colors
- Zoom
- Accessibility Options menu
- Onscreen keyboard
- Increased text size
- VoiceOver

Next,

- Dictation & speech
Dictation & Speech

• Dictation & Speech is available from the System Preferences menu.

• The Dictation feature is new to OS X 10.8. Previously speech recognition was used only for commands.

• Need a high quality USB headset/microphone
  – USB provides a clean, digital signal to the voice recognition engine.
Options for Braille

• Mac OS X computers can be used with refreshable braille displays.
• OS X 10.8 currently supports plug-and-play for over 40 refreshable braille displays.
• With a refreshable braille display a student can interact with text documents, online resources, email, and more.
Recap

• Benefits of using Mac OS X accessibility features with AIM:
  – Tools are readily available
  – Tools can be used in a mobile environment
  – Tools can be used to assess the effectiveness of AT before purchase
  – Provide students with print disabilities access to classroom instructional materials!
Resources

• OS X accessibility feature review: 
  http://www.apple.com/accessibility/osx/

• Refreshable braille display support: 