

Kathryn Whitaker's Great Apps for Special Education

Text Accessibility					
Icon	Name	Description	Target Population	Price	Link
 Read2Go	Read2Go	BookShare's partner App. Download and read Daisy and other accessible text formats when downloaded from BookShare. Connects directly to Bookshare.	People with documented print disabilities who are members of Bookshare. Organizational memberships available.	\$19.99	http://itunes.apple.com/us/app/read2go/id425585903?mt=8
 Learning Ally	Learning Ally Audio	Formerly RFB&D, Learning Ally provides Daisy and other accessible text for the blind and dyslexic. They claim to have the largest textbook collection. Will create texts when unavailable.	People with documented print disabilities. Members only. NOTE: Requires membership- \$99.00/individ. Group starting at \$400.00	\$19.99	http://itunes.apple.com/us/app/learning-ally-audio/id418888450?mt=8
 Speak it!	Speak It!	Paste text from any source into "Speak It!" and it will read the text aloud. Now includes a keyboard for typing your own text. Many improvements in last update.	Students with print disabilities.	\$1.99	http://itunes.apple.com/us/app/speak-it!-text-to-speech/id308629295?mt=8
 PerfectReader	PerfectReader Pro	Extracts text from a PDF and reads the text aloud. No highlighting and you can't skip around in the text, but one to watch. Transfer files via url.	Students who need access to PDF text. Will convert text one page at a time so navigation is easier than in most PDF reader solutions.	\$3.99	http://itunes.apple.com/us/app/perfectreader-pro-pdf-reader/id419336553?mt=8
 SayText	SayText	Emerging technology (one to watch but good in a pinch) to read text from a photograph. May help with community integration. Requires voiceover or paste into Speak It.	Individuals who require assistance with functional reading in the context of daily living when other formats not available. Requires steady hands!	Free	http://itunes.apple.com/us/app/saytext/id376337999?mt=8

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Text Accessibility, Continued					
Icon	Name	Description	Target Population	Price	Link
 Web Reader	Web Reader	The best web reader I have found, but watch for updates. Will read tapped paragraphs on the web aloud. The company is attempting to make it a PDF reader as well. This feature is in beta.	Students with text disabilities.	\$4.99	http://itunes.apple.com/us/app/web-reader-hd-text-to-speech/id376528713?mt=8
 FriendsAloud	FriendsAloud	Provides access to Facebook news feeds. Helpful for social equalization, even if outside of school hours. Dragon Dictate can send status updates and FriendsAloud can read the newsfeed.	Teens with text disabilities who have Facebook accounts. All precautions one would take for any social media would still apply. This does not filter content or provide safeguards.	\$1.99	http://itunes.apple.com/us/app/friends-aloud/id423549443?mt=8

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Phonics, Sight Words, Spelling					
Icon	Name	Description	Target Population	Price	Link
	Word Wizard	Talking alphabet tiles with phonics. Free spell mode and spelling tests. Many built-in word lists, including Dolch and category sets. Add your own words. Red glow around letter combinations that are not words or not correct spellings.	Elementary aged children who need either motivation, additional practice, or who need to eliminate the fine motor component of spelling practice.	2.99	http://itunes.apple.com/us/app/word-wizard-talking-movable/id447312716?mt=8
	Montessori Crosswords	Picture prompts and letter tiles presented above a moveable alphabet in either single word or 2-word "crossword" style. Phonics sound made when letter touched, word reads aloud when correct. Hints provided for error reduction. Customizable. Open-ended spell mode also available. Fun feedback!	Elementary aged children who need phonics and spelling practice.		http://itunes.apple.com/app/montessori-crosswords-learn/id384334005?mt=8&o=i
	1000 Sight Words Superhero HD	Super-hero themed simple sight word and sight-word spelling app. Requires adult presence for scoring. Keeps track of student progress.	Elementary aged students who may need a little extra motivation.	\$1.99 intro price at 50% off now	http://itunes.apple.com/us/app/1000-sightwords-superhero-hd/id447275646?mt=8

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Writing and Writing Accessibility					
Icon	Name	Description	Target Population	Price	Link
	Dragon Dictation	Speech to Text app by Nuance. Must have internet access when in use. Surprisingly accurate. Allows text transfer to multiple sources, including print, email and even social media platforms.	Students with written language disabilities and fine motor challenges.	Free	http://itunes.apple.com/us/app/dragon-dictation/id341446764?mt=8
	Typ-O HD	Predictive word processor with customizable features for speed, voice and even different level spellers. Predicted words can be read aloud before selection. Print or send text.	Students with written language disabilities and fine motor challenges.	\$14.99	http://itunes.apple.com/us/app/typ-o-hd-writing-is-for-everybody/id372971659?mt=8
	StoryPatch	Delightful story creator. Generates stories from choices or allows free creation. Fun graphics can be added to the page, including create-a-person feature. Add pages and text. Send stories via email.	Writers with poor motivation or who have challenges with generating fictitious stories. Any age.	\$4.99	http://itunes.apple.com/us/app/story-patch/id388613157?mt=8
	Writing Prompts	A fun little app that generates prompts for stories, including, character, setting, problem, and more. Mark favorites and customize.	Good for writers who really struggle with generating story ideas. May be particularly helpful for high-cognitive ASD population.	\$1.99	http://itunes.apple.com/us/app/writing-prompts/id417683378?mt=8
	Intellipad	Notepad with text-to-speech, word prediction and customizable keyboards that can even integrate sound recordings. Sharing platform for browsing and downloading keyboards created by others.	Primarily designed as augmentative communication.	\$19.99	http://itunes.apple.com/us/app/intellipad/id435865000?mt=8

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Fine Motor					
Icon	Name	Description	Target Population	Price	Link
	ABCTracer	Trace letters with specific (customizable) stroke order. Immediate feedback for correct or incorrect strokes. Has other letter and phonics games, but best for tracing.	Young children who need practice with correct letter formation. Best with stylus.	\$1.99	http://itunes.apple.com/us/app/abc-tracer-letters-numbers/id390333181?mt=8
	Dexteria	Motivating fine motor practice that includes trace, pinch and touch. Individualizes based on performance. Generates emailable reports.	Good for all ages: early skills development, skill improvement and (with OT guidance) rehabilitation of injuries.	\$4.99	http://itunes.apple.com/us/app/dexteria-fine-motor-skill/id420464455?mt=8

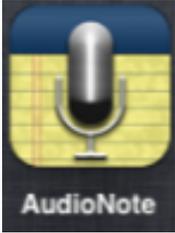
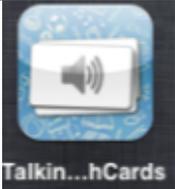
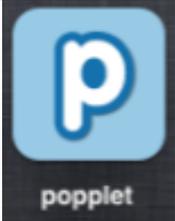
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Reading Fluency and Speed					
Icon	Name	Description	Target Population	Price	Link
 TimeReading	K12 Timed Reading	Graded passages that are timed as students read. When finished reading, the app calculates and records the wpm of the reader. Multiple students can be assessed on-going with this app. Records student progress.	K-12 students who need to practice reading fluency. Good assessment tool.	\$1.99	http://itunes.apple.com/us/app/k12-timed-reading-practice/id374985358?mt=8
 Young Reader	Young Reader	Speed reading training system with three reading modes: free read, timed read and speed-reading. On the latter, adjust wpm speed to adjust highlighting speed. Library of classic books at 6 th -8 th grade (unleveled) reading levels. User can paste in own text for assessment and practice at any level.	Target age is 8-13, but built-in books may be too advanced for some students. The pasteboard feature makes this a useful assessment and practice tool for any age.	\$4.99	http://itunes.apple.com/us/app/young-reader-quickreader-ebook/id356540630?mt=8
 ReadingTrainer	Reading Trainer	Individualized reading skills trainer. Comes with high-level reading passages, but these can be ignored. Students in elementary through high school can benefit from the exercises designed to boost concentration, comprehension and eye skills. Graphs progress!	Designed for adults, but useful for elementary through high school. The reading passages will not be appropriate levels, but the app is filled with features that work for almost any level reader.	\$4.99	http://itunes.apple.com/us/app/reading-trainer/id406388984?mt=8

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Math					
Icon	Name	Description	Target Population	Price	Link
	Meteor Math	Shows taps on the floating numbered meteors on the screen that can be used to create that number using the given operation.	Meteor math could be a motivating way for any age to practice addition, subtraction, multiplication or division.	\$2.99	http://itunes.apple.com/us/app/timertools/id437232213?mt=8
	Number Line	Students take fractions, decimals and percentages and drag them into their places on the number line.	Students who need reinforcement around comparing fractions, decimals and percentages.	Free	http://itunes.apple.com/us/app/number-line/id319589184?mt=8
	Calculus doodlus	Calculator that shows handwritten-like problems on a screen above the calculator pad. Customize with your own handwriting style if desired. Auto-copy feature is nice for two-step problems	Nice visual calculator for basic operations. Good for students with fine motor issues or those who lose their places while calculating.	.99	http://itunes.apple.com/us/app/calculus-doodlus/id465916328?mt=8
	Math Bingo	Students place bugs on the numbers on the bingo card that represent the answers of displayed math problem. Upon winning, the student earns a bug for his or her collection and may play a fun and motivating quick game.	Any student who needs practice with basic math facts.	.99	http://itunes.apple.com/us/app/math-bingo/id371338715?mt=8
	Money Counting Calculator	Money calculator using images of real coins and bills.	Good for reinforcing money concepts, checking work or increasing independence in the community.	.99	http://itunes.apple.com/us/app/money-counting-calculator/id357702889?mt=8

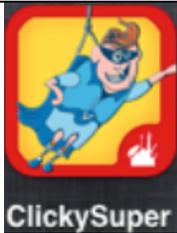
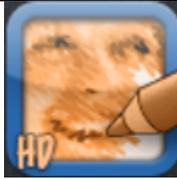
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Study Tools					
Icon	Name	Description	Target Population	Price	Link
	AudioNote	Take notes by typing or drawing and connect live recording to its point of insertion.	Good for older students who need to take notes, students who have interview assignments or tasks that require getting information from others.	\$4.99	http://itunes.apple.com/us/app/audionote-notepad-voice-recorder/id369820957?mt=8
	Talking Flash Cards	Create talking flash cards with or without photos or import flash card decks created on line using Quizlet.	Good for struggling readers who need help studying vocabulary or content independently.	\$3.99	http://itunes.apple.com/us/app/talking-flashcards/id398866817?mt=8
	Popplet	Easily and intuitively create mind maps or flow charts that integrate type, photos, drawings and handwriting as desired. Popplets can be stored on line if desired. Real-time collaboration via web.	Many possibilities for elementary through high school. Support the writing process, share ideas, make plans, etc.	\$4.99	http://itunes.apple.com/us/app/popplet/id374151636?mt=8
	Sundry Notes Plus	Note-taking app that allows integration of pictures, drawings, text and audio. Collaborate via wi-fi. Mark up documents. Export notes in multiple ways, including airprint and Dropbox.	A very creative multi-media app for note taking but may have many other uses for a broad range of ages.	2.99	http://itunes.apple.com/us/app/sundry-notes-pro/id376878575?mt=8

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Timers and Game Tools4					
Icon	Name	Description	Target Population	Price	Link
	Time Timer	The electronic version of the classic visual timer. Now on iPad. Shows passing of the time by showing remaining fraction of the clock in red that gradually disappears. Now allows four pre-programmed timers and provides push notification!	Great for kids who can't wait or do not understand time concepts. A staple for autism.	\$4.99	http://itunes.apple.com/us/app/time-timer-ipad-edition/id434081367?mt=8
	Timer Tools	Six essential timers, including count down, stop watch, turn timer, seconds up, seconds down, and interval timer.	Use for games, assessment, behavior data, sharing and more.	\$2.99	http://itunes.apple.com/us/app/timertools/id437232213?mt=8
	Game Time Limit	A time-limit and password are set by the adult on the device to time use of another app or apps. When the timer sounds, the child is no longer able to access the app(s).	Good for kids who use apps for behavior rewards. Good for autism. Device tells them when to stop!	.99	http://itunes.apple.com/us/app/custom-spinner/id427700973?mt=8
	Board Game Tools	Use dice, buzzer, timer, and scoreboard to make your practice lessons into games.	Good for any age	.99	http://itunes.apple.com/us/app/board-game-tools/id405250611?mt=8
	Custom Spinner	Make custom spinners for games. Make spinners more accessible. Create instructional games.	Any age	.99	http://itunes.apple.com/us/app/custom-spinner/id427700973?mt=8
	Make Dice	Create custom dice with words or numbers and different colors. Use one at a time or several. Create your own games.	Any age	.99	http://itunes.apple.com/us/app/make-dice/id353484349?mt=8

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Motivators					
Icon	Name	Description	Target Population	Price	Link
	Clicky Sticky Super Heroes (and series)	The Clicky Sticky apps have scenes with virtual stickers. Many of the stickers are animated. Once the scene is built, the animation comes alive. Many different themes available.	Early ed. through elementary. Also-seaside, trains, cars and seasonal versions.	.99	http://itunes.apple.com/us/app/lets-create!-pottery-hd/id380090605?mt=8
	SketchMee HD	Create drawing-like pictures using a variety of virtual media. Use built-in camera or import photo to transform a picture into artwork. There is also a PaintMee HD.	Good for any age, but particularly enjoyed by middle school and high school students.	\$3.99	http://itunes.apple.com/us/app/sketchmee-hd/id368738052?mt=8
	Let's Create Pottery HD	Throw (potter's wheel), fire, decorate and "sell" pottery. "Buy" new materials and glaze designs with your sales. No in-app purchases required.	So fun. Any age. I couldn't stop playing with it!	\$4.99 (lite version free)	http://itunes.apple.com/us/app/lets-create!-pottery-hd/id380090605?mt=8
	My PlayHome	Great interactive dollhouse. Everything is interactive that would be in a real house. Great fun.	Elementary aged kids	\$2.99	http://itunes.apple.com/us/app/my-playhome/id439628153?mt=8
	Piano Ball	Beautifully designed piano with colorful balls that change attributes (such as sound and colors) when rotated. Light twinkles lead fingers to playing songs.	Great for young children to motivate, teach cause and effect, introduce to music and more.	\$1.99	http://itunes.apple.com/us/app/pianoball-fun-with-learning/id431494130?mt=8
	Create A Car	Kids use any combination of car parts from bodies to turbo-chargers and even decals to create a vehicle.	Great motivator for elementary age kids or older kids who love cars.	.99	http://itunes.apple.com/us/app/create-a-car/id388173036?mt=8