

# Nicole Torcolini's Technology

- I am blind and slightly hearing impaired.
- I use:
  - High tech technology
  - “Gadgets”
  - Low tech technology

# High Tech Technology

- A computer with a screen reader
- An electronic Braille notetaker
- An accessible graph describer

# The Screen Reader

Hello,

My name is JAWS, which stands for Job Access with Speech. My icon is a shark. I can read what is on the screen. I cost a lot of money: more than \$1,000. Notice that I said "1,000 dollars" and not "dollar 1,000"?



# Electronic Braille Notetaker

- Electronic Braille notetaker called BrailleNote Apex
- Smaller and lighter than a computer
- Has speech output and Braille display
- Has most computer capabilities



# Accessible Graph Describer

- MathTrax
  - Describes graph
  - Plays sound
- Your input equation is  $y = x^3$ . This is the graph of a cubic polynomial . The curve rises from the far lower left to an inflection point at the point  $(0, 0)$  and rises to the far upper right.



# "Gadgets"

- Talking clock
- Easy Say Stop
  - Prongs that you put on the edge of a glass and it plays music when the liquid contacts the prongs



# Low Tech

- KISS: "Keep It Simple Stupid"
- It doesn't have to be high tech to be effective
- Use Post-It notes as signature guide
  - Resizable
  - Stays put
- Braille dymo tape labeler
  - Already cut
  - Much less cumbersome than big Braille machine



# Where can I Learn More?

- JAWS: [www.freedomscientific.com](http://www.freedomscientific.com)
- BrailleNote Apex: [www.humanware.com](http://www.humanware.com)
- MathTrax: <http://prime.jsc.nasa.gov/MathTrax/>
- Talking products: Search on Google



- I am sorry that I could not be here today. Please let me and/or Dave know if you would like to see this technology and more up close.
- Nicole, JAWS the talking shark, and Lexia the guide dog who is not technology