Clicker.

Clicker 6 is published by Crick Software. £150 (ex V.A.T.), home user £89 (including V.A.T.) and supplied by B.D.A. store. Ages 4 to 11 Years.

Clicker is a word processor with text to speech facilities, with synchronised highlighting, for typing, in Sassoon font, with optional Word Prediction, and for using Clicker Grids to enter words and pictures.

Onscreen wordbanks and grids usually have their own speech facility enabling users to hear the words. They can offer multiple lists of words or phrases on screen, for use with any word processor.

Users click on the word or phrase and it is typed automatically into the word processor. Pictures and recorded speech can be added to some wordbanks such as Clicker.

As well as simple documents, children can create multimedia talking books using pictures, sounds and even video. Clicker offers great features including almost human UK English speech and a pop up grid, direct access to Learning Grids as well as a Picture Library.

Clicker is very easy to use and allows users to create multimedia documents with the help of Word banks and easy image creation whilst staying on the page where the student is writing. Flexi prediction is now an integral tool. It is easy to create wordbanks and activities using the wizards, e.g. just copy and paste sentences, and the wizard creates automatic sentence building or word matching etc.

Clicker provides differentiated levels of support. Primary school pupils, those learning English or with limited literacy skills can use the picture library or Widgit symbols to link words, spellings and meanings.

Clicker Paint is integrated into Clicker 6, and can be added to Clicker 5.

Clicker Tales

Clicker Tales are Interactive traditional stories for children. There are also Oxford Reading Tree for Clicker stories.

Clicker Phonics

A set of 6 CDs to use with Clicker that progress from early phonological awareness to simple blending skills. Designed for younger children but many activities, especially in the more challenging CDs, are suitable for older users up to 10 years.
Clicker MFL

Clicker has two sets of applications for teaching French and Spanish. They are intended for use in a primary classroom with a whiteboard, for class use by a non-specialist linguist, as there are so few of them in primary schools. They are really well structured, with images appropriate for any age and the really useful part is the native speaker exemplars, with the opportunity for speaking into the computer and repeating phrases until they sound correct.

They also include good text to speech voices in the relevant language.

They would be useful for silver surfers who want to learn or brush up on their French/Spanish, to keep up with their grandchildren or to use on holiday. Older users could use the application with headphones so they can work at their own pace and level.

There would be a lot of mileage for dyslexic pupils to use it in this way, either with another pupil or T.A., or at home, to build up their skills and confidence.

A single user licence for each language CD is £100 and £50 for the story CD. The applications need Clicker to run them.

Training and resources

Crick Software runs ‘Clicker In Your Classroom’ free, half-day training sessions hosted in association with Local Education Authorities, Independent Consultants and host schools. It also runs ‘Breakfast Clicker’ seminars.

Crick web has online 90 second videos and downloadable guides.

Clicker users have access to Learning Grids of words and the Picture Library.

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