

# **The PNW Adapted Toy Library**

Information provided by Gabriel Laigo from PROVAIL

## **What is this Library you speak of?!**

The PNW Adapted Toy Library is a new resource for kids (and adults) with physical challenges to gain access to the enjoyment and learning to be gained from accessible play.

The non-profit organization PROVAIL has partnered up with two programs from the University of Washington, HuskyADAPT and the Taskar Center for Accessible Technology, to open the “PNW Adapted Toy Library” <https://pnwadaptivelibrary.cs.washington.edu/>. This is the first US based adapted toy library registered with the American Toy Library Association, offering hundreds of adapted toys, games and switches, to children (and adults) with physical disabilities, to borrow, try out and enjoy.

In addition to the joy of play, users who participate in this program have the opportunity to: improve their functional use of switches, trial new access methods, learn and use new social skills, experience cooperative play, and many other benefits.

The Library inventory consists of many different types of switches, accessibility tools for switch users, computer gaming platforms, adapted accessories, and a wide variety of adapted toys including: the traditional interactive plush animals, RC controlled cars and critters, bubble machines, dice rollers, switch adapted Nerf Guns, digital cameras, robots, Laser Tag, and fire breathing dragons. There really is something for everyone. Some of the toys can even be controlled via infrared commands directly from many speech communication devices that work as a universal remote control.

## **Who has access to this resource?**

This program started last year with a soft open to PROVAIL clients only. But now are ready to expand it out to the rest of the community. As long as the borrower is close enough to come to our headquarters in North Seattle and pick up/return their toy, then they are eligible to participate.

## **So what does your child/client have to do to get access to one of these toys?**

1. They just visit the website listed above and fill out the Enrollment form by clicking the green ‘Enroll In Library’ button at the top of the page.
2. After they have completed this step, they simply go to the ‘Check Out Items’ page and browse through our available listing of items to see what they might be interested in. The website includes multiple search filters, photos, and when an item is clicked on, either a document with further details or a short video demonstration will pop up to provide more information on the item.
3. Once the user has made up their mind, click on the ‘Check Out Form’ link at the top of the inventory listing. Complete this form to make your request, and then someone from the library will get in touch with you through either phone or email to let you know when you can pick up your item.

More information about the library can be found at <https://tcat.cs.washington.edu/community/toy-adaptation/>

A short video recently put together about the Library can also be viewed here.

<https://drive.google.com/a/provail.org/file/d/1JyFemqhb-1Y1wAaAM1oTVXcW43RVPwiS/view?usp=sharing>