



# How Can Boardmaker Help Your Students?

Boardmaker software, available from the Mayer-Johnson Company, is a picture-based library containing over 3500 picture communication symbols (PCS). These pictures can be used to label classrooms, create communication displays and device overlays, adapt books, and make classroom schedules and calendars. The symbols can be made any size, used in color or black and white, and displayed with text in a variety of languages. Over 250 blank templates (calendars, schedules, device overlays) are provided to give you a quick start to creating the materials you need.

Boardmaker can be used with all students. Ideas are listed below:

## **Communication**

Manual communication boards and device overlays can be created to help students communicate throughout the school day.

## **ESOL**

Bilingual students can benefit from the program as pictures can be printed with two labels (one in English, one in a second language). These pictures can then be used for worksheets, adapting books, games, etc.

## **Literacy**

Books can be adapted by placing symbols above or below text to assist students with beginning literacy skills.

## **Organization**

Boardmaker can be used to help keep students organized. Symbols can be used to create calendars and schedules which help students anticipate what will be happening next which provides smoother transitions.

## **Behavior**

Symbols can reduce behavior problems by presenting students other alternate ways to express how they are feeling or what they need.

## **Classroom Labeling**

Symbols can be used to label objects and activities within the classroom.

## **Miscellaneous**

Create games and storybooks to reinforce educational concepts.

The Boardmaker libraries can be expanded and customized by using a digital camera to take classroom pictures (students, work areas) and importing them into the program.

Additional products that can be used **in conjunction with Boardmaker** include:

**Picture This** (Macintosh & Windows)—\$59.95

Contains 2,700 photographs that can be added to the Boardmaker libraries.

**PCS Sign Language Libraries I & II** (Macintosh & Windows)—\$39 each

Sign language symbols that can be added to the Boardmaker libraries.

**Writing With Symbols 2000** (Windows only)—\$199

Can be used to make picture materials. Allows writing with pictures for students who are not text ready. Provides talking word processing by text users.

**Print 'n Play** (Macintosh & Windows)—\$39

Contains 50 ready-to-print Bingo and Mystery games covering themes such as holidays, fast food, community helpers, and more.

**Print 'n Learn Community Units** (Macintosh & Windows)—\$29

More ready-to-print activities, covering restaurant, mall, firehouse, post office, and school.

**Print 'n Learn Thematic Units** (Macintosh & Windows)—\$29

25 thematic units covering the four seasons, holidays, zoo, baseball, etc. Includes vocabulary pages for handwriting, spelling, and coloring practice.

**Boardmaker** software's list price is \$399, and is available for both Macintosh and IBM. OCPS is fortunate enough to have a site license which allows us to purchase the software for only \$200. When ordering you must include this number on your purchase order—#35231, to receive the reduced price.

For additional information on the above products go to:

**[www.mayer-johnson.com](http://www.mayer-johnson.com)**