# Chromebook Apps/Websites Accessible for Blind or Low Vision Students with Switch Interfaces

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## Switch Interfaces

Bluetooth switch interfaces will work on a Chromebook. It is useful to research the key content that the switch can send before purchasing it, I would suggest purchasing a switch interface that can send as many keystroke options as possible and that has as many ports as possible. Generally, the more complicated a switch interface is the more keystrokes options it is capable of sending.

Some USB switch interfaces work on Chromebooks. If the switch interface does not require any drivers to be installed it will probably work. The Don Johnston Switch Interface Pro was a unit that we used frequently, but it has been discontinued. The unit that seems to have replaced it is the ATEC Computer Switch Interface: <http://www.marblesoft.com/cart/index.php?route=product/product&product_id=148>

When looking at any switch interface for the Chromebook it is important to know the content that the switch interface is capable of sending. In some cases, just a picture of the device will tell the user the key content it is able to send, for example the ATEC Computer Switch Interface.

The Blue2 switch from AbleNet is frequently used. This interface has two ports, settings 4-6 can be configured. <https://www.ablenetinc.com/blue2-bluetooth-switch>

Other switch interfaces to consider are the Simple Switch from Pretorian, this device can send either a spacebar and enter or a left or right click. <https://www.inclusivetlc.com/simple-switch-box>

Another switch interface to consider is the Pretorian USB Switch, this unit can support up to 3 switches and each switch can be individually configured. <https://www.inclusivetlc.com/pretorian-usb-switch>

The APPlicator Bluetooth switch should also be considered, this unit can support up to 4 switches and each switch can be individually configured. <https://www.inclusivetlc.com/applicator>

Switch access is available on the Chromebook. Three switches can be assigned. Always necessary to note the key content when assigning switches. This could be very useful for an AAC app such as Cough Drop.

## CVI Apps

Sensory App House: [www.sensoryapphouse.com](http://www.sensoryapphouse.com/)

Cinefx, Cinevox, Coloco, Electra, FotoFrez, Fun Painting, Imeba, Just Touch, Magma, Mandala Paint, Mica, Painting, Plazma, Speak Up, Speak Up Too, Splodge, Flames for TVOS, Lava for TVOS, Mandala for TVOS

## Preschool Apps

### SoundTouch 1 and SoundTouch 2

These apps would work very well with a touchscreen. These Android app can be resized but still do not take up the full screen. These apps do not currently voice with ChromeVox.

### Rad Sounds

Cause/effect music program for special needs learners from R. J. Cooper. This Android app works very well and when resized takes up the whole screen. The playlist can be customized; music is included, music can also be recorded or the Music Library on the device can be accessed. <http://www.rjcooper.com/radsounds/>

## Tar Heel Reader and Tar Heel Gameplay

Tar Heel Reader is a collection of free, easy to read, and accessible books.
Tar Heel Gamplay is a collection of free, easy to read, and accessible books.
It can take some time researching Tar Heel Reader to locate books where the visual content of the book is not essential. <https://tarheelreader.org/> <https://tarheelgameplay.org/>
Enter the search string “National Geographic” when you are in Tar Heel Gameplay.

## Tactualizing the Chromebook

An excellent way to access apps such as Bus HD from Duck Duck Moose with totally blind students is to place tactual items on the Chromebook screen. We are using the Feel and Peel Stickers from the American Printing House for the Blind to tactualize the Chromebook, Catalog Number 1-08843-00. The locations of the items to tactualize on the Chromebook screen frequently change with different apps, so one way tactualize the Chromebook is to have multiple *easily interchangeable* overlays available.

## AAC App

Cough Drop is online AAC. Cough Drop supports many scanning options, including button scanning and auditory scanning.
<https://www.mycoughdrop.com/>