Snap and Read

This video is going to help you use the tool snap and read to have text read aloud to you if you are having difficulty reading some of the text that your teachers provide you with. So the first thing we want to make sure that you're doing is you have snap and read downloaded. It should be downloaded already on your chrome as a chrome extension up in your extension's bar. It is the icon with the target on it. If you do not see this icon, go to the puzzle piece and this is a list of all your extensions and it should be in there. If you want snap and read to be on your extensions bar, just go ahead and press that blue pin and it will automatically show up at the top here. So when you have the icon, you're going to click the snap and read and you have to sign in. Each student has been given an account using their school email address. So when you get to this screen, you're going to sign in with Google and you are going to use your school email address and password. Please do not use your personal email for anything school related. Always use that school email address because most likely your account has been set up with that. So you're going to click your school email address. You're going to log in if you have to. Once logged in on the right hand side, the black navigation bar pops up for snap and read. These are the tools that you are able to use with the program. If at any point you are done using the tools, you can toggle them off by going back to the snap and read icon and pressing this blue button to say you're done using SNAP and read. Right now, when you're ready to use SNAP and read again, you would go back to the icon, turn that button on and now you're ready to use the tools. I'm going to take you through all of these tools so that you know how to use them. The first tool is the speaker icon. We can use this in one of two ways. The first way that we can use it is by turning the speaker on and then finding a spot of text that you want to start being read aloud to you. So if I want this whole page to start reading, I'm going to start with this first word right here. And I'm just going to click on that word and then it's going to read all of the words on this page for me.

Text is being read aloud from a video on the computer. Audio not able to be picked up.

And then if I wanted to stop, I would just click away and it would stop reading. So I can always start anywhere from the screen, no matter where I'm at.

If I click a word, it's going to start reading from that word, and it's going to keep going until it gets to the end of the text.

That is great when you want a whole page read aloud to you, however, maybe you're reading some text and you come to a word that you don't understand or you don't know how to pronounce. You've tried all of your strategies and you still can't figure it out. So what you can do then is you can highlight that word.

So I'm having a hard time with this word right here. I'm going to highlight that word and then I'm going to press the speaker button and it's only going to read me that one word. So here I go.

Evidence and that's it.

That's all it's going to read me. It's not going to read the rest of the words on the page, only the word that I asked it to read. If I wanted to read this whole bullet point.

I can highlight all of that.

So the speaker can be used in one of two ways by clicking it and then clicking a word, or highlighting and then clicking that speaker. The next tool we have is the screenshot reader.

This is a tool that I suggest using when you are working with PDFs or, you know, you want to read a whole screen of something, you can click this tool and it's going to give you this little navigation.

You're going to start wherever you want to start reading from. So I want to read all of this information right here. So I'm going to start up at the top here. I'm going to click and I'm going to highlight all of those words. Then SNAP and Read is going to take a little bit of time to process what's inside of that snapshot. And then it's going to start reading all of the words inside that snapshot. It's not going to read anything else.

When I'm done, I can go ahead and press that X button and it will stop.

So, again, the screen capture tool lets you take a picture of certain text and then it will read everything inside of that frame for you. The next tool that we see here is a simplify vocabulary tool. So I know how to pronounce a word, but I don't know what it means. This button is going to take those a little bit challenging words inside of my text and make them a little bit easier for me to understand. So let's say right here, I know that this word is synthesizing, but I don't really know what it means. And that's a hard word for me to understand. So I'm going to go ahead and press this button that is taking it from a square to a circle. And it's going to change those hard words and just simplify the vocabulary. Give me another word. Give me a synonym to that word.

So instead of using synthesizing, they now have making and creating evidence. So you can see that everything that has been changed from the original text will be in italics. And then if you click it, it also shows you different ways, different words that you can use and it takes it back to the old one.

So this is nice if you're coming up to a word and you are struggling with understanding what it was, go ahead and click this simplified vocabulary button and it will make it a little bit easier for you when you're done, you just click it again. It takes it back to the original text.

The next feature is the color overlay. And this is nice for when you want to make sure you are going from line to line and making sure you're following along nice and easy. When you click the color overlay, you're able to highlight the text that you are reading by just hovering over that text so you know that you are on this line and then you have to go to this line. So it's nice to keep you in order and not missing any of your sentences with you from what your teacher has provided you with.

When you're done using the color overlay, you can then go ahead and click the color overlay button and it will go away.

One other thing that's currently not on your menu, but you can add it if you so choose is a way to translate text. So let's say I'm reading this and I want to translate this into French. I'm going to go up to that snap and read Icon again. And this time I'm going to go down to options because I

need to add this option here. You can change the volume the speed and all the voices that they have. But what's important is the translator, we want to make sure we turn that on. So over here, we have this translate into button. So I'm going to go ahead and toggle that on. And then where it says Spanish, I'm going to click that I have a list of languages that I can choose from. I'm going to choose French for right now. And then what's going to happen when I go back to my snap and read, I'm going to go ahead and see a new icon. And this is the translate button. So whatever text I want to translate, I'm going to highlight all of that text. I'm just going to do this first bullet right here. And then once I press that translate button, since I have it set to French, it's going to translate into French. And so then if I wanted to still read it in French, I can then go ahead and highlight it and then press that speaker and it's going to read it in French.

Speaking in French.

 I can use this translate button for any language that I want. I would just have to remember to go to this options and then I would change it from French. I can go to Bulgarian, I can choose any language that I want, German, Greek, Icelandic. And it would translate. When I'm ready to take it back to English or whatever language you are using, you would then just press that translate button again and it will go back to the original text.

So this is a quick couple of steps, quick couple of things to get you started with. Snap and read. If you have any questions, please reach out to your teachers and they will be able to help you. Thank you.