

AAC Resources on the Internet 2003

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| General Resources in Augmentative Communication | | | |
|--|---|---|---|
| Resource | URL | Description | Downloadable Resources |
| AAC Institute (US) | http://www.aac institute.org | - basic general site with an emphasis on practice, includes on-line self-study programme. | |
| ACE Centre | http://www.ace-centre.org.uk/ | Very useful site with information on the assessment and training services offered by the ACE Centre and details of research projects. | Articles on different aspects of AAC; shareware and demo software; books; guide to VOCAs. |
| ACE Centre North | http://www.ace-north.org.uk/ | Another useful site with information on ACE Centre North's assessment, training and other services. | Information sheets on a number of topics. |
| AGOSCI | http://members.iinet.net.au/~sharono/AGOSCI/index.html | Australian Group on Severe Communication impairment site. | |
| Augmentative and Alternative Communication Centers (USA) | http://aac.unl.edu/ | Probably the best "academic" site with glossaries and guides to terminology, demographic information, bibliographies on different subjects and lots more! | Device tutorials; useful articles on many aspects of AAC; presentations given at conferences; core vocabularies for AAC users and more! |
| Augmentative Communication Inc. (USA) | http://www.augcominc.com/ | Sarah Blackstone's site, with articles from Augmentative Communication News and Alternatively Speaking. | Individual articles can be downloaded. On-line presentation on Language Learning and Augmentative Communication |
| CALL Centre, Univ. of Edinburgh | http://callcentre.education.ed.ac.uk | Detailed information on augmentative communication and assistive technology, with a particular emphasis on use in the curriculum. | BoardMaker resources and grids, Information sheets, entire contents of several books! |
| Communication Matters | http://communicationmatters.org.uk/ | Latest news on CM events and AAC developments in the UK, information for parents and users and discussion forums that are actually used! | |
| Communications Forum | http://www.communicationsforum.org.uk | Information on communication disorders and useful glossary of terminology. | |
| ISAAC (International Society for Augmentative and Alternative Communication) | http://www.isaac-online.org | Information on ISAAC activities, but a disappointing lack of content. Discussion Forum much less lively than CM equivalent! | |
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| SLP Site | http://www.slpsite.com | Excellent Australian Speech and Language Pathology site set up by Caroline Bowen – contains comprehensive information on AAC and other areas of speech and language therapy. | |
| Yaack (AAC connecting Young Kids) | http://aac.unl.edu/yaack/ | Now part of the AAC Centres site, above, this comprehensive site developed by Ruth Ballanger focuses on use of AAC by children. Lots of well-referenced information, providing one of the best introductions to AAC available on the web. | |

Communication Aids and Accessories

General Information, Comparisons and “Consumer” Sites

| Resource | URL | Description | Downloadable Resources |
|--|---|---|---|
| ACE Centre | http://www.ace-centre.org.uk/vocapages/main.asp | Detailed reviews of over 100 Voice Output Communication Aids, with links to suppliers. | |
| CAMA – Communication Aids Manufacturers’ Association | http://www.aacproducts.org/ | – nothing special – details of facility for people in North America to get information from suppliers and workshop listings. | |
| CAP Project | http://cap.becta.org.uk/ | Major project to provide communication aids in England. Site includes detailed catalogue of equipment. | |
| DynaVox Page Exchange (USA) | http://members.aol.com/dds4kids/dynavox.html | Set up by father of a boy who uses a DynaVox, site contains useful tips for using the DynaVox and Dynamo and lots of downloadable pages and setups. | Large collection of downloadable pages, setups, and even complete backup files for DynaVox users. |

Manufacturers and Suppliers

| Resource | URL | Description | Downloadable Resources |
|----------------------------------|---|---|---|
| Adaptivation (USA) | http://www.adaptivation.com | US suppliers of Chipper, Sequencer, VoicePal and other devices. | Downloadable manuals and tips for using devices. |
| Cambridge Adaptive Communication | http://www.cameleon-web.com/ | Now part of the Possum Group, Cambridge Adaptive Communication are manufacturers of Cameleon and other AAC equipment. UK agents for Words+. | |
| Crick Software | http://www.cricksoft.com/ | Crick Software are the designers of Clicker and other software for people with disabilities. | Download updates to software and huge collection of Clicker Learning Grids. |
| DynaVox UK | http://www.dynavox.co.uk/ | Part of Sunrise Medical, manufacturers of DynaVox and related devices. | Downloadable software updates, and page sets. |
| Easiaids | http://www.easiaids.co.uk | Supplier of communication aids, amplifiers, page turners and other equipment. Basic online catalogue. | |
| Enabling Devices (USA) | http://www.enablingdevices.com/ | Suppliers of excellent range of toys, switches and other devices for children with disabilities. | |
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| Inclusive Technology | http://www.inclusive.co.uk/ | Inclusive Technology is a major supplier of software and equipment for people with special educational needs. Excellent site with lots of useful background information. | Wide range of information sheets, demo versions of programs and software upgrades. |
| Liberator | http://www.liberator.co.uk | Information on products produced and distributed by Liberator, including SuperVoca communication aids, access devices and software. | |
| Prentke Romich | http://www.prentrom.com/ | Information on Vantage, AlphaTalker, DeltaTalker and other communication aids, using MinSpeak. Online training courses. | Demonstration software, training materials, research papers. |
| Prentke Romich International | http://www.prentromint.com/ | Information on Pathfinder, DeltaTalker and other communication aids and other materials sold by PRI. | Manuals, demonstration versions of software. |
| QED 2000 | http://www.qedltd.com/ | QED 2000 Ltd Manufacturer and supplier of wide range of equipment, including communication aids and switches. | |
| RSL Steeper | http://www.rslsteeper.com/ | Information on IconSpeak communication aid, prostheses and other products. | |
| Sensory Software International | http://www.sensorysoftware.com | Developer and supplier of range of communication-related software and other products. | Full working demonstration versions of programs and updates. |
| Sunrise Medical Ltd | http://www.sunrisemedical.co.uk | Supplier of DynaVox communication aid and other equipment for disabled people. | |
| Sunrise Medical - DynaVox (USA) | http://www.dynavoxsys.com/ | US site with information on DynaVox communication aids, includes a Page Sharing centre. Online "knowledge base" and training courses. | Downloadable software upgrades, demo versions and DynaVox pages for sharing. |
| TechCess Ltd. | http://www.techcess.co.uk/ | Suppliers of Tellus communication aid, other devices and software. | Downloadable demo versions of software. |
| Toby Churchill | http://www.toby-churchill.com | Manufacturer of Lightwriter communication aids. | Downloadable manuals and quick reference guides. |
| Words + | http://www.words-plus.com/ | Information on MessageMates, TuffTalker and other Words + products. | Downloadable manuals and software upgrades. |

Assistive Technology Resources

General Information, Comparisons and "Consumer" Sites

| Resource | URL | Description | Downloadable Resources |
|--------------------------------------|---|---|---|
| AbilityNet | http://www.abilitynet.org.uk | Emphasis more on assistive technology, rather than AAC, but there is useful information on a number of subjects, including funding. | Information sheets. |
| Adaptive Technology Resource Centre | http://www.utoronto.ca/atrc/ | Lots of nice resources (though some are a bit old), including online technical glossary and details of research projects. | Downloadable papers and conference presentations. |
| Alliance for Technology Access (USA) | http://www.ataccess.org/ | More of an assistive technology emphasis, rather than AAC, but with a lot of useful information. | Several downloadable books! |

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| Center On Disabilities, California State University, Northridge (USA) | http://www.csun.edu/cod/ | Information on annual international conference on Technology and Persons with Disabilities, including significant AAC content. | Conference papers |
| Closing the Gap (USA) | http://www.closingthegap.com | Comprehensive site with articles from newspaper, resource directory, discussion forums covering all aspects of assistive technology, including AAC. | |
| Foundation for Assistive Technology | http://www.fastuk.org/ | National charity supporting the development of technology to assist people with disabilities. Site includes database of current research. | |

Manufacturers and Suppliers

| Resource | URL | Description | Downloadable Resources |
|----------------------------------|---|--|---|
| Don Johnston Special Needs (USA) | http://donjohnston.com | Supplier of software and other equipment for people with disabilities. UK site "under development". | Demonstration versions and upgrades for some programs. |
| Enabling Devices (USA) | http://www.enablingdevices.com/ | Suppliers of excellent range of toys, switches and other devices for children with disabilities. | |
| Inclusive Technology | http://www.inclusive.co.uk/ | Inclusive Technology is a major supplier of software and equipment for people with special educational needs. Excellent site with lots of useful background information. | Wide range of information sheets, demo versions of programs and software upgrades. |
| Intellitools (USA) | http://www.intellitools.com/ | Developers of Intellikeys and other software for children with special needs. | Activity Exchange contains vast collection of resources for use with Intellikeys. Downloadable training materials also available. |
| Keytools | http://www.keytools.com | Keytools are suppliers of a wide range of alternative keyboards, mice, etc., access software and other equipment. | |
| Penny & Giles Computer Products | http://www.penny-gilescp.co.uk | Information on trackballs and mice, including case studies. | |
| Photon Technologies | http://www.photontechnologies.co.uk/ | Information on switches, mounts, CyberLink and software. | |
| Possum Controls | http://www.possum.co.uk/ | Possum Controls Manufacturer of environmental control systems. | |
| QED 2000 | http://www.qedltd.com/ | QED 2000 Ltd Manufacturer and supplier of wide range of equipment, including communication aids and switches. | |
| TfH Ltd | http://www.tfhuk.com | Manufacturer of specialised play equipment, switches, etc.. | Downloadable instructions for using equipment. |

Symbols and Signs

General Information and Resources

| Resource | URL | Description | Downloadable Resources |
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| Signalong | http://www.signalong.org.uk | Information on sign-supported communication system | |

| Simplified Signs (USA) | http://www.simplifiedsigns.org/ | Simplified sign system for non-speaking persons. Site includes lexicon of signs. | |
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| Stories in the Air | http://www.learnbsl.org | Lovely site with on-line BS dictionary. | |
| Symbols dot Net | http://www.symbols.net | Massive resource of information on symbols in general, e.g. Egyptian hieroglyphics, weather symbols, etc. – not specifically symbols for communication – but it includes good resources for Blissymbols, including a rather eccentric dictionary. | |
| Tangible Symbol Systems | http://www.designtolearn.com/ | Symbols designed for people who are unable to understand the meaning of the abstract symbols used in formal language systems. | |
| BoardMaker (PCS) Resources | | | |
| Resource | URL | Description | Downloadable Resources |
| AAC Intervention (USA) | http://aacintervention.com/boardmaker.html | BoardMaker section has lots of resources, including tutorials, activities, etc. and links to other sites. | Tutorials, activities, etc. |
| Burnaby Schools (USA) | http://schou.sd41.bc.ca/district/boardmaker.htm | Burnaby Schools site with templates for Farm Animals, Pets, Daily Schedule and others. | Templates |
| CALL Centre | http://callcentrescotland.org.uk/resources/resources.html | Downloadable topic boards for environmental studies, lotto boards, nursery rhymes and books. See also Quick Guides section for tutorial material. | Topic boards and quick guides. |
| Eau Claire Area Schools | http://www.ecasd.k12.wi.us/departments/special_ed/teacher_resources/assistive_technology/boardmaker/ | Eau Claire Area Schools site with “Bingo” cards and links to other resources. | Bingo cards |
| Iowa Area Education Agencies (USA) | http://lserver.aea14.k12.ia.us/atteam/at/al.html | Collection of BoardMaker overlays to accompany books for children. | BoardMaker overlays. |
| Mayer Johnson Inc (USA) | http://www.mayerjohnson.com | Updates, additional symbols relating to specific activities, cultures, etc., tips and tutorials. | Downloadable Boardmaker symbol libraries, software updates and pre-made grids for a wide range of communication aids. |
| Pre-Kindergarten Exceptional Student Education, Miami | http://prekese.dadeschools.net/resources.htm | Teacher Resource Room has huge collection of resources for BoardMaker 5, including daily schedules, songboards, communication boards, choice boards, etc. | BoardMaker 5 resources. |
| News 2 You (USA) | http://www.news-2-you.com | Weekly symbolised newsletter available through subscription. | Download sample copy of newspaper. |
| Pre-school Education Program, Montgomery County, Maryland (USA) | http://www.mcps.k12.md.us/curriculum/pep/teachercreate.html | Montgomery County Public Schools site with extensive collection of resources, including communication boards and worksheets for a range of books and songs, including The Very Hungry Caterpillar. | Boardmaker and other files. |

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| Pre-school Education Program, Montgomery County, Maryland (USA) | http://www.mcps.k12.md.us/curriculum/pep/teachingideas/anim.htm | More BoardMaker-based activities – this time relating to animals, including farm animals, pets, zoo, water, birds and bugs. | Animal-based resources. |
| SET-BC (Canada) | http://www.setbc.org/res/equip/boardmaker/files.html | Extensive resources, including training materials, video clips and resources | Extensive resources. |
| Speaking of Speech (USA) | http://speakingofspeech.com/generic.html?pid=26 | Activity exchange with massive collection of resources created using BoardMaker. Unfortunately, the files are downloaded in PDF format and cannot be edited directly. | Massive collection of PDF resources. |
| Yahoo Groups - BoardMaker | http://groups.yahoo.com/group/boardmaker/ | Discussion / activity sharing group with around 50 messages sent in a typical month. | |
| Blissymbolics Resources | | | |
| Resource | URL | Description | Downloadable Resources |
| BlissPost | http://www.blisspost.org | Swedish Bliss site. | |
| Blissymbolics Communication International (Canada) | http://home.istar.ca/~bci/ | THE site for people wanting to know about Bliss, with an introduction to the symbol system, information on people using Bliss, training materials and information on BlissInternet | |
| Rebus Resources | | | |
| Resource | URL | Description | Downloadable Resources |
| Symbol World | http://www.symbolworld.org | Site sponsored by Widgit and BECTA, with lots of downloadable resources for children. | Large collection of stories and other resources created using Rebus symbols. |
| Widgit Software | http://www.widgit.com/ | Excellent site featuring symbol-based software and other products. Site includes lots of background information, a discussion forum, on-line tutorials and many other resources. | Demonstration versions of programs, updates, symbol worksheets and grids. |
| Makaton Resources | | | |
| Resource | URL | Description | Downloadable Resources |
| Makaton Vocabulary Development Project | http://www.makaton.org | Comprehensive site with details of Makaton symbols, including an introduction to the system, training courses and details of resources that can be purchased. | |
| Child, Family and Education | | | |
| Afasic | http://www.afasic.org.uk | Charity providing support for children with communication disorders. | Information sheets and other publications. |
| Apraxia Kids (USA) | http://www.apraxia-kids.org/ | Comprehensive collection of resources for parents with a child with Apraxia. | |
| Beyond Autism (USA) | http://trainland.tripod.com/index.htm | Excellent site set up by parent of child with autism, with huge collection of articles, lots of PECS material and fun stuff. Useful collections of links to other resources. | Downloadable articles and PECS materials. |
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| Creative Communications (USA) | http://www.creative-comm.com | Useful site set up by Pati King-DeBaun, with particular emphasis on emergent literacy activities. | Quarterly newsletter, ClickIt setups for Mac and Intellipics activities for Mac and PC. |
| Disability Services Support Unit (Queensland) | http://education.qld.gov.au/curriculum/learning/students/disabilities/index.html | Formerly the Low Incidence Unit this used to be one of the world's best sites for information on AAC and the use of assistive technology in education. Information is still there, but difficult to find. | Guidelines and policy documents, resources for Boardmaker, Clicker, Intellikeys, Writing with Symbols, software and device tutorials. |
| Do2Learn (USA) | http://www.dotolearn.com/ | This site has a particular focus on children with autism and learning difficulties, but has many useful features, including teacher tips, games, access to a panel of experts and masses of downloadable resources. | Lots of free resources, including topic-based picture cards, project ideas, computer software. |
| 1 Voice | http://www.1voice.info/ | Support for families of communication aid users. | |
| Ontario Association for Families of Children with Communication Disorders | http://www.oafccd.com | Canadian site with parent and child activities aimed at promoting communication. | |
| San Bernardino County Schools, Special Services (USA) | http://www.sbcss.k12.ca.us/sbcss/specialeducation/ecthematic/index.html | Collection of HyperStudio and IntelliPics resources designed to make up Early Childhood Thematic Units. | HyperStudio and IntelliPics files. |
| SET-BC (Canada) | http://www.setbc.org | One of the best special education sites, well organised, with lots of useful resources | |
| Simplified Technology (USA) | http://www.lburkhart.com/main.htm | Linda Burkhart's site with general information on AAC, downloadable handouts and information on products for sale. | Downloadable handouts on low and high-tech systems. |
| SNOW (Special Needs Opportunity Windows) (Canada) | http://snow.utoronto.ca | Good general site on special education, includes some material on AAC. | |

Specific Approaches and Techniques

| PECS Resources | | | |
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| Resource | URL | Description | Downloadable Resources |
| Beyond Autism (USA) | http://trainland.tripod.com/pecs.htm | Links to graphic resources suitable for PECS activities, including pages specifically designed for PECS. | Lots of pictures, specially prepared for use with PECS. |
| Children with Special Needs (USA) | http://www.childrenwithspecialneeds.com/pecs.html | Good introduction, with links to resources. | |
| Polyxo | http://www.polyxo.com/visualsupport/pecs.html | Useful information about PECS, contained within general site on teaching children with autism. | |
| Pyramid Educational Consultants Inc. (USA) | http://www.pecs.com/ | Site set up by developers of PECS, with information and resources related to the Picture Exchange Communication System. Includes a useful discussion forum. | |
| Pyramid Educational Consultants UK | http://www.pecs.org.uk | UK site for PECS. | |
| Yahoo Groups – Pyramid-PECS | http://groups.yahoo.com/group/pyramid-pecs/ | Discussion group with 20 – 40 messages per month. | |
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| Miscellaneous | | | |
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| AAC Research Unit, Univ. of Stirling | http://www.aacscotland.com | Very clean, unfussy site with details of projects carried out by the unit and publications, including Talking Mats and other training packages. | |
| Auditory Scanning and Augmentative and Alternative Communication (USA) | http://espse.ed.psu.edu/SPLD/McN/auditoryscanning/home.html | Detailed information and links to articles on auditory scanning as a communication technique. | |
| Facilitated Communication Institute, Univ. of Syracuse (USA) | http://soeweb.syr.edu/thefci/ | Detailed information on use of facilitated communication as an alternative means of expression for people who cannot speak, with references and bibliographies. | |
| Speaking of Speech (USA) | http://www.speakingofspeech.com/ | An interactive forum for speech/language pathologists and teachers to improve communication skills in schools. Several discussion groups for the exchange of tips. | Materials exchange, with Boardmaker resources, mostly downloadable as PDF files. |
| TEACCH, University of North Carolina (USA) | http://www.teacch.com | Details of structured teaching programme for pupils with autism, including detailed papers on aspects of autism and educational approaches. | Research papers. |
| Research | | | |
| Resource | URL | Description | Downloadable Resources |
| AAC-RERC (USA) | http://www.aac-rerc.com/ | AAC Rehabilitation Engineering Research Center site, with reports on AAC research projects being carried out in centres throughout the USA. | |
| AAC Research Unit, Univ. of Stirling | http://www.aacscotland.com | Very clean, unfussy site with details of projects carried out by the unit and publications, including Talking Mats and other training packages. | |
| Adaptive Technology Resource Centre | http://www.utoronto.ca/atrc/ | Lots of nice resources (though some are a bit old), including online technical glossary and details of research projects. | Downloadable papers and conference presentations. |
| Trace Center (USA) | http://trace.wisc.edu/ | Long established site with information on AAC and Assistive Technology. Current emphasis is on "Designing a More Useable World", but there is still a lot of useful information on AAC. | Information sheets and extensive collection of shareware computer software. |
| Consumer Issues | | | |
| Resource | URL | Description | Downloadable Resources |
| ACOLUG (Augmentative Communication On-Line Users Group) (USA) | http://disabilities.temple.edu/programs/assistive/acolug/ | ACOLUG is a LISTSERV created to exchange ideas, information and experiences on AAC. By using e-mail, people who use AAC and their friends and families discuss various issues. | |

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| After 16 | http://www.after16.org.uk/ | Not specifically for AAC users, but a very useful site with information on money, education, housing, employment, etc. for young people with disabilities. | |
| Speak Up! | http://www.aacsafeguarding.ca | - excellent Canadian site looking at the difficult issue of abuse of people who use AAC. Site includes communication displays, case studies, draft policies and advice. | Downloadable resources, communication displays, etc.. |

Service Providers

| Resource | URL | Description | Downloadable Resources |
|--|---|---|---|
| ACE Centre | http://www.ace-centre.org.uk/ | Very useful site with information on the assessment and training services offered by the ACE Centre and details of research projects. | Articles on different aspects of AAC; shareware and demo software; books; guide to VOCAs. |
| ACE Centre North | http://www.ace-north.org.uk/ | Another useful site with information on ACE Centre North's assessment, training and other services. | Information sheets on a number of topics. |
| CENMAC | http://www.cenmac.com/ | Team promoting inclusion in inner London schools. | Information sheets. |
| CALL Centre, Univ. of Edinburgh | http://callcentre.education.ed.ac.uk | Detailed information on augmentative communication and assistive technology, with a particular emphasis on use in the curriculum. | BoardMaker resources and grids, Information sheets, entire contents of several books! |
| Communicate | http://www.communicate-nhs.com/ | Information on Newcastle-based service. | |
| Find a Voice | http://www.findavoice.org.uk | Ashford-based charity providing a support group for parents, carers and people with severe communication difficulties. | |
| Frenchay Communication Aids Centre | http://www.cacfrenchay.nhs.uk | Information on communication aids, services and research. | |
| Paediatric Communication Aids Service, Bristol | http://www.pcas.claremont.bristol.sch.uk/ | Information on service providing communication aids for children in the Bristol area. | |
| TASSCC | http://www.aberdeen-education.org.uk/tasscc/ | Information on Technological Assessment and Support for Special Children and the Curriculum, Aberdeen. | |

Literacy

| Resource | URL | Description | Downloadable Resources |
|------------------------|---|--|--|
| AAC Intervention (USA) | http://aacintervention.com/ | The opening page is a bit "messy", but the content is excellent, with a particular focus on literacy. The 'Tip of the Month' feature is very useful. | "Smart sheets", giving quick tips on how to use software and equipment and ideas for implementation. |
| Widgit Software | http://www.widgit.com/ | Excellent site featuring symbol-based software and other products. Site includes lots of background information, a discussion forum, on-line tutorials and many other resources. | Demonstration versions of programs, updates, symbol worksheets and grids. |

Acquired Disorders

| Resource | URL | Description | Downloadable Resources |
|--------------|---|---|------------------------------|
| SpeakAbility | http://www.speakability.org.uk | Charity providing support for people with | Information sheets and other |

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| | | communication difficulties resulting from a stroke, or head injury. | resources. |
| Fun and Play! | | | |
| Alliance for Technology Access (USA) | http://www.ataccess.org/ | General assistive technology site, with a nice "We Can Play" section, including details on adapting battery-operated toys, play activities and links to other sites. | |
| Google Images | http://www.images.google.com | Find a picture of almost anything instantly! | |
| Kids' Domain | http://www.kidsdomain.com/ | Lots of fun stuff for children (and adults!) | Masses of shareware games and activities can be downloaded. |
| MCHawking's Crib | http://www.mchawking.com/ | Rap songs recorded using DecTalk, with titles such as <i>A Brief History of Rhyme</i> and <i>E=MCHawking</i> . Warning - some of the songs are a bit rude! | Downloadable MP3 files. |
| Now add your own! | | | |
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