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## Monarch Teaching Technologies wins grant for software to teach autistic students

By **CHUCK SODER**  
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Monarch Teaching Technologies Inc. of Shaker Heights has received a \$730,000 federal grant to further develop its software, which teachers use to create multimedia lessons for students with autism.

The money, provided by the National Institutes of Health, will be used to turn the video modeling elements within the software system from prototypes into more sophisticated tools.

The VizZle software system was released in 2009 after four years of research and development paid for in part by the NIH, which provided the new grant through the Small Business Innovative Research program.

The majority owner of Monarch Teaching Technologies is Wingspan Care Group, a nonprofit in Shaker Heights that provides administrative services to the Bellefaire Jewish Children's Bureau. The bureau in turn runs Monarch Center for Autism, also in Shaker. Any money Wingspan earns would go to support the center, which is both a school and a hub for autism-related services.

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