Personal Books

Promoting communication, literacy, socialization, & leisure
Why Reading?
Reading is a LifeLong Skill

**Learning**: reading is a fundamental skills for developing academics

**Leisure**: teaching and fostering independent leisure activities

**Social**: shared book reading encourages socialization, sharing, turn-taking, etc.

**Functional**: reading signs

**Communication**: improving spoken, receptive, memory, and phonemic skills
Why Personal Books?
Encourage Buy In and Motivation

Relatable Material

They themselves!

Frequently visited places: home, school, community

Topics they know about

Enticing Material

Favorite things: characters, people, food, places, etc.

Accomplishments: art projects, bike ride, performance, etc.
Increase Communication Skills

Modeling

Sentence and phrase structures
Vocabulary

Language Scaffolding

Provides context
Visual supports

Conversing

Discuss the book contents
Build On Strengths

Visual Learning

Frequently a strength

Reading = visual language

Social Interactions

Frequently a personality trait

Talk about books

Accommodations and Modifications

Accommodate reading level

Create books with curricular content

Encourage participation

Facilitate peer interaction
Making Personal Books
So many options- Here are our favorites

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Software

Boardmaker
Pictello

Create, playback, and share visual stories and talking books

http://www.assistiveware.com/pictello-video-all-their-stories

Features:

- Text-highlighting
- Word Prediction
- Insert personal photos and videos
- Print & share digitally

$19.99 at AppStore (iOS)
Book Creator

Create artistic, personal, books with photos, comics, videos, etc.

Sticker and comic library
Include more than one picture or video on a page
Printing and digital sharing
For use with Apple, Android, and Windows based devices
Free with in-app purchases

https://vimeo.com/28808238
Boardmaker

Extensive symbol libraries that can be customized and used to

Numerous product lines to fit various needs: print/digital boards, activities

Speaking capabilities

Used for adapting curriculum with symbols
Splish Splash with the Roos

Katie steps in the water.

Naya gets wet.

We love Splish Splash!
All About Casey

My family.

I swing.

I eat crackers.
Talking Photo Album

Light-tech Pictello

Speech output album that holds standard photos. Includes a total of 24 pages, each with an individual message/recording capacity of 10 seconds. User presses play button to activate speech.
Old Fashioned Arts and Crafts

Chalkboard Books
I Spy Books
Recycled Board Books
Picture Books

http://www.apartmenttherapy.com/5-books-to-diy-for-your-kids-179423
Implementing Personal Books
Creating Opportunities

School Based

About Me

Curricular modifications

Alternative assignment

Home Based

Create books

Summer reading

Night time reading

“One of the most important ways in which parents of children and teenagers with Down syndrome can help them to be ready to read and be interested in books, is to read to them and talk to them about the stories they have read.” (Trenholm, B. & Mirenda, P., 2006)
Resources
Special reads for special needs

Natalie Hale
www.specialreads.com

Natalie is a renowned reading specialist for individuals with DS.

Find specific recommendations for font, images, etc.
Tutorials

Boardmaker:
http://www.mayer-johnson.com/support/learn/tutorials/

Pictello:
http://www.assistiveware.com/product/pictello/resources

Book Creator:
http://www.redjumper.net/blog/2016/05/free-book-creator-training-teachers/

Talking Photo Album:


Social development for individuals with Down syndrome - An overview