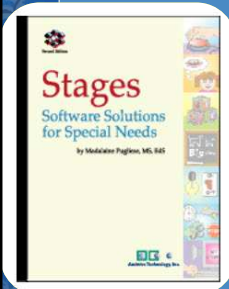


Stages

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EDSE 649
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"Alternate assessment is not an event, it is a journey!"
Madalaine Pugliese

Stages



Assessment

- Skills Needed for Assistive Technology
- Thorough
- Systematic
- Provides
 - Direction
 - Suggestions
 - Data

■ Organization of the program

- About this stage
- About the software
- Relevant issues
- Extension activities
- About the learner

■ About the learner

- Characteristics
- Competency goals
- Sample IEP objectives

■ Software to consider

■ Important Features

- Learner control
- Adult control
- Feedback
- Access



Stages

1 Cause and Effect → 2 Language Readiness → 3 Emerging Language → 4 Early Concepts → 5 Advanced Concepts → 6 Functional Learning → 7 Written Expression


Language Foundation Academic Discovery

Choose a Stage to explore.


Stages Software Solutions

Stages


- The book
 - Program- comprehensive details
- The software
 - Notes in bulleted format
 - Activities for students
 - Reports with comprehensive data



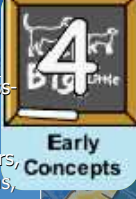
- About this stage- Behavior of the learner is the focus
- About the software- learner takes control, motivation, stimulation, content not important, prompts, skills are press & press-release
- Relevant issues- Independence emerging, features must be adaptable, cues, keyboard alternatives, scan, switch interface, position
- Extension activities- toys adapted, appliances, radios, etc.
- About the learner- Actions become purposeful, environment control is realized




- About this stage- receptive language
- About the software- content rich, age appropriate, objects named, representations varied, repetition, collection of data
- Relevant issues- vocabulary growth, guidance from adults, self confidence, skill development
- Extension activities- generalization from picture & symbol to objects, objects found in new places, imitation of skills, labels
- About the learner- exploration of early language skills, pre-linguistic skills, vocabulary, body language




- About this stage- language emerges
- About the software- content focused, settings adjustable, objects targeted, representations varied, environment encouraging
- Relevant issues- Progress documentation, access, generalization of vocabulary, self-esteem
- Extension activities- imitation, songs, finger plays, object manipulation, independence
- About the learner- divergent to convergent, language practice, demonstration of understanding, object identification & discrimination, categorization



- About this stage- academic & social readiness
- About the software- readiness skill practice, support, encouragement & engagement, colors, shapes, numbers, letters, recognition, patterns, rhyming, but not reading or calculating
- Relevant issue- Exploration, development of social and academic skills, reinforcement of learning, exploration
- Extension activities- songs and games reinforcing academic skills, literature, audio books
- About the learner- learner identification emerging, strategies that are both divergent and convergent



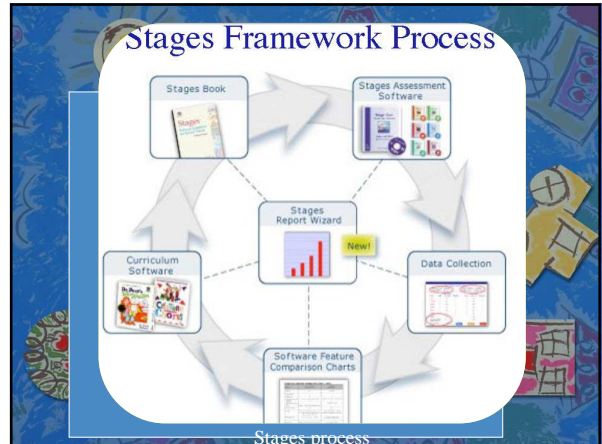
- About this stage- this stage spans K-12
- About the software- access, choices and reinforcement provided, vocabulary expansion
- Relevant issues- accessibility is critical, age-appropriate, confidence building, content rich
- Extension activities- flashcards, calculators that talk, spell-checks that talk, dictionaries, journals
- About the learner- self-confidence, communication and academic skill integration, strategy development for learning, planning and organization



- About this stage- Skills for living
- About the software- Activities that are age-appropriate, levels for different skills, skill development
- Relevant issues- Software can't be found? Make your own activities- authoring software- Speaking Dynamically Pro, Classroom Suite, etc.
- Extension activities- Manipulatives, skill generalization & application, opportunities to use real items, activities that are authentic
- About the learner- preparation for Independent living in the community

7 MY STORY
Written Expression

- About this stage- writing skill mastery
- About the software- auditory feedback, multi-sensory learning, choices for preference and accessibility/word prediction, pronunciation
- Relevant issues- Independence increased with editing & revising, feature control, privacy- headphones
- Extension activities- Opportunities for reading & writing, sentence building using words, picture to text pairs
- About the learner- Exploration of written communication, thought composition, story retelling, computer used as writing tool to edit and revise



Observation forms for each stage

Observation forms

Reports with Data

Stages report 2

Details included

Stages report

Software comparisons

Stages software

<http://stages.cambiumlearning.com:591/chartsonline.htm>

Curriculum Software Charts Online Search
Software search Stages

Welcome to the Stages Curriculum Software Search

The Stages Curriculum Software Chart Search is a searchable version of the software Features Comparison Charts found in the Stages Assessment Framework.

Learn more about Stages by visiting the [Stages website](#).

Choose a Stage



Each software program in the database is listed under one or several Stages. To use this database, first select the Stage you wish to search, then complete the search form for that Stage. The results will display as a list of software titles. Then click on the 'Detail' link to view the entry for a listed title.



Stages Assessment Software

Stages is a seven-level developmental framework that describes a learner's cognitive and language abilities. Stages helps schools comply with alternate assessment mandates by providing an accessible way to assess learners with special needs. Stages also serves as a selection guide for curriculum activities (including both software and off-computer activities). The sequence of seven Stages is based on the work of Madalaine Pugliese, a nationally recognized authority in the fields of assistive and instructional technologies.

The Stages framework gives parents, educators and clinicians a common language for reviewing learner progress. The seven Stages are developmental in nature and are not age or grade specific. The appropriate stage for a learner is the one where he or she is challenged, but not overwhelmed or frustrated.



Stage One—Cause and Effect

The learner begins to focus on the target or object on the computer screen.



Stage Two—Language Readiness

The learner explores early language through interactions on the computer.



Stage Three—Emerging Language

The learner gains an understanding of language with an increase in the range of language interactions.



Stage Three—Emerging Language

The learner gains an understanding of language with an increase in the range of language interactions.



Stage Four—Early Concepts

The learner focuses on traditional academic and social readiness skills such as letter and number recognition, counting, creating patterns, and so on.



Stage Five—Advanced Concepts and Communication

The learner focuses on understanding and using language, and academic concepts.



Stage Six—Functional Learning

The learner practices life skills in readiness for the real event.



Stage Seven—Written Expression

The learner explores and then masters written language.

The Stages framework differs from other developmental sequences, and is more practical, because:

- It is written specifically for learners who we already know are developmentally delayed.
- It is deliberately not referenced chronologically, but in a developmental sequence.
- It is designed around observable and measurable milestones, competencies or behaviors.
- It combines cognition and language skills (as opposed to separating them).
- It describes both software selection strategies and off-computer activities that address goals and observable characteristics of learners, covering a range of skill areas.

Stages is designed to help special educators reach learners with developmental language and cognitive challenges. The Stages Assessment Process helps gather information to develop an Individualized Educational Plan (IEP). Stages generates competency-based data for learners whose understanding cannot be measured using standard assessment tools or methods. This data can be part of a learner's alternate assessment portfolio.

■ **Stages information**

- <http://store.cambiumlearning.com/ProgramPage.aspx?parentId=074004184&functionID=009000008&site=itc>