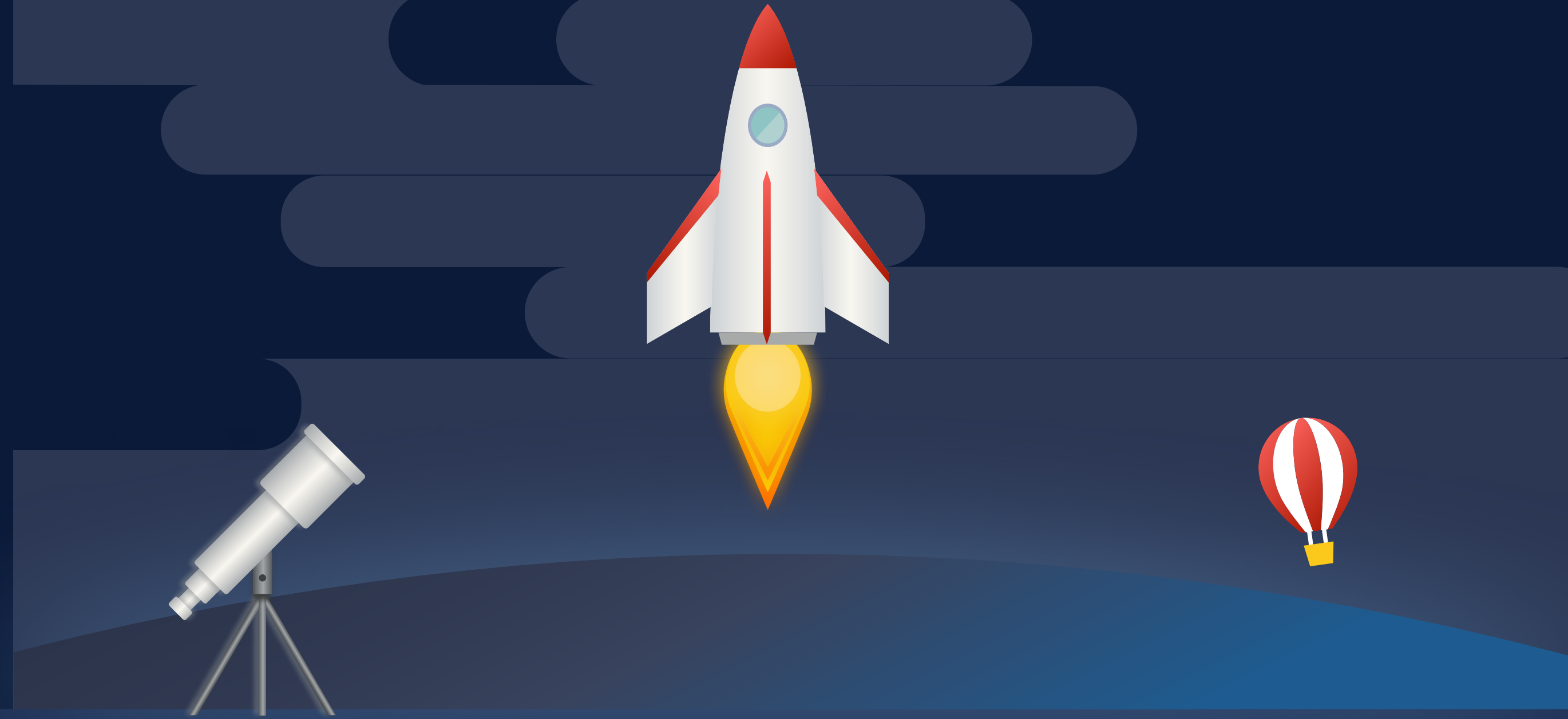




Screen Readers and Beyond

A Guide to Assistive Technology for Digital Access



#01

Defining Assistive Technology

● What Is Assistive Technology

● Assistive technology is any device, software, or equipment used to maintain or enhance the functional capabilities of people with disabilities.

● The U.S. Federal Definition of Assistive Technology

● The term “assistive technology device” means any item, piece of equipment, or product system, whether acquired commercially off the shelf, modified, or customized, that is used to increase, maintain, or improve the functional capabilities of a child with a disability.

[20 U.S.C. Chapter 33, Section 1401 (25)]



Types of Assistive Technology



Low-Tech

- *Not Electronic or Battery Operated*
- *Free or Low Cost*
- *Zero to Some Training*



Mid-Tech

- Maybe Electronic or Battery Operated
- Inexpensive
- Some Training



High-Tech

- Electronic / Digital
- Expensive
- Requires Training

• Categories of Assistive Technology

- Mobility, Seating, and Positioning
- Vehicle Modifications and Transportation
- Vision
- Speech Communication
- Daily Living
- Computers (Software and Hardware)
- Learning Cognition and Developmental
- Recreation and Leisure Devices
- Hearing
- Environmental Adaptations

● Access to Assistive Technology

Not all people with disabilities have equal access to technology and assistive technology.





#02

Assistive Technology for Digital Access

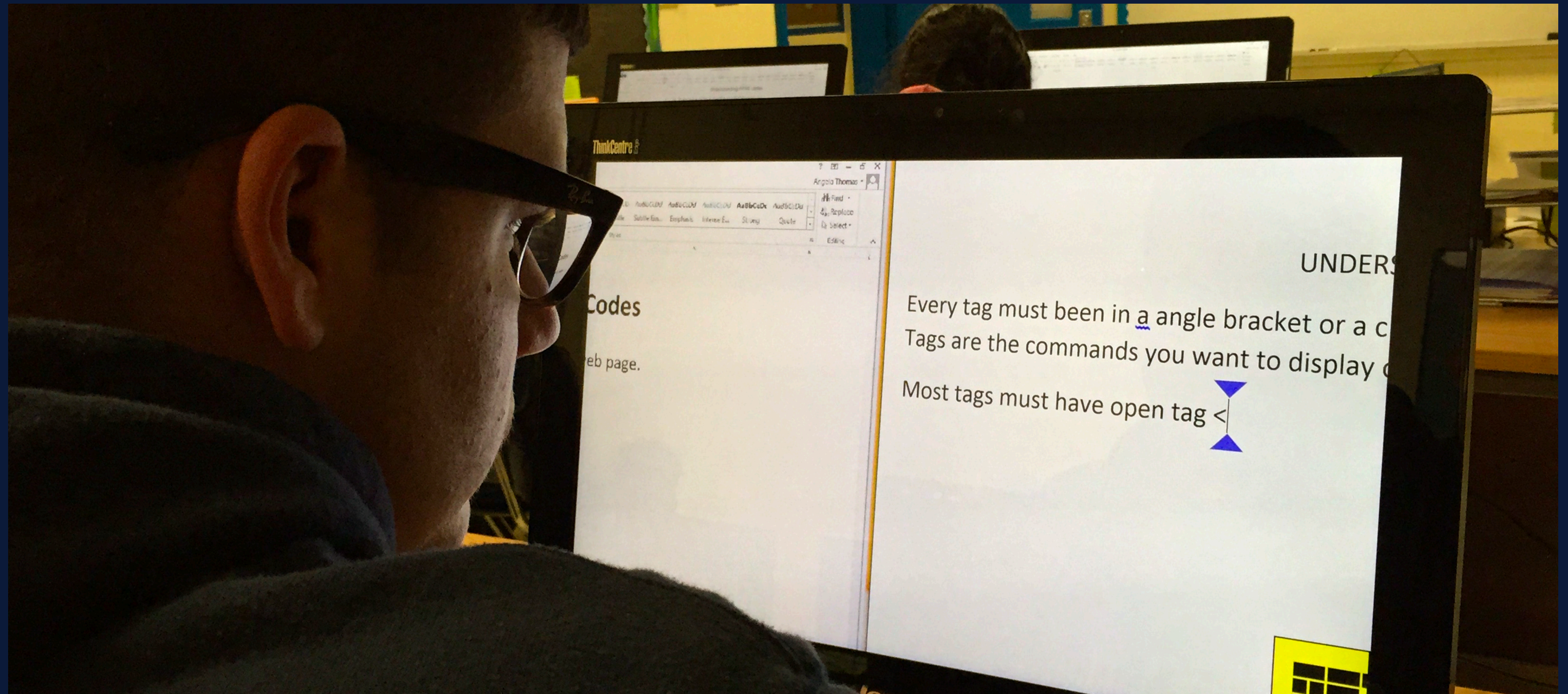
- Alternative Input Devices



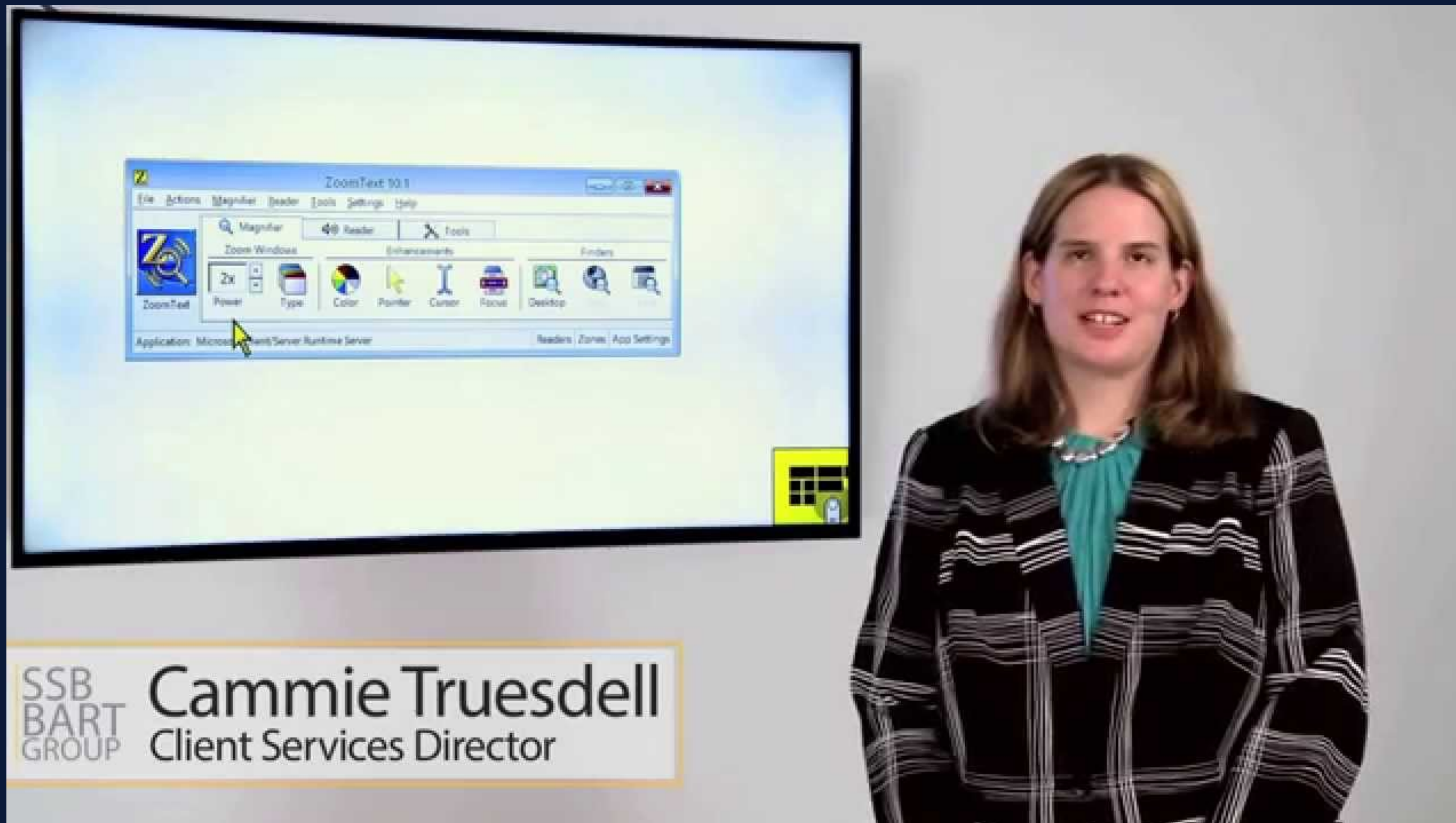
- Switch Control



- Screen Magnification Software



- ZoomText



The image shows a woman with long brown hair, wearing a black and white patterned jacket over a teal top, standing next to a large screen. The screen displays the ZoomText 10.1 software interface. The interface includes a menu bar with 'File', 'Actions', 'Magnifier', 'Reader', 'Tools', 'Settings', and 'Help'. Below the menu bar is a toolbar with icons for 'Magnifier', 'Reader', and 'Tools'. The main area of the interface is divided into three sections: 'Zoom Windows' with a '2x' magnification level, 'Enhancements' with icons for 'Power', 'Type', 'Color', 'Pointer', 'Cursor', 'Focus', and 'Desktop', and 'Finders' with icons for 'Find', 'Find Next', and 'Find Previous'. The status bar at the bottom indicates 'Application: Microsoft Word/Server Runtime Server' and 'Readers | Zones | App Settings'.

SSB BART GROUP Cammie Truesdell
Client Services Director

- Text-to-Speech Software



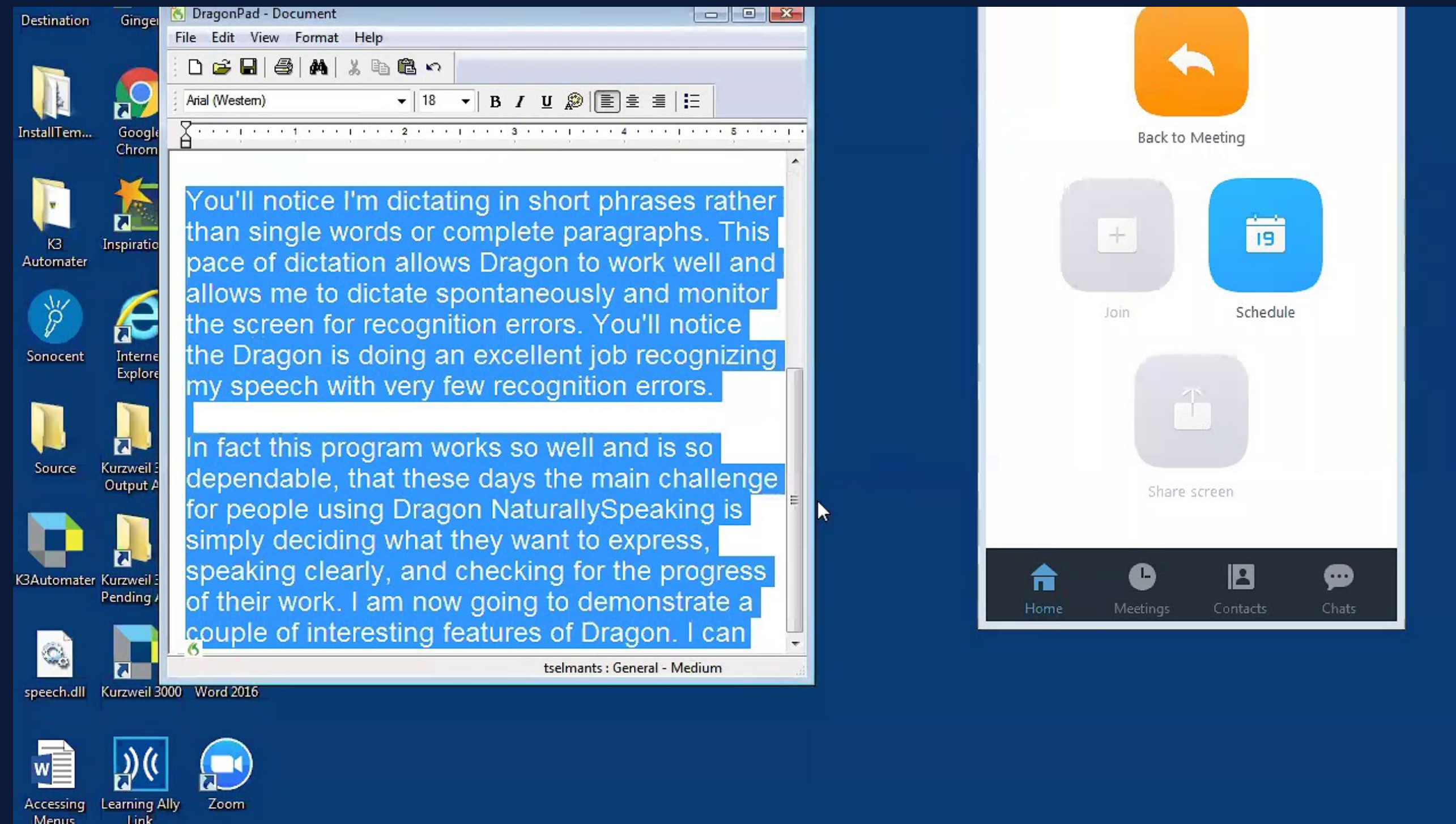
- Natural Reader



- Speech Input Software



• Dragon Naturally Speaking




- Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC) Devices



- Message Banking








- Screen Readers



× You are currently on a link. To click this link, press Caps Lock-Space.

The Starry Night
Vincent van Gogh 1889

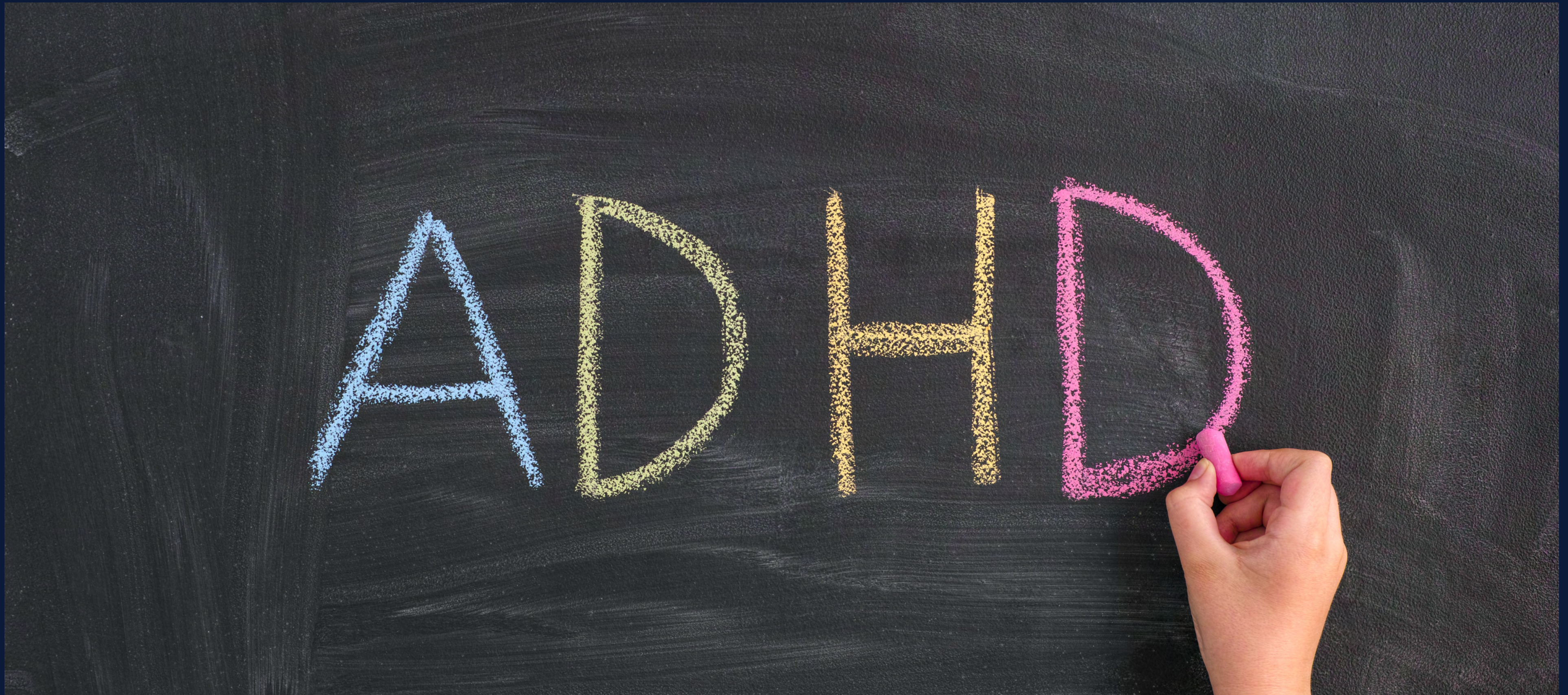
 View in Augmented Reality  View in Street View

MoMA
MoMA The Museum of Modern Art
New York, United States

Van Gogh's night sky is a field of roiling energy. Below the exploding stars, the village is a place of quiet order. Connecting earth and sky is the flamelike cypress, a [tree](#) traditionally associated with graveyards and mourning. But death was not ominous for van Gogh. "Looking at the stars always makes me dream," he said, "Why, I ask myself, shouldn't the shining dots of the sky be as accessible as the black dots on the [map](#) of France? Just as we take the train to get to [Tarascon](#) or Rouen, we take death to reach a star"

be the large white star just left of center in The Starry Night. The hamlet, on the other hand, is invented, and the church spire evokes van Gogh's native land, the Netherlands. The painting, like its daytime companion, The Olive Trees, is rooted in imagination and memory. Leaving behind the Impressionist doctrine of truth to nature in favor of restless feeling and intense color, as in this highly charged picture, van Gogh made his work a touchstone for all subsequent Expressionist painting.

- Not All Screen Reader Users Are Blind



Screen Reader Price Comparison



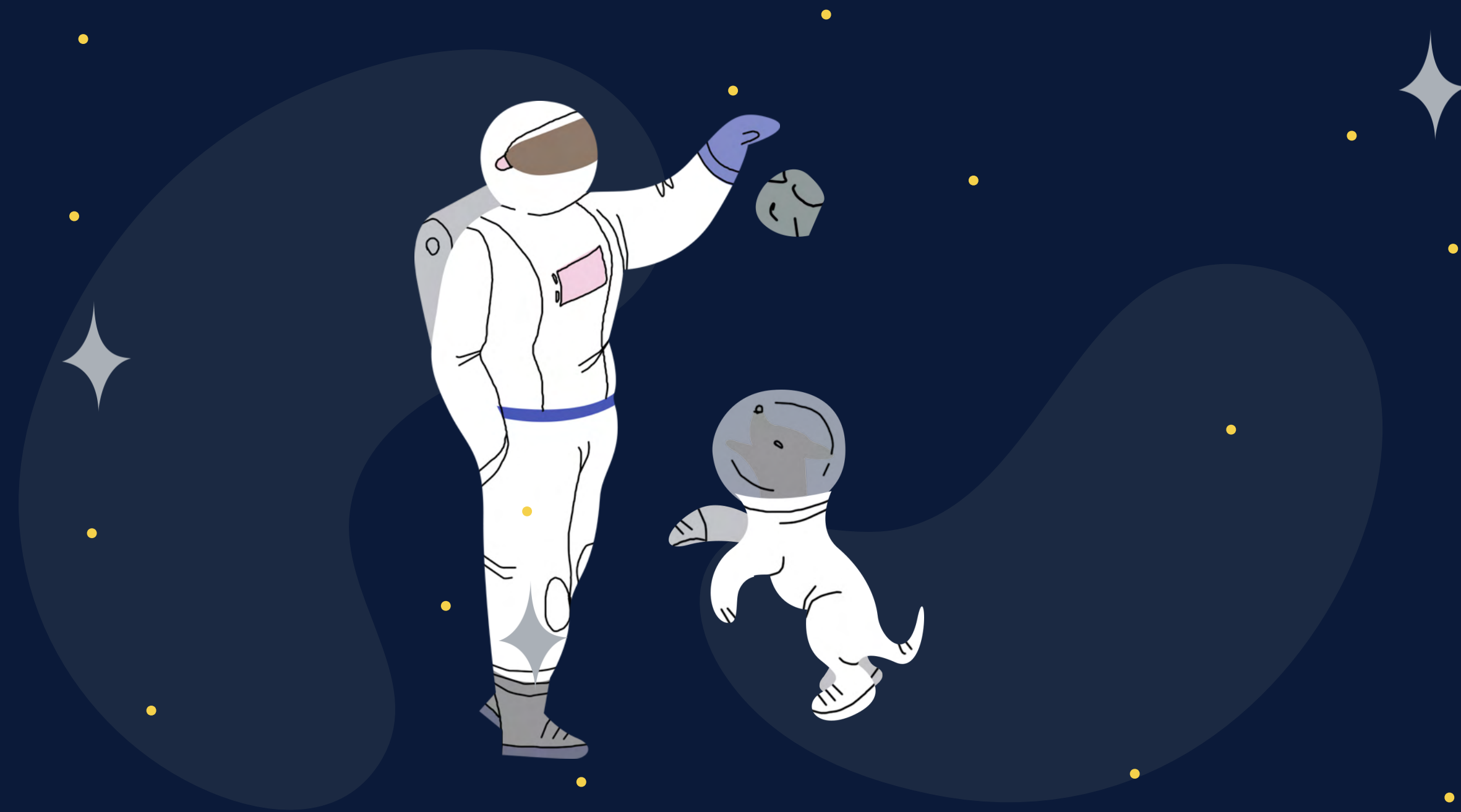
JAWS
\$95/year or \$1000 Perpetual
(\$1500)



VoiceOver
Built into macOS
(\$2,099)

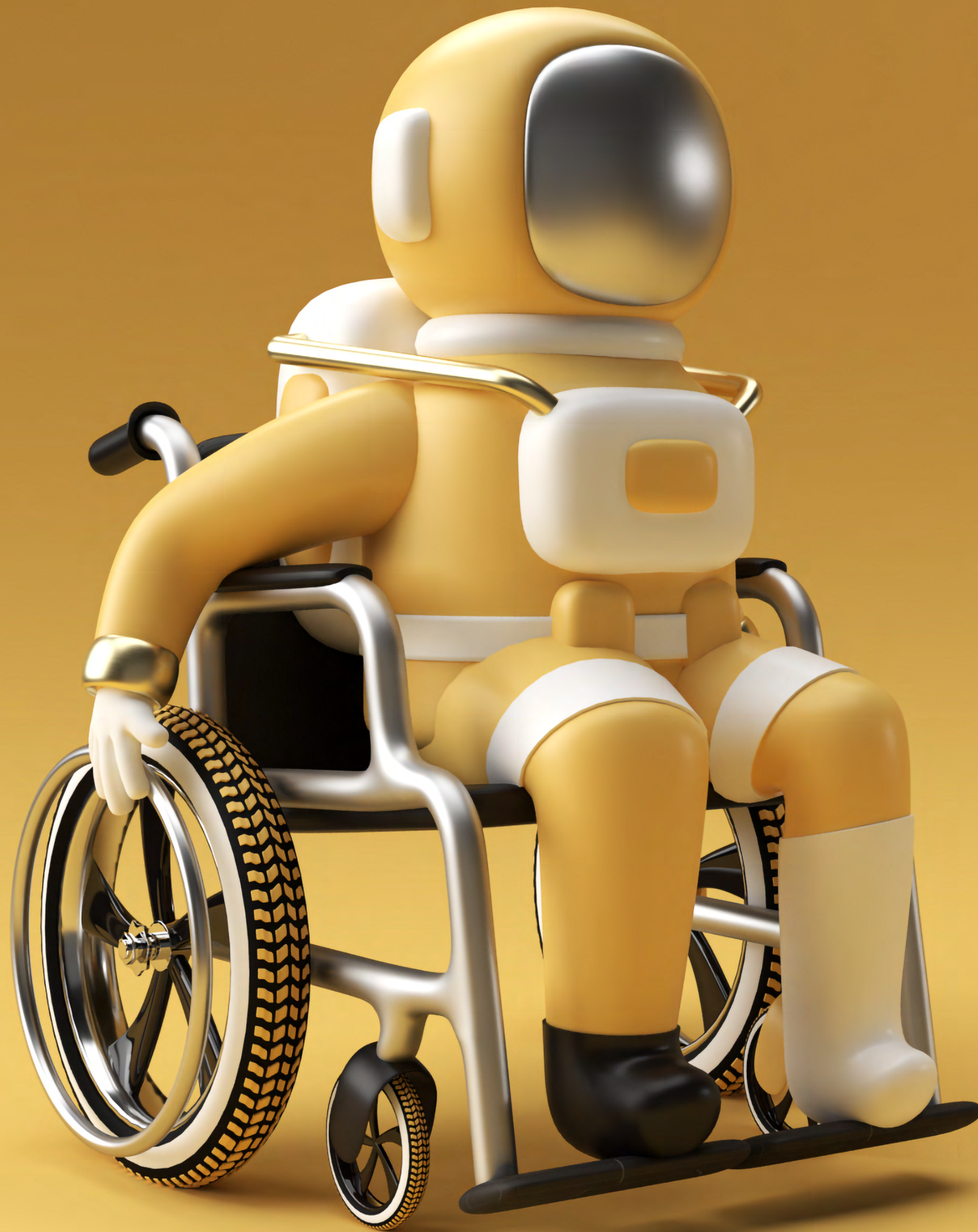


NDVA
\$0 (donations are
accepted)
(\$1500)



#03

Final
Thoughts



Make No
Assumptions

● Crystal Preston-Watson



Senior Digital Accessibility Analyst

Salesforce



@ScopicEngineer



CrystalPrestonWatson