


Case Study Six - Tina

Introduction




Case Study Six

Introduction

Name : Tina

Likes:

- Photography
- Drawing
- Making paper flowers
- Movies
- All things 'technological'



Issues:


- Missed many years of school
- History of substance abuse
- Reluctant to take risks with learning
- Limited concentration
- Functioning at about five years below chronological age in literacy

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Tina is an amazing 13 year old who was initially 'vocally reluctant' to engage with ReadOn or me. Through conversation I discovered that although not so keen on computers, Tina loved photography and nature. She was also very creative in her drawings and loved making paper flowers to brighten up the classroom. Tina also enjoyed movies and it was in a conversation about 'The Sisterhood of the Travelling Pants' where Tina and I pondered over who the main character was, that I realized Tina was a bright young lady.

In her thirteen years Tina had faced many challenges that made learning difficult. She had missed many years of school, had a history of substance abuse, was understandably reluctant to take risks with learning, had limited concentration and was functioning at about five years below her chronological age in literacy.

How Tina uses ReadOn



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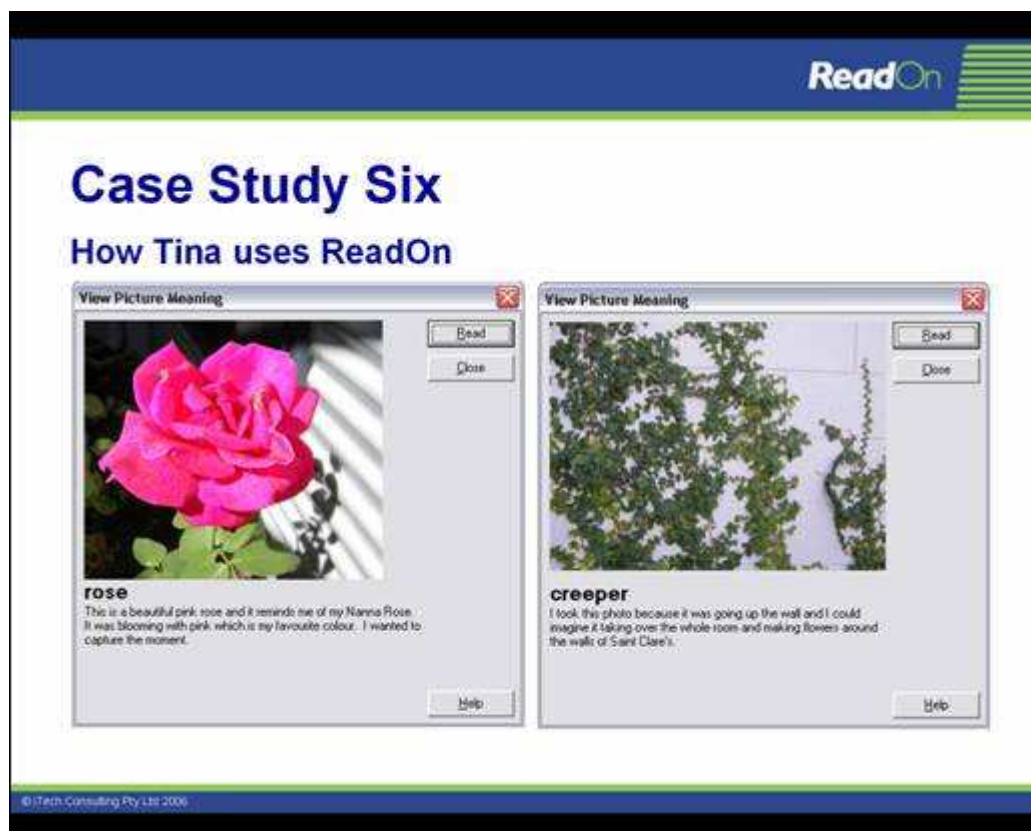
How Tina uses ReadOn

- Access to text of interest
- Photos as a springboard for self-expression
- Planning and writing tool
- Editing tool
- Means of showcasing writing
- Visual dictionary of tricky works

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- Photos as a springboard for self expression – Photography proved to be a wonderful way of engaging Tina in oral and written language. Tina would take photos, describe the intention and feeling behind each photo for me to type into ReadOn’s visual dictionary, and finally use the photography experience as ‘food’ for a recount. Initially I would type for Tina, however Tina gradually took control of the whole writing/editing process, typing her recounts into ReadOn and then using the voices to edit her work.
- Means of showcasing her writing – ReadOn enabled Tina to share her work with an audience without the stress of having to read. It was a delight to watch Tina’s face as she used ReadOn to read her work paragraph at a time to an interested audience. She would click on ‘paragraph’ and then enjoy the reactions of her audience.

- Visual dictionary of tricky words – Using ReadOn we made a visual dictionary of tricky words. Each day Tina would choose a few words she was having difficulty spelling, use clay to make the words and an image to match the word, photograph the word and image, enter the image into ReadOn and then enter a meaningful definition or sample sentence. Tina needed little encouragement to revisit her visual dictionary – very effective for spelling revision.
- Independent access to text of interest –It was particularly important for Tina to be able to take risks in the safest environment. ReadOn enabled Tina to independently access age appropriate text, and with the support of word assist have a go at decoding tricky words without fear of judgement.



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How Tina uses ReadOn



View Picture Meaning




pot-plant
I wanted to take this picture because of the leaves spreading out and making a star shape. The leaves go all the way out to the bottom. The plant makes the room look open.

View Picture Meaning



blooms
I wanted to take this picture because the flowers were together making a pretty group of pink.

How Tina benefits from ReadOn



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How Tina benefits from ReadOn

- Success in reading
- Motivation and inspiration for writing
- Able to comfortably share her writing
- Takes responsibility for editing
- Tina is actually risk taking
- Tina is producing work that she is proud of.

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- ReadOn enabled Tina experience success and independence with reading. Using word assist Tina was able to independently access text of interest.
- Incorporating her own digital photographs into her writing gave Tina the motivation and inspiration to have a go and then continue to write.
- The voices included with ReadOn allowed Tina to share her work with an audience when she was not yet ready to read.
- ReadOn provided Tina with the means to edit her work without a critical audience.
- Without realising it, Tina was actually taking risks with learning by presenting her own ideas both visually and in writing.
- Most importantly, by using ReadOn Tina was producing work of which she was immensely proud.