Support for children with Down’s Syndrome

Clicker is a valuable aid to learning for pupils with Down's Syndrome. It allows them to use their strengths in visual learning, and gives them the opportunity to practise their skills privately, reducing any fear of failure.

"Clicker has enabled us to provide Benjamin with a tool that is allowing him to start to easily produce meaningful sentences. He can now print out his sentences and use them in other work. We expect Clicker to make all the difference to Benjamin's literacy levels as he will be able to concentrate on constructing sentences with words instead of spending a lot of valuable patience forming the words himself using pen and paper."

*Bernard Ashton, father of Benjamin (aged 13)*

Developing speech and language skills

Clicker's built-in sound recorder supports pupils in developing their speech and language skills. Many Clicker Set activities offer children the chance to practise saying words, individually and in sentences, helping them to improve their clarity of speech. All recordings are saved with the Clicker Set, enabling easy tracking of skills over time.

Learning whole words

Pupils with Down's Syndrome often learn words by sight before they are able to recognise or apply the rules of letter sounds, phonemes and graphemes. Using words with pictures in a Clicker Set offers further visual support to recognise the word being used, and can be used for language across the curriculum, e.g. language for numbers. Use the Matching Sets to create activities that further encourages children to look carefully at words and realise how they look the same or different when compared with other words.
Understanding grammar and sentence structure

Clicker’s forced order grids enable pupils to learn correct sentence structure through practising word order rules, and encourage the use of complete sentences to compose grammatically correct work. Providing a model sentence on screen gives children the opportunity to read it and listen to it read aloud with the speech engine, enabling them to plan and rehearse making sentences before they are written.

Visual learning

It’s often the case that pupils with Down’s Syndrome have strengths with learning from visual information. It’s simple to create on-screen books for children to use in class, and pupils can easily make their own with the program’s child-friendly Clicker Books Sets. And with webcam support built-in to Clicker, it couldn’t be easier to instantly add any image to a document or book!

Mind mapping is a really useful way for pupils to plan their work – they can use the Clicker Board tool to manipulate and link any combination of words, pictures and sounds. This helps children to make sense of their ideas and understand the links between them more clearly.

To find out more about using Clicker to support pupils with Down’s Syndrome, get in touch and speak to our team. Call 01604 671691 or email info@cricksoft.com.