

## **Foot Pedal Keyboard**

The Principle to Learn	In God's Word
Man's creations change, but God's do not.	Isaiah 40:8

### **Preclass**



- Review the goals of ComputiVerse
- Review the Class Tips
- Review the Gospel Message

### **Process**

Include the steps of the gospel throughout the lesson; so while student attention is fresh, the real lesson is being planted.

Pray first.

People sometimes boast about their computers as being the latest and greatest, with this marvelous new feature and that first of its kind gizmo. "Mine's got everything but foot pedals and turn signals!"

But do you know that the keyboard once had a foot pedal?  
It really did. We'll see what it did in a minute.

**All** of the inventions, pictures, names, and buildings in this world have come to be, as improvements or CHANGES were made to something that already existed. Library books about the history of man show the continual changes in the things man has made, and how he has improved them. People often look at things that now exist and say, "There must be a better way." Whew! Don't you wish someone would invent an easier way to mow the lawn or paint a very long fence?

The keyboard that puts letters and numbers on paper or on the computer screen has changed almost continuously, even to this day. You can read about those many changes and about the persons who made those changes at  
**[www.mavisbeacon.com](http://www.mavisbeacon.com)**

Do you know that the keyboard and the monitor are the two most DANGEROUS parts of the computer? The monitor can do great harm to our eyes, if we stare at it too long without resting our eyes, or if we're not careful in how bright we make it, or even if there's glare from a light or a window shining on it.



The keyboard requires tremendous use of finger and wrist muscles that get tired very quickly just like the other muscles in the body. Many of the finger muscles go through a small hole in the wrist bones; those must have their rest just as our eyes and legs require. Companies are very careful to see that their employees who use keyboards regularly do exercises to rest their wrists, so that they will not develop carpal tunnel syndrome.

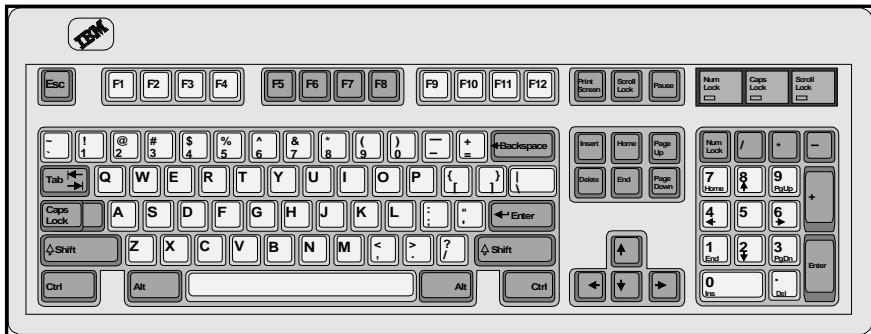
Being concerned about the harm that may come from using machinery over long periods of time is called **ergonomics**. Perhaps the typewriter foot pedal that was invented many years ago came into existence because someone realized that typists had a need for it.

One problem in using with a keyboard is that it takes a lot of effort to learn. To be able to "touch-type"-- that is, being able to type fast, using all ten fingers without looking at the keys, is a skill that is learned just like playing a piano or a piccolo. In today's fast-paced world, boys as well as girls, need to learn to touch-type. And for many people who have physical limitations, the keyboard is an impossible barrier to using a computer. Can you see that man's development of the keyboard isn't perfected yet? You and I need to incorporate our ideas. Come on; put on your thinking caps!

The arrangement of the keys and their sizes does look rather odd. The reasons for the present arrangement are very important. Let's see if we can list what we know about these. We'll put our answers at the end of this lesson.

(continued on next page)

## Checkup Time



Checkup Worksheet		
	My question	Write Your Answer
A	Why is there a clump of numbers on the right side of my keyboard?	
B	What's so special about the row of keys across the top of my keyboard that say "F1" and "F2", etc?	
C	I only have one Esc key. Why do I have two shift, Ctrl, and Alt keys?	
D	Why is the space key actually a space BAR, and is five times longer than most of the other keys?	

The keyboard as we know it, may almost disappear one of these days. Computers are becoming so powerful that they can actually recognize our speech and do our typing for us. What a wonderful development for the physically challenged! You just talk to the computer and it types what you say. By just speaking, you can also COMMAND it to enter a new page, or tell

it to do a whole bunch of other things. This is really a, “Look, Ma! No hands!” way of using our computer.

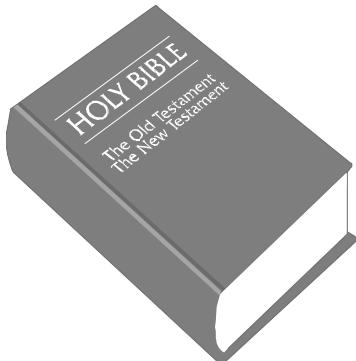


But because your voice is different from that of other people and even changes when you get a cold, computers can become confused.

There are many words in our language that have sound-alike partners that mean something entirely different. If you speak the word “eye” into your computer for instance, it wouldn’t know whether you were talking about the part of your body you see with (eye), or another word for me(I), or a sea-faring pirate’s version of “yes” (aye).

With words that sometimes confuse us, machinery that always seems to need improvements, and so many things changing about us, isn’t it wonderful that what God has made for us never needs changing or improving?

## ComputiVerse



Schoolbooks change, our clothes change, and the keyboard we type on changes. But the things created by God never can be improved upon, and never need changing. Growing up is a big and difficult job, and so is pleasing parents and teachers. Remembering to always give God praise for His creation and His gifts to us is also a challenge. God knew that we needed to learn about Him and about ourselves in the best way possible. So He sent His Son to show us, and then had His directions and guidelines written down so these can be reviewed over and over again.

God’s Word has never been improved upon, for it wasn’t created by man, but by God who showed men exactly what to write.

II Peter 1:21 says, *“For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.”*

The Bible will last forever without needing any changes. Isaiah 40:8 states, *“The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the word of our God shall stand for ever.”*

Keyboards may need foot pedals, but God’s Word needs nothing except for each of us to read it and hide it in our hearts, so that our talk and actions will always show others His love. (end)

## Interact Point Answers

- A. “Data Entry” people who enter numbers almost all day long can do it much faster if they don’t have to move their whole arm, only their fingers.
- B. The “Function Keys” don’t type words or stories. They make the computer programs DO different things. They make things happen. Example: in most computer programs, if we press the “F1” function key, we get help. It gets used a lot!
- C. The Escape key does its own thing. However the Shift, Control, and Alternate keys are just some of the HELPER keys. They don’t do anything by themselves they help most of the other keys do additional things. The reason we have two of each is that it is faster to use a little finger to hold down a helper key while we use the other hand to press another key at the same time. The same is true with the Shift keys
- D. The space bar is pressed only with the thumbs and since the thumbs of both hands are neighbors... well.

(end)

## **Keyboard Goo Story**

[Theme: All keyboards have drawbacks.]

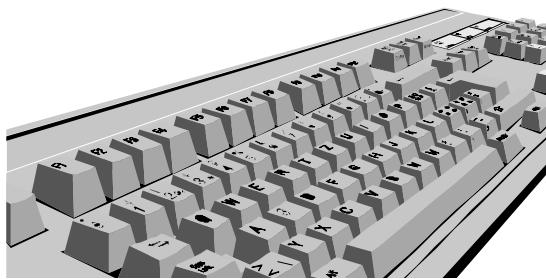
This year's Glover Computer Camp is the best ever, with the strangest of events yet to come. Several small workshops have taught lots of interesting things about the development of different parts of the computer. Would you believe that the first disk drive was the size of a side-by-side refrigerator? So many interesting facts were learned that it would take a month to sort them all out. A real favorite was Tom Beets who had single-handedly repaired the inside of his computer, including a replacement of his power supply. Oh, yes; I forgot to mention that Tom has been totally blind since birth. He's been zapped a couple times during his work, but he says his dedication always wins out. He's terrific!

The Keyboard Olympics was a blast. So many odd things were done with a keyboard. Did you ever see a "Two Toes Typist"? "Stereo computing" was very impressive. Two computers were set up side by side, while Dave typed on both keyboards at the same time. Is that a split personality, or what?! Hostile keyboarding was demonstrated by Larry, who pressed the keys using a B-B gun. That keyboard won't last very long!

Dede Jacobs, a typing speed record holder with 122 words per minute, began the final gala keyboard demonstration in front of the whole camp... or at least that's what everyone thought was going to happen. Dede described all the preparations and exercises she did to set the record. She really had everyone eating out of the palm of her hand, as she set up for the final competition of this year's camp. It would be boys against girls, with the girls being favored to win the typing contest. A large poster was hung up with the paragraph that had to be typed by each contestant. The boys' team had to choose one boy to represent them, and the girls likewise. Both champions were brought forward and introduced.

But then things turned strange. Two overhead video cameras were wheeled on stage and put in position. Both contestants were given raincoats and rain hats to put on. You could just feel the electricity building in the audience.

Dede explained all the rules, and warned the contestants that the overhead camcorders would record all the keystrokes pressed, for accuracy in judging. The audience roared with laughter and applause when they learned why the raingear was necessary. The keyboard on which each champion was to type, was made of PEANUT BUTTER!



anyhow. It was an unforgettable event.

For different needs, man designs a whole variety of computers, keyboards and monitors, and then finds they still aren't perfectly fitted to the need. Only God designs and creates just exactly what is needed without any required improvements. God knows our needs better than we...always. (end)

***Get ready! Get set! Go!*** And away they went! Both could only type a couple of words, then had to stop and lick their fingers to keep them from sticking together. But the worst was yet to be learned – half way through the paragraph, the letters on top of the peanut butter keys blurred so badly that the letters could not be seen. Is the letter D over here, or over there? Hey, wait a minute! I don't think the rules allow the camp dog to do any finger licking during a peanut butter typing contest! No one thought Dede's record would be broken here,

## **Photo Finger Dancing - Fun with Friends page.**

This Fun Page will require a camera. A digital camera will give best results. Also required is a group of senior citizens to have the most fun. Take pictures of one person's hands at a time. Their hands should be close together and touching a flat surface. Make sure there is plenty of light if your camera does not have a flash.

It is best if you have a piece of paper with a number on it that will appear in the photo of that person's hands. This number will match up with the numbered list of everyone you have taken pictures of. The idea is to then have a contest to see if they can identify whose hands are in each of the pictures.

You could even include the picture "quiz" on the Super Sixties bulletin board at church.

When we involve seniors in our missions efforts, things are always more fun. Many seniors are a bit uncomfortable around computers. But we can still include them in our projects and ask them for ideas. This is a project you can even do at the nursing home that your church visits.



With your friend think of important features that God has added to His design of our hands.

1. Nails on fingers instead of noses.
2. Nerves in fingers are closer together than on arms, so we can feel the smoothness of things.
3. Our finger muscles are in our arms so this keeps the size of our fingers small.
4. Our thumb "grips" unlike the animals.
5. Every fingerprint in the world is different. God made us unique!
6. We can draw pictures and type words that praise God for all His gifts to us.

Over 450 times, the scriptures mention hands. Ask a senior citizen why hands are so important in God's Word. David wrote a song (a Psalm) that mentions hands. After you have played the Hand Dancing quiz ask for their ideas of what David was saying in Psalm 143:5.

*"I remember the days of old; I meditate on all thy works; I muse on the work of thy hands."*

Psalms 143:5

What can you think of about Christ, the Cross, and His hands?

(end)