

Introduction to the Connect 12

Introduction to the Connect 12 Assistive Technology Device referring to set up and features of it's Prodigy Software

Note: This guided introduction to the Connect 12 along with the videos attached are designed specifically to support teachers, parents and SNA's involved with July Provision. They are prepared in the knowledge that such persons may not previously have encountered this technology or introduced students to this piece of Assistive Technology

Introduction:

This guided introduction to the Connect 12 Assistive Technology Device will cover the following topics:

- Introduction to the Connect 12
- The Connect 12 Learning Book
- Using the magnifier in live mode
- Taking a picture of a document
- Annotating on the screen
- Using the magnifier in multi capture mode
- Reading a page
- Viewing the settings menu

Introduction to the Connect 12

This section introduces the Connect 12: an Assistive Technology Device that provides near and distance magnification. The three main elements of the Connect 12 bundle are shown:

- The 12 inch tablet
- The docking station
- The distance camera

A demonstration is given of how the tablet can be mounted and easily removed from the docking station while advice is given that the tablet should be mostly left in the docking station for optimum posture, ease of access and for safety. The viewer is shown where the on/off and volume buttons are located on the tablet. A tour is given of the prodigy software with a hand gesture shortcut being used (placing five fingers on the screen) to transport the viewer from the prodigy software to the android side of the tablet. Lastly viewers are led through the process of charging both the 12 inch tablet and the distance camera.

Please click on the link below to access accompanying video:

<https://www.screencast.com/t/DlkftCq357rY>

The Connect 12 Learning Book

The viewer's attention is drawn to three specific sections in the Learning Book:

- Learning Outcomes: These provide a systemised approach for both student and teacher in becoming familiar with the Connect 12. The viewer is reminded of the benefit to the user in approaching learning about the Connect 12 in this systemised way- it promotes confidence and independence in the learner through encouraging step by step mastery of the various features of the applications.
- The Quick Gesture Summary provides the user with a number of shortcuts to using the various features of the prodigy applications.
- Quick tips for Teachers: Again, this references the gesture shortcuts previously mentioned. This time however, a feature is mentioned in a statement and the viewer is encouraged to recall the gesture that provides the shortcut to this feature.

Please click on the link below to access accompanying video:

<https://www.screencast.com/t/HF2IWlyL3>

Using the magnifier in live mode

Live mode is explained as the default viewing option for the magnifier. It allows for a document to be placed underneath the tablet and read. The viewer is introduced to the button banner that is displayed with the magnifier in live mode. This button banner includes:

- A back button
- A settings button
- A bulb button that turns a light underneath the tablet on and off.
- A camera button that allows for pictures to be taken
- Minus and Plus buttons that can minimise and magnify the document/page being read

The Connect 12 Learner Book is placed under the tablet and the viewer is introduced to the quick two tap gesture that disables the autofocus. This allows the Connect 12 Learner Book to move underneath the tablet without the page going in and out of focus as it moves. The option to write on a document underneath the tablet while it is being viewed on the screen is shown. Simple worksheets requiring boxes to be ticked can be filled out in this manner. However, it is explained that this can be quite a complex task for a young learner who may find it easier to annotate or write on the screen instead. This latter skill is demonstrated in a forthcoming video.

Please click on the link below to access accompanying video:

<https://www.screencast.com/t/la7vvsCJ3>

Taking a picture of a document

The viewer is shown how to take a single picture of a document using the magnifier in live mode with the tablet raised so the full page can be seen. The picture is captured and then saved. The user pinches the document to zoom and shows how the text is wrapped displaying the text as 'Diamond Edged Text'. This text is very easy to read. It also allows for the text to be read by the device. The fact that the document cannot be read without the diamond edged text being displayed is shown. The user explains how it is the OCR or Optical Character Recognition that creates the diamond edged text. However, this can only happen when the OCR is enabled. The user is taken into the magnifier settings menu to check that the OCR is in fact enabled. This can be disabled by simply clicking on it but one needs to remember to go back into the settings to enable it again. The user is then taken into the gallery and shown how to find the picture of the page that has been saved.

Please click on the link below to access accompanying video:

<https://www.screencast.com/t/DwP9MBSL2>

Using the magnifier in multi capture mode

Here the viewer is shown how to take multiple captures of pages of a book using the magnifier in multicapture mode. The viewer is shown how to go between 'live' and 'multicapture' mode in the Magnifier settings app. In Multicapture mode, the pictures taken of a book/document are automatically saved in a folder in the Gallery App. The difference in the appearance of the button banner between 'live' mode and 'multicapture' mode is highlighted i.e. the absence of the + and – buttons on the button banner when the magnifier is in multi capture mode is shown.

Please click on the link below to access accompanying video:

<https://www.screencast.com/t/9Fr08g31clG>

Annotating on the screen

Here the viewer is taken through the steps of drawing and writing on a document. A task from the Connect 12 Learning book is used for this purpose. The captured page is opened in the gallery app and the viewer is shown how to use a swipe on the right side of the screen to change the view of the page from diamond edge to negative/positive or colour. Attention is then drawn to the button banner and to the drawing tool. When the drawing button/tool is pressed another button banner is shown which includes a writing tool, a rubber, a colour palette button and a line thickness button. The viewer is brought through the options of each button in the drawing tool banner.

Please click on the link below to access accompanying video:

<https://www.screencast.com/t/MAmxhQAC>

Reading a page

The viewer is taken through the steps of reading a document that had previously been captured and saved using the Magnifier app in live mode. The viewer is taken to the gallery and shown how to rename a document. Both the short tap on a document to open it, and the longer prolonged tap to rename the document are shown. The document is pinched to zoom and the wrapped diamond edged text revealed. Next, the viewer is taken into the Gallery settings to look at the various reading modes available: page, column or line. The viewer is shown how reading in column mode brings up the enlarged text which moves like an autocue. The viewer is shown how the reading can be started and stopped by a deliberate press on the screen. The viewer is also shown how to turn the speech on and off by doing a double tap on the screen. Alternatively, the settings menu can be used to turn the speech on and off. Reading the document in page mode is also demonstrated. The viewer is again reminded of the importance of teaching a student one shortcut at a time.

Please click on the link below to access accompanying video:

<https://www.screencast.com/t/UpXyHGEpkdy>

Viewing the settings menu

In the accompanying video the viewer is taken through the Settings App on the main carousel. Firstly, attention is drawn to the indication of battery life in the Connect 12 tablet. The viewer is taken into the 'user interface' tab and shown the variety of colour combinations available for the user interface. A recommendation is given that students be allowed experiment with the various colour combinations to see which most immediately appeals to them. The next tab that is explored is the 'audio' tab which allows speech to be turned 'on' or 'off'. Lastly the viewer is brought into the 'system' tab where wifi and Bluetooth set up is shown. Also under the 'system' tab is the 'software update' option. The viewer is encouraged to update the software at least once weekly to ensure that the Connect 12 is functioning at it's optimum level.

Please click on the link below to access accompanying video:

<https://www.screencast.com/t/3vK0EsGaew>