

Voice4Me

v 1.0



What Voice4Me is Designed to Do

Voice4Me is designed as a quick and simple way to bring speech to users who have difficulty speaking. There are 14 picture/text-to-speech areas per tab. There are 11 tabs for a total of 154 picture/text-to-speech areas for this program. When the user clicks on a picture, the computer responds by reading the text assigned to the picture. For example, if the user clicks on a picture of a moon, the computer may respond by saying “I am tired, it is time for bed.” Voice4Me allows the settings to be customized with pictures and text to meet the needs of the user. There is also a blank text box for the user to type sentences for the computer to read.

There are some 3rd party voices that can be downloaded or purchased that have better speech capabilities than using Sam or the other voices that comes with Windows. We suggest trying voices out to see if they work before purchasing the voices.

Although Voice4Me is intended to help users with speech difficulties, there are other uses for this program. Students learning English can use this program to find pronunciations of words. Students can also load pictures and type words or phrases to associate with that particular picture. The computer can then audibly speak the word (or phrases) as well as spell the word to the user when the picture is clicked. This is great for repetition when learning new words and definitions.

System Requirements

Windows 2000 SP4, Windows XP, Windows Vista

25 MB Free Hard Drive Space *

800x600 Screen Resolution

Speakers

Touch Screen Optional

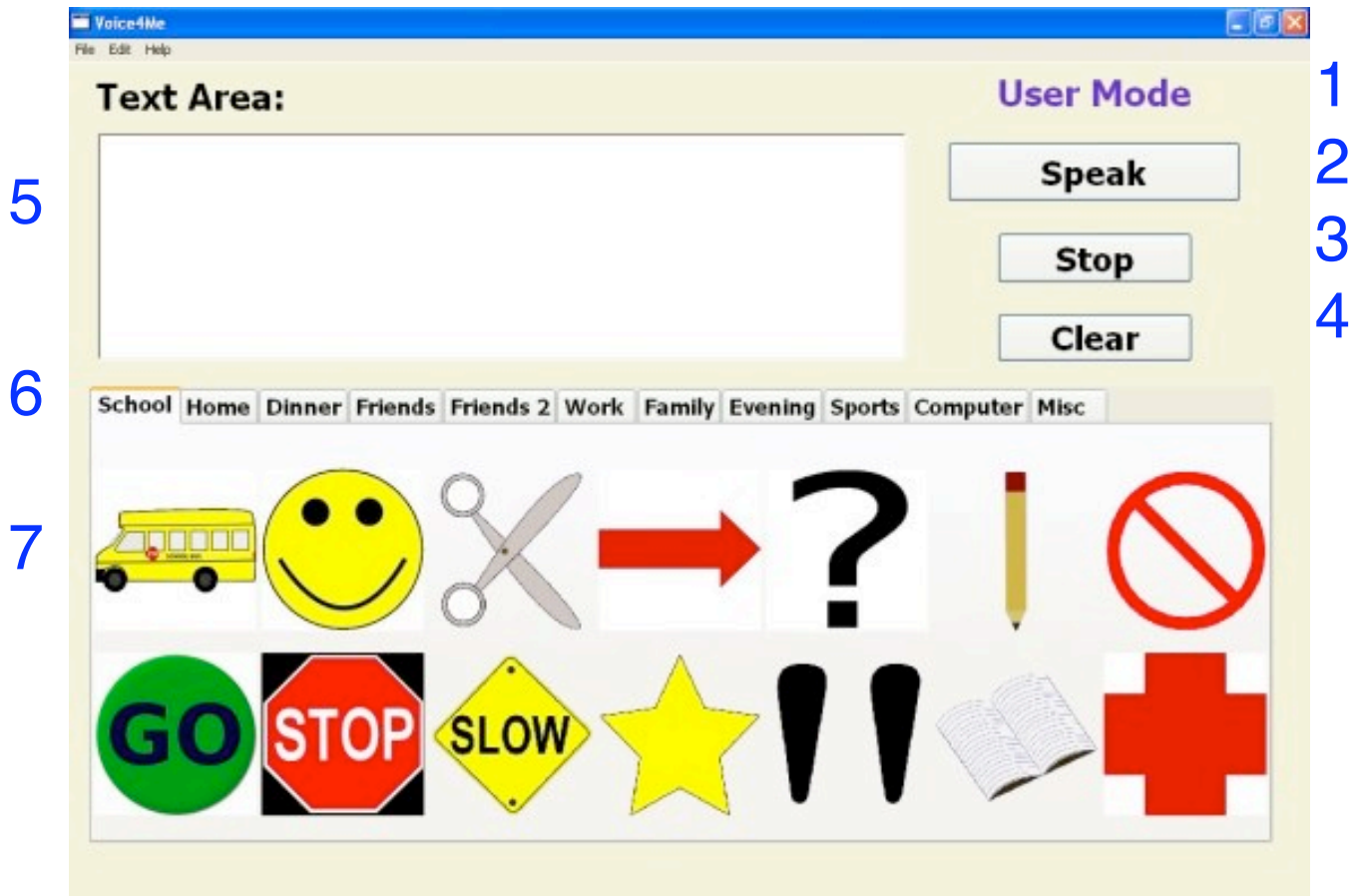
* Downloading additional pictures may require additional hard drive space.

Installing Voice4Me

1. Read the End User Licensing Agreement (EULA). If you find the terms acceptable then proceed to Step
2. Download Voice4Me for Windows.
3. Once the file is downloaded, unzip Voice4Me.zip
4. Run Setup
5. Follow the on-screen directions.
6. Voice4Me is now ready for use.

User Interface

User Mode



1. User/Edit Mode Label

This label shows what mode Voice4Me is in. There is the User Mode for using the program and the Edit Mode for changing the settings.

2. Speak

This button tells the computer to speak the text in the Text Area.

3. Stop

This button stops the computers speech.

4. Clear

This button clears the Text Area

5. Text Area

The Text Area allows the user to type text that the user wants the computer say.

6. Tabs

There are 11 tabs that can be named. Each tab holds 14 picture/text-to-speech areas.

7. Picture/Text-to-Speech Areas

These areas hold a picture and the text that the computer will speak. When the user clicks on the picture the computer will speak the text that the area is holding.

Edit Mode

To enter Edit Mode, click Edit --> Edit Mode or press Ctrl - E

When Edit Mode is entered the Edit Tabs button appears next to the User/Edit Mode Label. When this button is pressed the Tab Setup window appears.

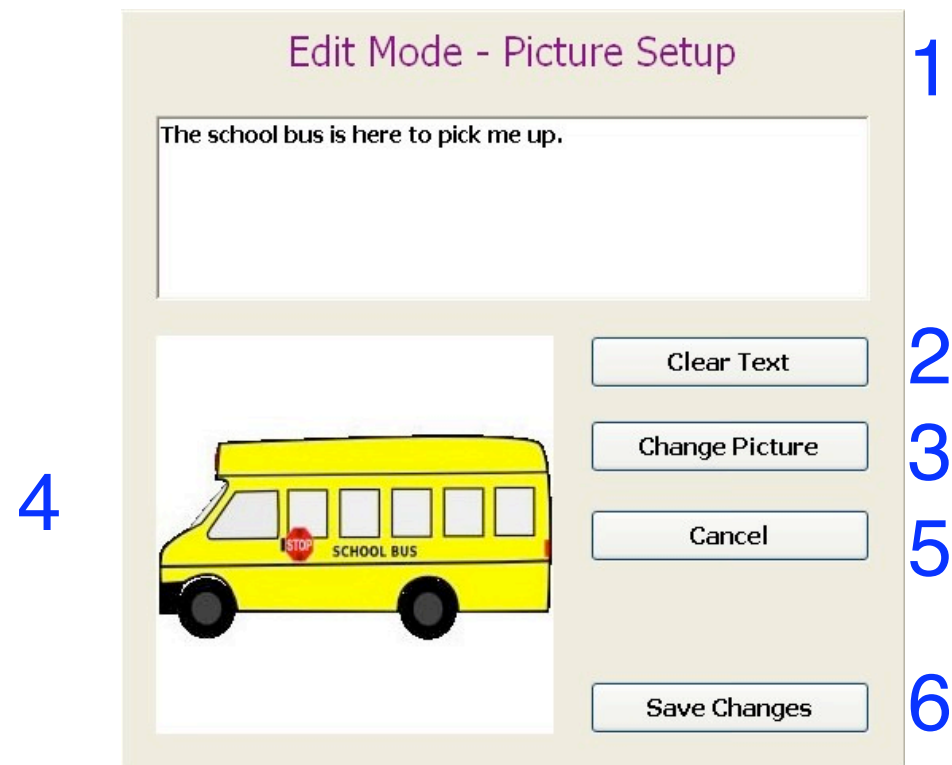


Edit Mode - Tab Setup

Current Tab Name	New Tab Name
School	<input type="text" value="School"/>
Home	<input type="text" value="Home"/>
Dinner	<input type="text" value="Dinner"/>
Friends	<input type="text" value="Friends"/>
Friends 2	<input type="text" value="Friends 2"/>
Work	<input type="text" value="Work"/>
Family	<input type="text" value="Family"/>
Evening	<input type="text" value="Evening"/>
Sports	<input type="text" value="Sports"/>
Computer	<input type="text" value="Computer"/>
Misc	<input type="text" value="Misc"/>

The Tab Setup window displays the current name of each tab and an area to type the new name of the tab. Keep the names of the tabs simple and small. Large amounts of text may not fit on screens using smaller screen resolutions.

When a Picture/Text-to-Speech area is clicked on, under Edit Mode, the Picture Setup window appears.



1. Text-To-Speech Area

This area holds the text that the computer will speak when the user clicks on the picture in User Mode. For using this area for spelling purposes, the following comma-space format works best. To get the computer to spell the word separate each letter with a comma then a space.

Example of spelling school:

School, S, C, H, O, O, L, School

The computer will say “School” then say each letter individually, then say “School” again.

2. Clear Text

This button clears the Text-To-Speech Area

3. Change Picture

This button allows the user to select a new picture to be displayed. Any jpg, bmp, tiff, gif, pict, and png picture can be used with this program. We suggest using jpg pictures no larger than 640x 640 and no smaller than 250 height or width in size. Older computers may have trouble loading large pictures into memory so keeping the pictures relatively small is very important. Many websites now have royalty free pictures for download.

4. Picture Preview

The picture that will be displayed is show here.

5. Cancel

Cancel closes the window without saving.

6. Save Changes

This button saves the new settings.

Changing How Voice4Me Talks

Voice4Me uses the built-in voices of Windows. In addition to the voices supplied by Microsoft, there are 3rd party voices (SchoolFreeware does not have any voices) available for purchase off the Internet. If 3rd party voices are desired, we suggest using a trial version of the voice first. That way you will be sure that the voice will work with Voice4Me.

To change the voices and speed for Voice4Me, change the voice and speed sound properties found in the Speech Settings within the Windows Control Panel.

Keyboard Shortcuts

Edit/User Mode	Ctrl E
Cut	Ctrl X
Copy	Ctrl C
Paste	Ctrl V
Select All	Ctrl A
Help	Ctrl ?
Quit	Alt F4