Access to Blissymbolics in ICT, state-of-the-art and visions

Mats Lundälv

BCI

(Blissymbolics Communication International)
Where to find Bliss
- with a focus on technology

• Bliss on the Internet
  – Information, educational resources, etc.
  – Vocabulary, tools etc.

• Software
  – AAC software with specific support for Blissymbolics
  – AAC software supporting Bliss, among other symbols
  – Bliss in standard software
  – Tools for the maintenance of the Bliss vocabulary
  – Bliss on the mobile – smart-phones, touch pads etc.

• R & D
Bliss on the Internet (1)

BCI
Blissymbolics Communication International

www.blissymbolics.org
www.blissymbolics.org/index.php/resources

News - information, Blissymbol vocabulary resources, Educational resources, International Community network, and more.

www.blissymbolics.org/community

Access to Bliss – Mats Lundälv – BCI, 2015
Bliss on the Internet (2)

Blissymbolics Language: Online Nexus

http://blissymbolics.org/moodle
Access to Bliss – Mats Lundälv – BCI, 2015

Bliss on the Internet (3)

BCIC

Blissymbolics
Communication Institute Canada

www.blissymbolics.ca
BlissOnline
www.blissonline.se

Online Blissymbol vocabulary, lexicon and chart resources and services – now also an online editor to create Blissymbol documents (based on text input, so not primarily for AAC users, but for supporters.)
Bliss on the Internet (5)

facebook:
Blissymbols Community (non-AAC)

https://www.facebook.com/pages/Blissymbols/298159500318475
Bliss on the Internet (6)

US:

George Sutton (non-AAC and sometimes non-standard symbols)

Blissymbolics Resources
www.the-symbols.net/blissymbolics/

Douglas Crockford (non-AAC and largely non-standard symbols)

Blissym (Semantography, Blissymbolics) - www.blissym.com/, and
Blissymbolics Bibliography - www.crockford.com/bliss/blissbibib.html
Bliss on the Internet (7)

Russia:

http://blissinfo.ru/

Access to Bliss – Mats Lundälv – BCI, 2015
Bliss on the Internet (8)


Blissbulletinen - www.blissbulletinen.se (Swedish)

DART - www.dart-gbg.org – Tips & Material – Blisskartor, kurser mm (Swedish)

DAHJM -Hjälpmedel - Mind Express - material (Swedish)

SÖK - www.sokcentrum.se – Böcker, utbildning (Swedish)

Blisspostprojektet - www.blisspost.org (old and not updated - Swedish)

… and more to be found via links on these sites.

ISAAC Norge – Bliss - www.isaac.no/kategori/tegnsystemer/bliss-tegnsystemer)

Papunet - www.papunet.net, Papunet – Bliss-portti – Bliss-porten (Finnish & Swedish)

Bliss Kommunikation DK - http://blisscommunication.dk/

Blissymbolics on Facebook:

Blissymbols Community
https://www.facebook.com/pages/Blissymbols/298159500318475

Mötesplats Bliss (in Swedish)
https://www.facebook.com/groups/113376055260/

Access to Bliss – Mats Lundälv – BCI, 2015
Bliss on the Internet (9)

- Lexicon resources of Språkbanken (the Swedish ”Language Bank”) – with bliss (Sweden):
  http://spraakbanken.gu.se/karplabb/#?page=1&hpp=25&extended=and|pos|equals|nn&search
  Tab=simple&resources=bliss&search=simple||Blissymbol
  (in development)

- Wikipedia (& “8-sidor”) with bliss – Peter Ljunglöf et al (Sweden):
  www.grammaticalframework.org/~peter/simplypedia/simplypedia.cgi

More prototype resources – P Ljunglöf (Sweden):
https://blissymbolics.github.io/blisssymbols/blissviewer-demo.html
www.cse.chalmers.se/~peb/blisstables/index.html

- SymbLang - Organizing the Bliss Symbol Language –
  Ronald Kohls (Berlin, Germany): http://symblang.kokonet.de/

- Try Bliss – Jonatas Paganini (Brazil): http://bliss.ideia.me/

- Blissificator (Andres Soolo) - prototype tool for creating Bliss text:
  www.mirky.net/~dig/blissify.html

Access to Bliss – Mats Lundälv – BCI, 2015
Software

AAC software with specific support for Bliss (1)

• The Symbol for Windows series (www.handicom.nl)
Software

AAC software with specific support for Bliss (2)

Mind Express (www.jabbla.com)

www.rehabcenter.se/produktblad/mindexpress.htm
www.kommed.nu/program/mind_express.htm
Software

AAC software with specific support for Bliss (3)

MisterBLISS ([http://www.misterbliss.it](http://www.misterbliss.it))

Italian web based or locally installed cross-platform software package.

Published 2010. So far only in Italian.
Software

AAC software supporting Bliss, among other symbols (1)

The Grid 2

www.sensorysoftware.com

http://sensorysoftware.com/grid-software-for-aac/grid2_aac_software/symbol-communication/
Software

AAC software supporting Bliss, among other symbols (2)

- **Widgit software** – now with recently updated Blissymbol library support – so far primarily for the Swedish market
- www.widgit.com
- www.hargdata.se/p_se_bliss.htm
Software

AAC software supporting Bliss, among other symbols (3)

Speaking Dynamically Pro
www.mayer-johnson.com/products/boardmaker-sdp/

Rolltalk Workshop
www.rolltalk.com
www.abilia.org.uk/

Coming: Complete Blissymbol libraries for Widgit software,
Tobii Communicator
Rolltalk Workshop
...and others ...

Access to Bliss – Mats Lundälv – BCI, 2015
Software

Bliss in standard software (1)

Blissymbol support in LibreOffice/OpenOffice Writer
– developed in AEGIS (www.aegis-project.eu), see: www.conceptcoding.org

An extension to OpenOffice Writer which matches words to a database of concepts with Blissymbol representations (and currently ARASAAC symbols).
Software

Bliss in standard software (2)

Office software etc + a symbol file library, e.g.:

- MS Word or OO/LO Writer + folder with symbol files – drag and drop symbol files in the file folder into documents – use the file search to find words included in the gloss and file name – use centred tabs to align symbols and words

- Word, Writer etc. together with the export functionalities of WinBliss or Symbol For Windows
Software

Bliss in standard software (3)

Student project – uncertain future – interesting approach and principle:

**Blink** (Bliss Ink): A piece of Blissymbol software developed at the Nanyang Polytechnic School in Singapore.
Software

Tools for the maintenance of the Bliss vocabulary (1)

• WinBliss (www.anycom.se)
Software

Tools for the maintenance of the Bliss vocabulary

Symbol for Windows

Bliss Editor, Paper Chart Maker
(www.handicom.nl)
Software

Tools for the maintenance of the Bliss vocabulary (3)

MindExpress
www.jabbla.com
www.rehabcenter.se

Chapter 10 - Bliss Editor

Bliss Editor is an accessory to Mind Express that allows you to create your own Bliss symbols. Bliss Editor is based on the standard Bliss rules. You can use the basic shapes to create new Bliss symbols or you can combine existing Bliss symbols.

To start Bliss Editor:
1. Click the Start button at the bottom left corner of the screen.
2. Move the pointer to Programs.
3. Hold the pointer over Programs until the list of available programs appears.
4. Hold the pointer over Mind Express.
5. Click Bliss Editor.

Access to Bliss – Mats Lundälv – BCI, 2015
Software

Tools for the maintenance of the Bliss vocabulary (4)

BlissOnline

www.blissonline.se

Back-office editors and tools used by SPSM for maintenance of BlissOnline and as production tools for other SPSM Bliss products - not publicly available
Software

Tools for the maintenance of the Bliss vocabulary (5)

BlissTool http://jfbouzereau.free.fr/BLISS/bliss0.html (non AAC - free)

With BlissTool you can now chat with anybody in the world regardless of their native language!

BlissTool uses Blissymbols. Blissymbols is a set of symbols invented by Austrian Charles K. Bliss (1897-1985). His ambition was to provide the world with a universal system to communicate beyond linguistic barriers. The symbols are little pictograms or ideograms very easy to learn and to combine to create additional meanings. You can get more information about Blissymbols through google, yahoo or wikipedia.

BlissTool is an integrated environment allowing to use blissymbols on the computer. It currently includes the following modules:

A **Instant Messaging** widget to chat with other people directly by means of blissymbols. The system uses the open Jabber protocol. A list of jabber servers by country can be found [here](http://www.xabber.com).

A **Page** widget to compose bliss sentences, to copy to the clipboard as text or to paste text from the clipboard as bliss symbols. This allows to interface traditional softwares (word processor, mail program) which do not support bliss symbols.

A **Drawing Board** to draw new bliss words using a set of 96 basic shapes.

A **Search** widget to look for words containing a given pattern of shapes.

A **Thesaurus** widget to class information according to themes.

A **Language** widget to choose your language or help to translate the dictionary into your language.

BlissTool is free software and can be downloaded [here](http://jfbouzereau.free.fr/BLISS/bliss0.html).

Access to Bliss – Mats Lundälv – BCI, 2015
Software

Bliss on the mobile – smart-phones, touch pads etc. (1)

iBlissymbols for iPhone, iPod Touch, iPad

(http://www.q-s.pl/iblissymbols/)

Access to Bliss – Mats Lundälv – BCI, 2015
Software

Bliss on the mobile – smart-phones, touch pads etc. (2)

The CCF AAC app for Android (developed in AEGIS)
- in user mode (left) and set-up mode (right)
Software

Bliss on the mobile – smart-phones, touch pads etc. (3)

AAC apps for iPad or/and Android with Blissymbol libraries

WidgitGo (left), GridPlayer (right), TalkingTiles (bottom)
Conditions for using bliss

Licences and usage conditions for Blissymbolics:

The Blissymbol vocabulary is available and may be used and distributed on the following terms:

Freely for personal and personal and local use

May be accessed from BCI and re-distributed in as part of free resources under a free “copyleft” licence – CreativeCommons-BY-SA

May be accessed from BCI and re-distributed in as part of proprietary non-free products under a traditional license agreement with BCI

For details see www.blissymbolics.org – Licensing Conditions for Blissymbolics

Access to Bliss – Mats Lundälv – BCI, 2015
Note: very preliminar and incomplete list !!


The AEGIS project  www.aegis-project.eu
The Concept Coding Framework:  www.conceptcoding.org
The SYMBERED project:  www.symbolnet.org
The WWAAC project:  www.wwaac.eu

The Bliss-Dasher project


Michael Everson, Blisssymbolics Unicode Font
http://www.evertype.com/standards/iso15924

Anna Elisabeth du Preez, 2006, Univ. of Pretoria, Supervisor: Prof. J. Bornman

TRANSLUCENCY RATINGS OF BLISS SYMBOLS

Abrahamsson Lotta & Ljung Ida-Karin (Supervisor; Niklas Norén)

[PDF] Bliss i interaktion 2008 ("Bliss in Interaction" – masters theses in Swedish, abstract in English)

Aided Language Skills in Children Aged 5-15 Years – a multi-site and cross-cultural investigation

Project Principal Co-ordinator: Professor Stephen von Tetzchner, Oslo, Norway

Participation from:
Australia, Brazil, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Holland, Ireland, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, UK, USA

From Bliss Symbols to Grammatically Correct Voice Output: A Communication Tool for People with Disabilities, 2002 - http://www.springerlink.com/content/m6221011w66t78m3/fulltext.pdf

Péter Olaszi, Ilona Koutny and Sophia L. Kálmán

Electronic usage of BLISS symbols

N Sandor, G Varady, A Szalmas, C Sik Lanyi and Z Kalman, University of Veszprem/Hungarian Bliss Center, Budapest, Hungary

Please help us to fill in this list with as many missing old or new research and development projects related to Bliss as possible!!

... and with suggestions for new research needed!!

...