

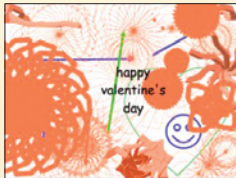
Classroom Connections Meeting Diverse Learning Needs

Integrating technology into the language arts curriculum should be a simple process, but for many special education classes this continues to be a challenge. Pixie has allowed our teachers to differentiate within the classroom and the curriculum with very little effort.

Our special education classrooms are made up of many different students with very diverse learning styles and needs.

Our project was simple. The children were creating holiday cards for their families. Some were authoring their own poems, some were creating a classroom letter, and some were just drawing pictures. With the addition

of Pixie, students were able to better express themselves. They decorated a title page, and then we imported or allowed them to author directly into Pixie. The most exciting piece was recording their own voices reading their own words, the class note, or simply sharing their own message.



Students incorporated cultural differences and family dynamics in their projects. One student created a

"Feliz Navidad" card and spoke in Spanish and chose Spanish music to accompany their card. Another student created a card to their "Moms and Dads" due to the family's shared custody arrangement. Students

who could not write their own message or read created impromptu voice recordings.

All of these projects were turned into movies and posted to our website in a protected area for the families to visit. The feedback was immediate. Both

parents and teachers love the project. The children enjoyed hearing their own voices and creating the multimedia holiday cards. We created cards for the winter holidays and Valentine's Day.



—Anne Truger, Lake County, IL

