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**DynaVox**

DynaVox Technologies originated from Sentient Systems Technology Inc. This company was founded in 1983. DynaVox was formed by businessman Tilden Bennett, an undergraduate student Gary Kilinay and Mark Friedman. DynaVox creates products that allow individuals who are unable to speak communicate. Some of these individuals may have cerebral palsy, autism or brain injuries. These products help make their lives easier. Many of the products are portable and flexible. Some of the products are costly and some are covered by various insurance companies.

DynaVox has been creating augumentive tools for non-verbal individuals since 1983. These products have been developing over the years. One product is called the EyeMax. The EyeMax allows individuals to communicate juts by staring at a certain area on the screen or through blinking. This product is made up of two parts: the Vmax and the EyeMax accessory. It is appropriate for people of all ages. Some of the benefits of this product include limited head movement, it functions in all light conditions and it provides quick communication. This product is very expensive; it costs bout eight thousand dollars. It was interesting to see this product in use such as with little three year old Ally. She was using it to read about animals. All she had to do was focus her eyes on an image to pick what she wanted to read about. It seemed like she was learning how to use it and focus on the image. It was very interesting. It also reminds me to be so thankful for being able to verbally communicate.

Another great product made by DynaVox is the Tango. This product was designed to help young people communicate quickly helping express their thoughts and feelings. The tango offers different ways to communicate based on the age group. You can even choose different voices. This device offers more than two thousand phrases. Word banks are organized by topics. The tango connects to the computer making the use of the computer easier. This product seems to be remarkable. Its cost can be covered by Medicare, Medicaid or private insurance.

It was interesting to learn about DynaVox. There are so many products available for people of all ages who are not able to verbally communicate. Until taking this course I was unaware of all of these devices. It was interesting to learn how these devices can truly help make the quality of life better for some people.