



## ***Are you looking at a smart TV?***

**Remember**, all smart TVs are flat screens, but not all flat screens are smart TVs! Every manufacturer has a different user interface (also known as UI). However, you can usually determine if the TV is “smart” by looking for the interface. When you turn the TV on, do you see a banner at the bottom with options for Netflix, Amazon Prime, Hulu, etc? If so, you are looking at a smart TV! If not, try looking at the TV’s remote. You might be able to find a “home” button. This button might look like a little house or might say “HOME” on it. Every manufacturer uses a different icon to represent the home screen. We cannot possibly list them all here. If you need assistance with determining the type of TVs in your individuals’ home, feel free to ask the ET department for assistance!

**Remember**, the TV needs to be connected to Wifi before you can use most smart features!

## ***What can we do with a smart TV?***

Smart TVs have come a long way in the last few years. Here are some things you and the individuals you support can do with your TV.

### **1. Apps**

Applications (apps) aren’t just for your phone or tablet! Through the home screen, you should be able to find an “Apps” tab. By opening this tab, you will see a screen that shows popular apps for that device. A search feature should be available. It may look like a magnifying glass or simply say “SEARCH.” Your TV may also have categories for you to explore. Try exploring these categories with the individuals you support to come up with ideas. YouTube, fitness apps or games could be fun ways for the individuals to spend an afternoon!

**Remember**, always research apps before downloading them onto any device. You can ask the ET department to do this research for you!

### **2. Casting**

If you have access to a smart phone or tablet, you can probably “cast” your screen onto the smart TV. This will show your screen on the smart TV. This could be a fun way to use video conferencing apps like GoToMeeting or FaceTime. The individuals you support can see their doctor, family member or supports coordinator on the big screen! This may help them connect with people in a more meaningful way.

**Remember**, this is not available on all devices. You will need to go into the SETTINGS for your phone or tablet. There should be an option for “CASTING” or “SCREEN MIRROR.” If you have specific questions about the process, the ET department can walk you through it!

### **3. Livestreams**

Livestreams are available on multiple platforms like YouTube, Ustream, Earthcam, NASA and Facebook. Livestreams offer a window to the real world. This can be extremely useful, especially when the outside world seems so far away. Do you want to see what is going on at Times Square? Do you want to watch an eagle take care of its babies? Do you want to watch a concert or see the world from the International Space Station? All of these things and more may be available in a livestream!

As always, if you need assistance with using a smart TV, the ET department is here to help!