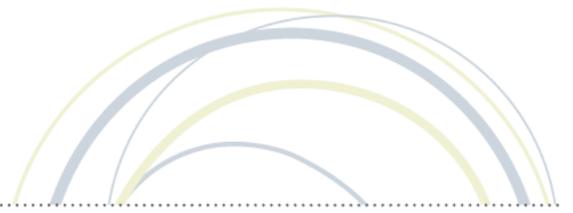# ISTE SEAL OF ALIGNMENT REVIEW FINDINGS REPORT
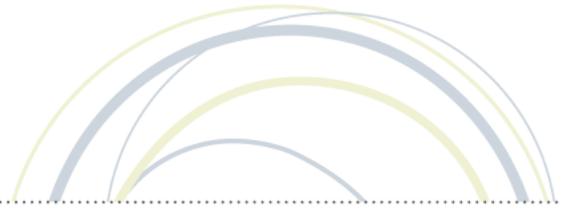
Keyboarding Without Tears

NOVEMBER 2015

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ISTE Seal of Alignment Review Findings Report

ABOUT

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The International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE) is the premier nonprofit membership organization serving educators and education leaders. ISTE is committed to empowering connected learners in a connected world and serves more than 100,000 education stakeholders throughout the world.

As the creator and steward of the definitive education technology standards, our mission is to empower learners to nourish in a connected world by cultivating a passionate professional learning community, linking educators and partners, leveraging knowledge and expertise, advocating for strategic policies, and continually improving learning and teaching
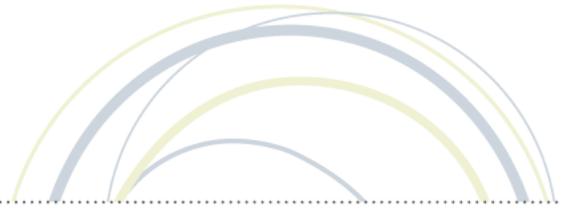
ISTE SEAL OF ALIGNMENT

Resources and products designed with the ISTE Standards in mind are choosing to demonstrate their commitment to support critical digital age learning skills and knowledge. Regardless of a solution's intended grade level, purpose or content area, by addressing the ISTE Standards and earning a Seal of Alignment, a solution is shown to consciously, purposefully and meaningfully support best practices for digital age teaching and learning.

ISTE considers a solution aligned to the ISTE Standards only after an extensive review conducted by trained ISTE Seal of Alignment reviewers, and it has been determined to meet all critical elements of a particular standard indicator in accordance with specific review criteria.

By earning a Seal of Alignment, ISTE verifies that this product:
- Promotes critical technology skills
- Supports the use of technology in appropriate ways
- Contributes to the pedagogically robust use of technology for teaching and learning
- Aligns to the ISTE Standards in specific ways as described in the review finding report

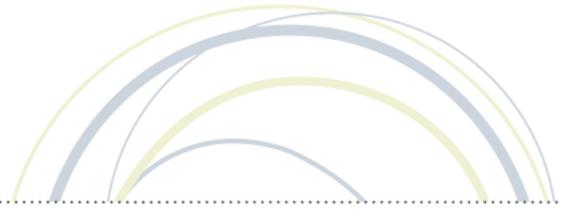ISTE Seal of Alignment Review Findings Report

RESOURCE DESCRIPTION

WHAT IS THE KEYBOARDING WITHOUT TEARS RESOURCE?

Keyboarding Without Tears is a game-based program designed to help students develop foundational keyboarding and basic computer literacy skills. The Keyboarding Without Tears curriculum presents a sequence of age- and skill-appropriate skill-building activities for students in grades K-5. Throughout the program, students complete both practice exercises designed to develop effective use of the keyboard in a touch-typing system and typing exercises that combine and employ new skills embedded within stimulating contexts to keep the learner engaged. In addition to the student activities, there are also teacher-led lessons that cover critical digital citizenship concepts and reinforce keyboarding skills throughout the curriculum.

HOW IS THE KEYBOARDING WITHOUT TEARS RESOURCE IMPLEMENTED?

Keyboarding Without Tears is browser- and app-based. This offers flexible classroom set-ups so lessons can run on PCs, Macs, interactive whiteboards, iPads, and most tablets. Students can work from anywhere and the curriculum can be implemented in any technology scenario in a school. Educators have the ability to deliver short, small- or whole-group lessons focused around pre-keyboarding, keyboarding, digital citizenship, and digital literacy.

 Keyboarding Without Tears also provides a user-friendly digital dashboard, +Live Insights™, that helps administrators and educators manage classrooms, access video support for set up, access teacher guides and lesson previews, preview interactive lessons, obtain student reports, monitor progress throughout the year and access unique features like *Stop & Review* and *Skip 6 Weeks of Foundation Skills*. Both of these features help control how the student moves through the program.

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ISTE SEAL OF ALIGNMENT REVIEW

Product: Keyboarding Without Tears
Company: No Tears Learning
Date of Award: December 2015

REVIEW METHODOLOGY

ISTE Seal of Alignment reviews are conducted by a panel of education and instructional experts. Reviewers use data collected both separately and collectively to determine how a solution addresses specific elements described in each of the indicators of the ISTE Standards. Special instruments are used by reviewers to collect data on potential alignment across all resource materials. Alignment is determined based on the extent to which all or some of specific elements are addressed within the materials. Reviewers conduct regular calibrations to assure the validity and reliability of the results and final review findings are combined for an overall score for alignment on each individual indicator.

As a resource focused on teaching students basic technology skills and fundamentals of "learning to use technology", Keyboarding Without Tears was submitted for a Seal of Alignment Readiness review. Readiness resources provide users with opportunities for learning foundational knowledge and skills, and provide a strong vehicle for laying a foundation for successfully using technology as described by the ISTE Standards for Students.

The Keyboarding Without Tears resource was reviewed for alignment against the 2007 ISTE Standards for Students, at the Readiness level.
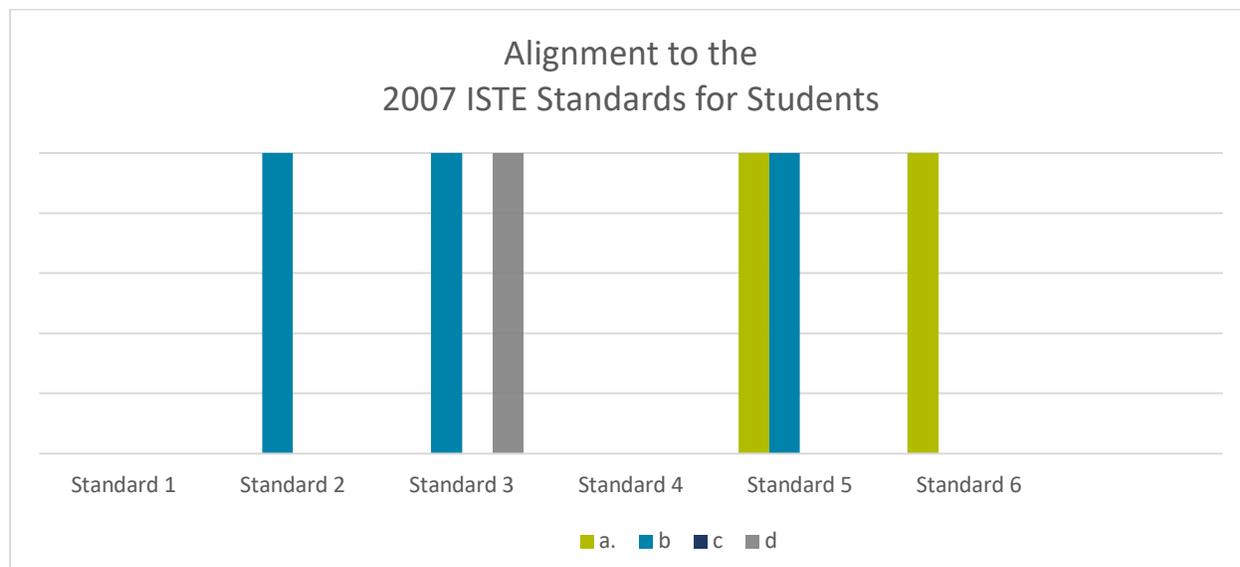
SCOPE OF REVIEW

During the review process for the Keyboarding Without Tears resource, reviewers:
- collected data on when and how each activity addressed specific skills and knowledge described in the ISTE Standards for Students.
- compiled findings to determine overall alignment across all ISTE Student standards and indicators.
- used aggregate findings to form the basis of the overall alignment results.

ISTE Seal of Alignment Review Findings Report

REVIEW FINDINGS

The Keyboarding Without Tears resource supports the following indicators of the 2007 ISTE Standards for Students:

Alignment to the
2007 ISTE Standards for Students

2. Communication and Collaboration
2.b. Communicate information and ideas effectively to multiple audiences using a variety of media and formats.

3. Research and Information Fluency
3.b. Locate, organize, analyze, evaluate, synthesize and ethically use information from a variety of sources and media.
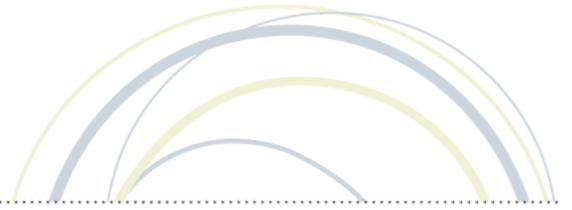3.d. Process data and report results.

5. Digital Citizenship
5.a. Advocate and practice safe, legal and responsible use of information and technology.
5.b. Exhibit a positive attitude toward using technology that supports collaboration, learning and productivity.

6. Technology Operations and Concepts
6.a. Understand and use technology systems.

CONCLUSION

Overall, ISTE Seal of Alignment reviewers found the Keyboarding Without Tears program to be a strong, appealing, well-developed curriculum with sufficient repetition to help students feel comfortable and confident, paired with ample variety and sequencing to keep the learner engaged and challenged. In the teacher-led lessons reviewers found excellent and thorough teacher guides that provide a clear and detailed map of the program with lessons that reinforce the development of skills while introducing new material. Student and teacher materials are developed with insightful attention to detail, awareness of students' intellectual growth and development, and deep pedagogical knowledge.