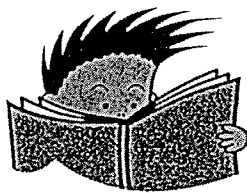


Literacy

Apps

A list of top literacy
apps to help your child
become a better
reader...

Happy Reading!



Launching Young Readers!

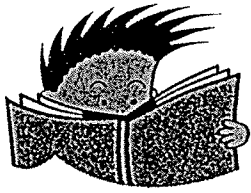
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Top 11 Phonics Apps

Phonics instruction helps children learn the relationships between the letters of written language and the sounds of spoken language. Children are taught, for example, that the letter n represents the sound /n/, and that it is the first letter in words such as nose, nice and new. We've found a dozen great apps that give kids practice with basic phonics skills, including recognizing the letters of the alphabet, learning upper case and lower case letters, alphabet matching, and word building.

Interactive Alphabet	\$2.99	This is an interactive alphabet app that has alphabet matching for babies, toddlers, and preschoolers. Your child can hear words, letters and phonics sounds. This app also includes a "Baby Mode." It auto advances every 15 seconds. This interactive game also teaches upper and lower case letters. (Compatible with iPad, iPhone, iPod touch)
iSpy Phonics	\$1.99	Match phonic sounds with letters, through colorful illustrations, pictures and accurate pronunciation, all this while playing the age old game of I Spy. It provides a fun and highly interactive way to help children learn to recognize letters and their phonic sounds. This app allows children to match phonic sounds with letters, through illustrations, pictures, and accurate pronunciation while playing the game of I Spy. (Compatible with iPad, iPhone, iPod touch)
ABC Expedition	\$2.99	This is an app designed to help children with their alphabet. However, this app not only helps kids with their alphabet; it also helps children learn various animals too. This is promised to be a fun app for both parents and kids. (iPad only)
ABC Song Piano	\$1.99	Uses music to teach the alphabetic principle. This app can also tap into children's musical creativity; it is colorful and has piano keys that light up. Furthermore, this app introduces letters A-Z, objects, animal and instrument sounds. Songs are played on a variety of instruments such as the banjo, xylophone, harp, flute, bells and much more. (iPhone only)
Alphabytes	\$1.99	Alphabytes is an educational app that helps kids learn their letters, the sounds letters make, how to write both upper and lower case letters, and how to spell a few words. The game has four sections: Alphabet, Trace, Spell, and Play. Trace teaches kids how to print both upper and lower case letters. The play section of the app has a memory game where kids match letters with the picture of an item that begins with that letter. (Compatible with iPad, iPhone, iPod touch)
Simplex Spelling with Reverse Phonics: Lite	Free	Simplex Spelling Lite is designed to improve spelling and reading skills in a fun and interactive way by using "reverse phonics." Simplex Spelling Lite contains over 50 high frequency English words; it also enables students to build on each word, which goes above and beyond the sheer memorization of words. Simplex Spelling Lite enhances understanding in a variety of students as it appeals to audio, visual and tactile learners. It is a great tool to have for kids learning to spell, remedial students, or those learning English as a second language. (Compatible with iPad, iPhone, iPod touch)
Word Wizard: Talking Movable Alphabet & Spelling Test for Kids	\$2.99	This is the first educational app that utilizes natural sounding text-to-speech voices to help kids learn word building and spelling. Movable Alphabet help kids hear the text they wrote, as well as verify spelling using the built-in spell checker. This app has the ability to turn whatever words kids create — even words that do not exist — into spoken words. This app also consists of the most frequently used words, body parts, and family members — just to name a few. (Compatible with iPad, iPhone, iPod touch)



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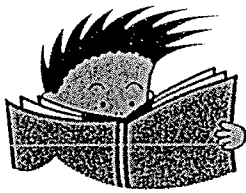
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Top 13 Vocabulary Apps

A child's vocabulary can be expanded through repeated exposure to new words and by thinking about word meanings. We've found several apps that engage young children in crossword and Scrabble type games. Other apps focus on specific word meaning skills by highlighting word opposites, synonyms, and homophones. Many of the games can be played together or side-by-side. Have fun and encourage new words!

Montessori Crosswords	\$2.99	<i>Montessori Crosswords</i> helps kids develop literacy skills by dragging and dropping letters into a crossword grid to form words that correspond to the given pictures. Young children can drag letters around in the moveable alphabet and practice linking phonetic sounds to letters, while older kids can expand their vocabularies in the higher of three difficulty levels. Crossword levels include simple words with 1 sound, words with consonant blend, and words of any complexity. <i>(Compatible with iPhone, iPod touch, and iPad)</i>
Spelling Bee	\$0.99	<i>Spelling Bee</i> teaches and tests kids on spelling and vocabulary word skills. After studying a wordlist, children are presented with a definition and an audio prompt of the word. Quiz options include the ability to choose the length (5, 10, or 20 words), level of difficulty (beginner, easy, medium, hard), and whether the quiz should be timed. <i>(Compatible with Android devices)</i>
Bookworm	\$2.99	<i>Bookworm</i> is a spelling and vocabulary building word search game. Children link letters left, right, up, and down to build words to feed "Lex" the bookworm. The longer the word the higher the score. The game can be played with or without time limits. <i>(Compatible with iPhone, iPod touch, and iPad)</i>
The Opposites	\$2.99	<i>The Opposites</i> app helps children learn vocabulary and the corresponding antonyms by challenging them to match up pairs of opposing words in increasingly difficult levels. The game also helps children understand the importance of word context, and is an opportunity for them to think about how the words they use oppose other words. The Opposites consists of ten different levels, each stage with a corresponding level of vocabulary. The app also offers a dictionary option that provides definitions and antonyms in a kid-friendly format. <i>(Compatible with iPhone, iPod touch, and iPad)</i>
Opposite Ocean	Free	In <i>Opposite Ocean</i> , Luna and Leo must master the magic of words by correctly identify the antonym that is the opposite of the given keyword. Children earn pearls when they drag the correct bubble word to the enchanted clam. Developed in association with the Virginia Department of Education. <i>(Compatible with iPhone, iPod touch, and iPad)</i>
Chicktionary	Free	<i>Chicktionary</i> is a chicken themed spelling and vocabulary-building word game. Children create as many words as possible out of seven letters. Completed words can be tapped to view their definition. There are multiple levels and children can choose a timed or untimed mode. *Note: This is a noisy app – incorrect words receive scolding squawks. <i>(Compatible with iPad)</i>



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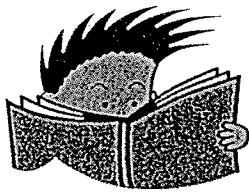
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Top 12 Comprehension Apps

The ultimate goal of reading is good comprehension. We've gathered information about apps that provide practice with specific comprehension skills, including sequencing, differentiating between fact and opinion, developing word awareness (through antonyms, synonyms, and homophones), as well as several mind mapping apps. Mind maps are visual diagrams that help students represent words or ideas and can be used in reading and writing.

Aesop's Quest	Free	<i>Aesop's Quest</i> , based on Aesop's Fables, is a learning game where the student must remember elements of a story to complete a level. At the end of each story segment/level, the student is rewarded with puzzle pieces. After solving the puzzle the story is complete, and the child can continue to the next story. Developed in association with the Virginia Department of Education. (Compatible with iPhone, iPod touch, and iPad)
MiniMod Fact or Opinion Lite	\$3.99	<i>Fact or Opinion</i> is a bingo style game that helps students practice determining if a passage is factually accurate or the writer's opinion. A correct answer allows the student to place on marker on a bingo style card. Five markers in a row wins. Levels can be played in single player mode against the computer or multi-player against a friend. (Compatible with iPhone, iPod touch, and iPad)
MiniMod Reading For Details	\$3.99	<i>Reading For Details</i> helps students practice identifying the 5W's of reading – who, what, where, when, and why. After reading a short story the student is asked a reading detail question, a correct answer allows the student to place on marker on a bingo style card. 5 markers in a row wins. Levels can be played in single player mode against the computer or multi-player against a friend. (Compatible with iPhone, iPod touch, and iPad)
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Popplet	\$4.99	<i>Popplet</i> is a productivity app that also works as a mind mapping tool. Use the app to begin structuring the writing process. The app can also be used to create graphic organizers, classroom visuals, organize material according to text structures (list, sequence, compare-contrast, cause-effect), and to practice sentence combining and complex sentence creation by connecting individual "Popples." (Compatible with iPad)



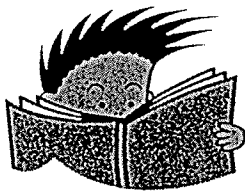
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Top 10 Spelling Apps

Alpha Writer	\$2.99	Alpha Writer is a Montessori-style learning app that helps teach kids letter sounds and how to form words by combining different letter sounds. There's a tactile approach to the learning here, as kids can physically manipulate the letters onscreen. They'll hear the sound of each letter as they touch it, and can position them in any order they please to form words. The app has two sections. The first asks kids to spell words after seeing a picture of the word and hearing it spoken. The second section lets kids use letter and images to write their own story. Stories can be saved as photo files on your device.
Bob Books #2: Reading Magic HD	\$3.99	Bob Books is an interactive book app that uses spelling, repetition, and phonics to build beginning reading skills. Each 12-page book can be played at 4 different difficulty levels — beginning readers drag and drop letters to match words while the app sounds out the letters and reads the word aloud, more advanced readers select letters on their own. Children's efforts are rewarded when the black and white illustration fill with color and become animated.
C is for Cow	\$0.99	C Is for Cow is an alphabet game for preschoolers. Each letter of the alphabet corresponds to an animal whose name begin with that letter. Children press the letter to hear it read out loud, another button repeats the letter and says the name of the animal.
Clifford's BE Big with Words	\$0.99	Clifford's BE BIG with Words, from PBS Kids, is a spelling app that helps children practice spelling three letter words. Kids are guided toward spelling words by choosing from a selection of letters. Once a word is completed each letter is read out loud. Additionally, each word is pronounced showing kids the connection between sounds, words and their spellings — building an understanding of words through alphabetic and phonemic awareness. No need to worry about spelling mistakes — the app is designed so that whatever letter kids choose will spell a word.
The Electric Company Wordball	Free	The Electric Company Wordball is a phonics game that integrates video clips from the TV show to teach reading and spelling. The game consists of two parts: watching a video about a letter sound or letter combination and tapping the "wordballs" with the featured letter or letter combination; then using the collected wordballs to complete words as they move across the screen. The object of the app is to teach lessons about phonics, reading, and spelling.
Licking Letters	\$0.99	Licking Letters is an app that helps kids practice identifying capital letters and spelling three-letter words. Players, with the help of Hoppy the Frog, complete words by tapping the letters as they move across the screen. Hoppy then licks the letter to add it to the word. The first few rounds have three-letter words and only include the target letters, but the app gradually increases in difficulty. Completing a round earns a coin, which can be used to buy costume items for the frog.



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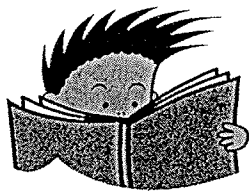
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Top 9 Writing Apps

Writing is a process that includes everything from handwriting skill to sentence construction to planning and drafting a story. We've found apps that help young children along several steps of the writing process. Several apps literally turn your iPad into a handwriting tablet for practice. We bet your child won't complain about practicing letters with technological fun like this!

ABC Cursive Writer	Free	<i>ABC Cursive Writer</i> is an app for practicing cursive. Students have the options of practicing single letters – upper case or lower case, whole words, word sets, sentences, and numbers. <i>(Compatible with iPad)</i>
iCanWrite	\$0.99	<i>iCanWrite</i> is a letter tracing app. Students can work from preset groups of letters or you can enter groups for them to use. Letters are shown one at a time with a demonstration. Once the letter is traced correctly the next letter is shown. At the end of the sequence the results are shown as handwriting to give a great sense of achievement. <i>(Compatible with iPhone, iPod touch, and iPad)</i>
iWrite Words	\$2.99	<i>iWriteWords</i> helps to teach kids how to write the letters of the alphabet, numbers up to 20, and simple words using a dot-to-dot approach. It helps if kids already know how to count and read numbers up to 10 in order to play this game. <i>(Compatible with iPhone, iPod touch, and iPad)</i>
Kids Writing Pad	\$0.99	<i>Kids Writing Pad</i> is a basic large lined writing pad useful for practicing numbers and letters. It has a middle dotted line between two solid lines like most primary school paper so children can practice having the appropriate parts of the letters or numbers in the right areas. Children can also choose the color of their pencil or use an eraser, or touch the big eraser to erase the entire page. <i>(Compatible with iPad)</i>
Popplet	\$4.99	<i>Popplet</i> is a productivity app that also works as a mind mapping tool. Use the app to begin structuring the writing process. The app can also be used to create graphic organizers, classroom visuals, organize material according to text structures (list, sequence, compare-contrast, cause-effect), and to practice sentence combining and complex sentence creation by connecting individual "Popples." <i>(Compatible with iPad)</i>
Sentence Builder	\$5.99	<i>Sentence Builder</i> is an app that helps children learn to build grammatically correct sentences about a given picture. Special attention is paid to the connector words. <i>(Compatible with iPad)</i>
Story Builder	\$7.99	<i>Story Builder</i> is a multi-purpose app designed to teach story structure. In the process, students learn sentence structure, sequencing and inferencing. The app develops comprehension by asking children to respond to questions about a picture, helping them to structure the story. The child's answers are recorded within the app. Then the the answers are put together to form a story. There are also multiple levels included in the app; level two requires inferencing. <i>(Compatible with iPad)</i>



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Top 10 Print Awareness Apps

As children listen to stories and learn to read, they learn subtle information about how print works. Print knowledge includes an understanding of letters and sounds, the left-to-right nature of reading, and recognizing that print differs from pictures. Helping young children develop print knowledge can help them learn other critical literacy skills.

ABC Spy	\$0.99	<i>ABC Spy</i> challenges children to create their own ABC experience by taking photos for each letter of the alphabet – take a photo, choose a frame, give it a name. Then make a movie of all your photos to share with friends and family! <i>(Compatible with iPhone, iPod touch, and iPad)</i>
Alphabetic	\$1.99	<i>Alphabetic</i> makes identifying letters a game for your child as they have to search for letters A through Z as they spin around on the screen and before time runs out. <i>(Compatible with iPhone, iPod touch, and iPad)</i>
Alphabetic Order	\$0.99	<i>Alphabetical Order</i> challenges children to put the letters in order as well as to match upper and lower case letters, and to match the letters to their sounds. <i>(Compatible with iPhone, iPod touch, and iPad)</i>
Dr. Seuss's ABC	\$3.99	<i>Dr. Seuss's ABC</i> has three levels, "Read to Me," "Read it Myself," and "Auto Play," allows for children to grow with this app. Words highlighted are read out loud when tapped, and when narrated, children can follow along with the highlighted text. <i>(Compatible with Android, iPhone, iPod touch, and iPad)</i>
Intro to Letters	\$4.99	<i>Intro to Letters</i> helps children read and write letters A-Z in both capital and lowercase letters through flashcards, while soundcards let your child record and listen to themselves as they practice saying each letter. <i>(Compatible with iPhone, iPod touch, and iPad)</i>
Pictello	\$18.99	<i>Pictello</i> allows the user to create "talking" books with pictures – students can make their own story that is personal to them. <i>(Compatible with iPad)</i>
Shape-O ABCs	\$1.99	<i>Shape-O ABCs</i> has children put words with the pictures in one of the programs 100 plus puzzles. Voiceovers of the letters help children learn the correct annunciation and the app lets parents adjust the difficulty level to customize it to fit their child's needs. <i>(Compatible with iPad)</i>
Starfall ABCs	\$2.99	<i>Starfall ABCs</i> lets children interact with letters, showing them each letters as both upper and lowercase, and then shows how the letters are used in sentences. Children can also play letter games, such as word mazes. <i>(Compatible with iPhone, iPod touch, and iPad)</i>
Story Patch	Free	<i>Story Patch</i> allows the student to create a story from a template (good for those who need some guidance) or from scratch. There is a bank of pictures to choose from to illustrate the story. <i>(Compatible with iPad)</i>
Tap N Learn – Learn to Spell	Free	<i>Tap N Learn – Learn to Spell's</i> three different modes allow children to listen and learn words, match up letter blocks to form the name of the item featured, and finally drag blocks to form words without any prompts. <i>(Compatible with iPad)</i>