



How to Use a Smartphone for Transportation Skills Tip Sheet

Many students have smartphones, and they can use their phones to access many different aspects of transportation. Below we have listed different transportation skills that students can practice utilizing their smartphones.

Following a Picture Schedule

Students can search for “Visual Schedule Planner” in their smartphone’s app store. This app provides an audio/visual representation for all daily tasks. If students need more support for a task, they can create an activity schedule or video model to help prompt them complete the task.

Task Reminders

Google Assistant, Siri, and the phone’s “Reminders” app can remind students to complete certain activities at certain times.

Journey Book

Students could keep a journey book on their smartphone on a digital reading app or Google Drive. We have included a journey book example with the other resources in this lesson.

Map Reading

- School Hallway Map: Typically, schools will have a map of the school hallways somewhere in the school. Students can take a picture of this map with their smartphone and reference it while navigating around the school.
- Google Maps: Students can use this app when navigating to other buildings on the campus, their cars, a community-based classroom, or other community settings. Students can utilize public transportation, bike, motorcycle, walking, and car directions using this app.

Transit or Trip Planner Apps

Use local public transportation apps like TransLoc Rider or commercial transportation apps like Uber. Students can practice speaking into their smartphones to state their route’s start and end locations.



Speech and Communication

- Text-to-Speech: After adjusting smartphone settings, students' phones can read text aloud so they can communicate with others.
- Speech-to-Text: Students' smartphones can also turn speech into text so they can email, search for directions, or send text messages.
- Amplify Sounds/Enlarge Text: For students with hearing or visual impairments, there are settings so they can hear the navigation directions from the app they are using or see the next step on their route directions.
- Programmed Text: Students can also program their smartphones to say any phrase they want. One example could be, "Where is the bathroom?"
- Translation: If students are trying to translate different languages, they can use their smartphones to translate the conversation.

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