

LAB Resources

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Parent Savings—Laureate Software

To help parents of children with special needs, Laureate is offering a 50% discount to parents and families (this discount is not available to schools, hospitals, institutions, or other organizations). Parents who would like to purchase Laureate software at this special pricing can do so through LAB Resources. We will also support and help you with your software.

Laureate Software focuses on early language skills. Their programs cover cause and effect, turn-taking

early vocabulary, category concepts and emerging syntax.

Laureate software works with multiple access methods: mouse, keyboard, touch screen or single switch.

Demo CDs are available from LAB Resources.

LAB Resources' preview computer lab is available by appointment. Our lab is offered at no charge and is designed for parents and educators to see software demonstrations, but is not hands-on during preview times.

Parents often find coming to our lab with the therapist/educator who works with their child can help them choose appropriate software for their child.

To schedule an appointment, please call LAB Resources at 262-691-3476.

Please call LAB Resources for a copy of our 2005 Catalog! It is also available online.

LAB Notes

LAB Resources

Scholastic Keys



Would you like to make Microsoft Office accessible to special needs students as well as provide a child-friendly interface for all elementary students?

Scholastic Keys is a software program that adds a simplified toolbar to Word (called MaxWrite), to PowerPoint (called MaxShow) and to Excel (called MaxCount). Each toolbar is visually appealing and easy for students to understand.

The Scholastic Keys toolbar can be turned on or off with the click of a

button. When turned off, Microsoft Office will revert to its standard toolbars.

Scholastic Keys incorporates features that can help individuals with learning disabilities be successful, and does so in a way that all students have access to them. These features include:

- Text-to-speech feedback
- Clip art library with over 800 educational images
- Customized audio

recording tool

- math activities

Powerful management tools to customize features and content for each student.

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MaxPaint



Microsoft Word with Scholastic Keys simplified toolbar

LAB Resources is located in the Old Main Street Center across from Pewaukee Lake.

Spring 2005

Our Website has a new look!

We have updated our website and have a new look!

Please visit us at www.elabresources.com. You'll find our new 2005

catalog, and our past newsletters from 2004. We are also offering our story, Hannah's Discovery, as a free download. Hannah's Discovery has been put

into IntelliPics Studio 3. After you download it, you can open it with IntelliPics Studio 3 or the free player from IntelliTools.

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Dragon Corner

This regular column answers a commonly asked question about Dragon NaturallySpeaking

Question: Why doesn't Dragon NaturallySpeaking work as well with my email program as it does when I dictate into Microsoft Word?

Answer: Dragon NaturallySpeaking has been written to work with standard, well-known software programs, including many of the email programs. With some software applications, however, including some email programs, dictating and editing by voice does not work very well.

Here are some examples:

- When using **Microsoft Outlook**, the Select-and-Say feature (you select a misrecognized word by voice and correct it by voice) may not be work.
- Select-and-Say does not work in **Netscape**.
- You may find that Dragon NaturallySpeaking freezes or exhibits abnormal behavior when dictating into a complex **Lotus Notes** document.

Before we look at how to deal with the above problems, let's review **Select-and-Say**. Select-and-Say is Dragon terminology that refers to using the "Select" command to highlight text you would like to change and then saying other words to replace the selected text. For example, if you wanted to change the text "Dragon NaturallySpeaking" shown above to "speech recognition", you would say **Select Dragon NaturallySpeaking**. After the text is highlighted, you would say **speech recognition**. Select-and-Say is a very useful correction method.

You can get around the problems shown in the above examples by using a special window called the **Dictation Box**. This Dictation Box opens up a new window in which you can dictate and edit text without difficulties. When you close the Dictation Box, your text is automatically transferred into the application in which you are working.

Here are the commands you will need to use the Dictation Box:

1. Say **Show Dictation Box** to open the Dictation Box. Dictate your text.
2. Say **Click OK** to close the Dictation Box and have your text entered into your application.



Scholastic Keys *continued from page 1*

Scholastic Keys meets state and national standards for use of technology tools.

◇ Students will use productivity tools to facilitate learning throughout the curriculum

◇ Students will use technology tools for individual and collaborative writing, communication

and publishing activities.

◇ Students will use technology resources for problem solving and illustration of thoughts, ideas and stories.

Students can create files with Scholastic Keys and open them on their home computers that just have standard Microsoft Office programs

without Scholastic Keys.

If you would like a free demo CD, pricing, or have any questions, please call LAB Resources. You can reach us at 262-691-3476 (local) or 800-691-3476 (toll-free)



The Writer— A Portable Writing Tool

The Writer is an economical, battery-powered portable keyboard that was designed by educators to help students organize their work, expand their vocabulary, develop revision skills and express themselves more accurately. It is simple to use and yet has the tools students need.

Let's look more closely at revision skills. Auto-Rubrics guide the student through the editing and revising process—increasing their independence. The Writer includes 7 different editing and revision checklists. The educator can determine which checklist is most appropriate for an assignment. Checklists include: Basic Good Writing Checklist; Perfect Paragraph; Multi-Paragraph Essay; 6 Traits of Writing; Persuasive Essay; Response to Literature; and Creative Writing Checklist.

The Writer Work Folder Filing System allows each student to have his or her own personal work folder. Within each folder, students can store their writing assignments by name.

The Writer is wireless and uses infrared technology to send text to a PC or Mac computer.

A feature comparison chart is available from LAB Resources.

The Writer is available in single or quantity purchases. For more info or for a feature comparison, please contact LAB Resources.

The Writer Special Ed Pkg offers:

- * Word Prediction
- * Creative Writing Prompts
- * Daily Journal
- * Spell Check
- * Formatted Printouts (organization)
- * Writer Automatic Rubrics (editing)
- * Writer Work Folder Filing System
- * Thesaurus



"Students were able to use the Writers as soon as we unpacked them!"

- Jean Mantzaris, January 2003