

Assistive Technology in Action - Meet Jared

[Intro Music plays]

Title: Assistive Technology in Action, an AT Awareness Video Series

Title: Video 4: Meet Jared

Jared Green: I like fighter planes. I love guitar music. I am an ad/website designer. Hello, my name is Jared.

Charlotte: Hi I'm Charlotte, and I'm Jared's mom. Jared is an amazing young man. He has a great sense of humour. He loves spending time on the computer and interacting with people around the world and also with us as a family at home. Jared was born with cerebral palsy and it affects him physically, but mentally and intellectually he's very smart.

Text on screen: Hello, my name is Jared. I'm a skilled man w/ C.P. I use assistive tech to run my own ad/website design business. I could not use a computer, w/out assistive tech.

Charlotte: Jared uses a sip and puff to access his computer. The sip and puff sends a signal to Jared's environmental control unit on his wheelchair, which sends a signal to the Tash switch, which sends a signal to the Intellikeys switch. The IntelliSwitch sends a wireless signal to Jared's computer that controls a software program called SwitchXs. SwitchXS allows Jared to do anything on his computer by choosing options from a pop-up menu that scans through several choices.

When he gets to the option he wants, he then uses his sip and puff to make the selection. He can type, control the mouse, and do anything on his computer. When Jared was in elementary school, we started working with the staff at the school to find technology that would help make him successful and also provide a recreational outlet for him in the computer field. Jared's technology has changed over time.

When Jared was in grade school, he used the Leaf switch to access the computer. Then we changed, when he was in high school, to a Jelly Bean switch, which he would access by hitting with his head. Now he uses the sip and puff which has been the best for accuracy, for him. Because of his drive to do well, he's doing - able to do what he is today.

JG: I gotta get back to work.

[Outro Music plays]