Title: Knowledge Cloud
Content Area: Writing, Technology
NSCOS or Commore Core Objectives: CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.5.2c Link ideas within and across categories of information using words, phrases, and clauses (e.g., in contrast, especially). 5.TT.1.1 Use a variety of technology tools to gather data and information (e.g., web-based resources, e-books, online communication tools, etc) 5.TT.1.2 Use a variety of technology tools to organize data and information (e.g, word processor, graphic organizer, audio and visual recording, online collaboration tools, etc.)
Rationale/Relationship to the text: David has been diagnosed with autism. In the book many traits are revealed that are evident for most people with autism. Cythnia Lord states that her goal in writing this book (which is realistic fiction) was to help children understand not only children with autism, but also the families who care for these children. She hopes to clear up misconceptions about autism.
Instructions/Procedures: ● Go to wordle.net or tagxedo.com ● Ask Students: What is autism? ● Students write responses on sticky note and bring to typist ● Type in student's responses on Wordle or tagxedo ● The more a word is typed in Wordle, the bigger it will appear. This will help the teacher assess the students to see where they are and what needs more clarifying. ● Once the word cloud is made have an open class discussion about the traits that are shown prominently. Why do you think this is a trait, does everyone agree? Does anyone have a different perspective about this particular trait? It is important to note that not everyone has the same exposure to an individual who has autism. ● This activity may be done as the book study begins.Keep the list and revisit it,noting how the author reveals David's character. David is a unique person; yet the way he behaves is typical of a child with autism. Remind students again that Cynthia Lord is the mother of a son with autism who is now an adult. She says that the character David is fiction, but he is based on her son.
Materials: Internet access (to www.wordle.net and http://www.tagxedo.com) Projection equipment computers/laptops Sticky notes (for students to write their responses)
Reference: Lord, C. (2006). *Rules*. New York: Scholastic