

App Ratings: October 2012

These ratings were provided by participants at the presentation: There's an app for that by Lu-Anne McFarlane at the Alberta College of Speech-Language Pathologists and Audiologists Annual Conference, Calgary AB.

These ratings were provided after a short opportunity to explore the app. As apps undergo frequent updates, some of the ratings may not be current.

Best Practice Principles

A list of best practice principles arising from literature in speech-language pathology and from focus groups with clinicians were used to rate the apps presented. The principles are described below.

Engaging: The application is very fun, engaging, motivating, and reinforcing for the target population.

Facilitative Context: The application provides a context that facilitates acquisition of the target skills or allows the clinician to incorporate facilitative cues. This includes being simple/clear, developmentally appropriate, age appropriate, allowing for appropriate scaffolding, having clear expectations, and specific feedback.

Functional: The application can be used to teach functional skills so that it is similar to real-life situations, is curriculum based, fits in classroom and themes, and has meaning to the child.

Meaningful Communication Partner: The application can incorporate interaction with a meaningful communication partner to ensure that it includes human interaction and is family/child centred.

Naturalistic: The application can expose the client to the target skills in a naturalistic communicative or social interaction that allows the skill to be generalized to different situations/environments.
opportunities for practice.

Individualized: The application can be modified or adapted to meet the needs of individual clients. This includes incorporating family centred priorities into intervention, being culturally sensitive, and is modifiable for age, developmental/skill level and physical abilities.

Focused: The application can focus on a specific skills or skills and allows for concentrated practice with that skill and adequate

Evidence Based: The application is based on evidence or generally accepted theoretical or developmental principles.

Accountability: The application facilitates collection of outcome measures of client progress to facilitate the clinician in reporting and tracking progress.

Efficiency/Practical: The application is set up for efficient and easy application to the target group. This includes limited preparation time, organized, and modifiable to suit a variety of goals

App Ratings

Application	Engaging	FC	Functional	Comm. Partner	Naturalistic	Indiv.	Focused	EB	Accountability	Efficient/practical
Alphatots	4.29	3.17	3.8	3.1	3.19	2.42	4.1	3.42	2.52	3.68
Articulation IV	1.95	1.98	1.33	1.86	1.5	2.24	2.48	1.47	2.1	138
Articulate It	2.98	3.67	3.18	3.11	2.52	4.43	4.28	4	4.18	3.48
ArtikPix	4	4.5	4.5	3.5	3	4	4	4	5	4.5
Auditory Workout	1	Not rated	Not rated	Not rated	Not rated	Not rated	Not rated	Not rated	Not rated	Not rated
BB Magic#1	3	4	4	3	4	2	4	4	2	4
Bobo and Light	5	4.5	4.5	4.33	4.75	4	4.75	4.33	4	4.75
Cookie Doodle	4.88	4.75	5	4.88	5	4.5	4.71	4.25	3.6	4.63
Fun with Directions	3.88	3.22	3.2	2.28	2.82	3.32	3.77	3.07	2.71	3.47
Discovery Kids	5		5	5	4	5	4	3	3	3
First Phrases	3.64	4.2	3.84	3.16	3.16	4.25	4.5	4.05	3.56	3.75
First Words	3.15	3.19	2.93	2.96	2.26	4.04	3.93	3.38	4.1	3.1
Going Places	3.24	2.8	3.5	2.63	3.9	1.95	3.9	3.3.7	2.2	3.3
Linguistystem Phonology	3.64	3.81	3.8	3.42	2.87	3.9	4.19	4.13	4.19	4.13
My Play Home	5	4.83	4.83	4.5	4.83	4	4.5	4.5	3.25	4.83
Noodle Words	4.95	4.52	4.57	4.24	4.45	3.64	4.48	4.33	3.44	4.55
Pat the Cat	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Peek A Boo Barn	4.47	3.93	3.91	3.65	3.56	2.85	4.35	3.78	3.25	4.33
Peek A Zoo	4	4	3.67	2.33	2	1.67	4.33	1.5	1.5	2.5
Phonology Cards	4	4	4	3	4	4	5	5	5	5
Pictello	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
Sentence Builder	2.83	2.58	2.59	2.42	2.19	2.5	3.02	2.65	3.27	2.48
Sequencing with Milo	4.55	4.38	4.47	3.76	4	3.27	4.35	4	2.53	4.24

Speech with Milo	5	5	5	5	5	4	4	4	4	5
Sock Puppets	4.65	3.7	4.48	4.89	3.95	4.3	3.81	3.28	2.67	4
Stories2Learn	3.62	4	4	3.61	3.81	4.29	4	3.76	2.8	3.76
StoryPatch	4.87	4.73	4.74	4.72	4.6	4.9	4.68	4.8	3.86	4.1
SuperDuper Cards	1.89	2.11	2	2.75	2	2.78	3.56	2.75	3	2.67
Surprise	4.89	4.77	4.72	4.71	4.51	4.44	4.75	4.29	4.23	4.64
Toca Tea Party	4.89	4.67	4.78	5	4.33	4.11	4.22	3.6	3.29	4.33
Toontastic	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Van Gogh	5	5	5	5	5	4.5	5	4	5	5
Verb News	3.48	2.96	2.93	2.92	2.96	3.48	3.64	3.05	3.1	2.87
Wash The Car	4	3	4	5	4	Not rated	Not rated	Not rated	Not rated	Not rated
Wheels on the Bus	5	4.75	4.75	4.63	4.5	3.25	3.5	4	3.25	4
Word Wall	4	2	2	4	3	3	4	4	2	4

FC = Facilitative Context

EB = Evidence Based

Indiv = Individualized