CO:WRITER GUIDE FOR PARENTS

Writing Accommodations

You want to help your child learn more independently, but they still need support. The good news is that technology can help bridge the gap—through accommodations

What is it?

Co:**Writer**®

Your child's **Writing** Support Tool

You might speak to your phone or look at word suggestions as you text. Co:Writer uses grammar- and vocabulary-smart word prediction, translation support, and speech recognition to help unstick ideas and get them to flow in writing. It will help your child write words, sentences and paragraphs. We say..."If you can think it, Co:Writer can help you write it."

Why is it important?

Students who use Co:Writer need help writing "big words" (hard-to-spell words) or have writing challenges, stemming from learning English as a new language, dysgraphia, autism, or cognitive disabilities. Co:Writer helps support spelling and grammar challenges, slow writing speeds, language barriers, and mechanical difficulties students may experience getting words onto the page.

When will it be used?

Google Classroom or Learning Management System: Answer questions/add comments

Worksheets: Help with written annotations

Quizzes: Complete short answer responses

Google Docs: Writing assignments

Getting Started

- **Co:Writer Parent Guide (bit.ly/COWParentGuide)**

  If your child has a license through your school district, there's a very good chance the login is tied to their school email address, but some schools setup a dedicated username and password. Ask your child how they log in.

- **Product, Onboarding, and Implementation Resources (bit.ly/DJIProductResources)**
- **Install Guide**
- **Advice and Answers from the Don Johnston Incorporated Team (help.donjohnston.net)**

Install Guide for Chrome Extension (bit.ly/DJICoWriterChrome)

Install Guide for Chrome App (bit.ly/CoWriterChromeApp)

Install Guide for iOS (bit.ly/CoWriteriOSInstall)

My child needs to start NOW.

Watch the 5 minute video (donjohnston.com/cowriter) to get an overview!

- **Learning Academy**

  Go through the **Student Learning Academy (donjohnston.com/learning-academy)** with your child. There are three - 10 minute segments of video and resources that will walk your child through how to use Co:Writer. The Learning Academy is designed to be self-directed.

What can I expect as my child uses the tool to complete school work?

For many students, reading and writing is extremely difficult. Co:Writer helps bridge the challenges with writing. Like many tools, it may take some time to get get accustomed to.

Teachers and assistants will likely assist by:

- Encouraging your child to use their tools
- Breaking the task down to smaller pieces. Celebrate success on the smaller pieces

Parents can assist by:

- Talking about when learning was hard for you (How did you or didn't you use different tools and strategies in school? What technology helped you or how did you learn new things?)

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