

ET-102

Navigating the App Maze: Search Engines, Finders, Blogs and Reviews

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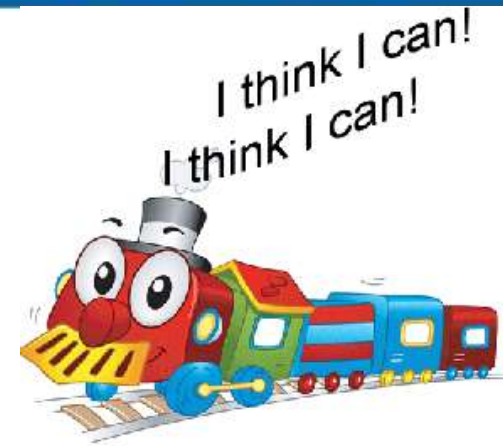
Learning Objectives

- Compare and contrast two app search engines
- List three trustworthy app review sites and their review criteria
- List three other resources (tools, blogs, Facebook, websites) that provide a way to sort and find apps

Before you start

- Remember and apply appropriate practices to matching the AT to the user – is a “generic” mobile device truly what is needed?
- Will you be searching for apps for iOS? Android? Windows? Kindle? Not all apps are available for all platforms
- You get what you pay for (but not always)
- Buyer beware
- Try before you buy (e.g. “lite” versions or loaners)
- Evidence base? Word of mouth?
- Re: App reviews – by whom? Who do YOU trust?

Search Engine



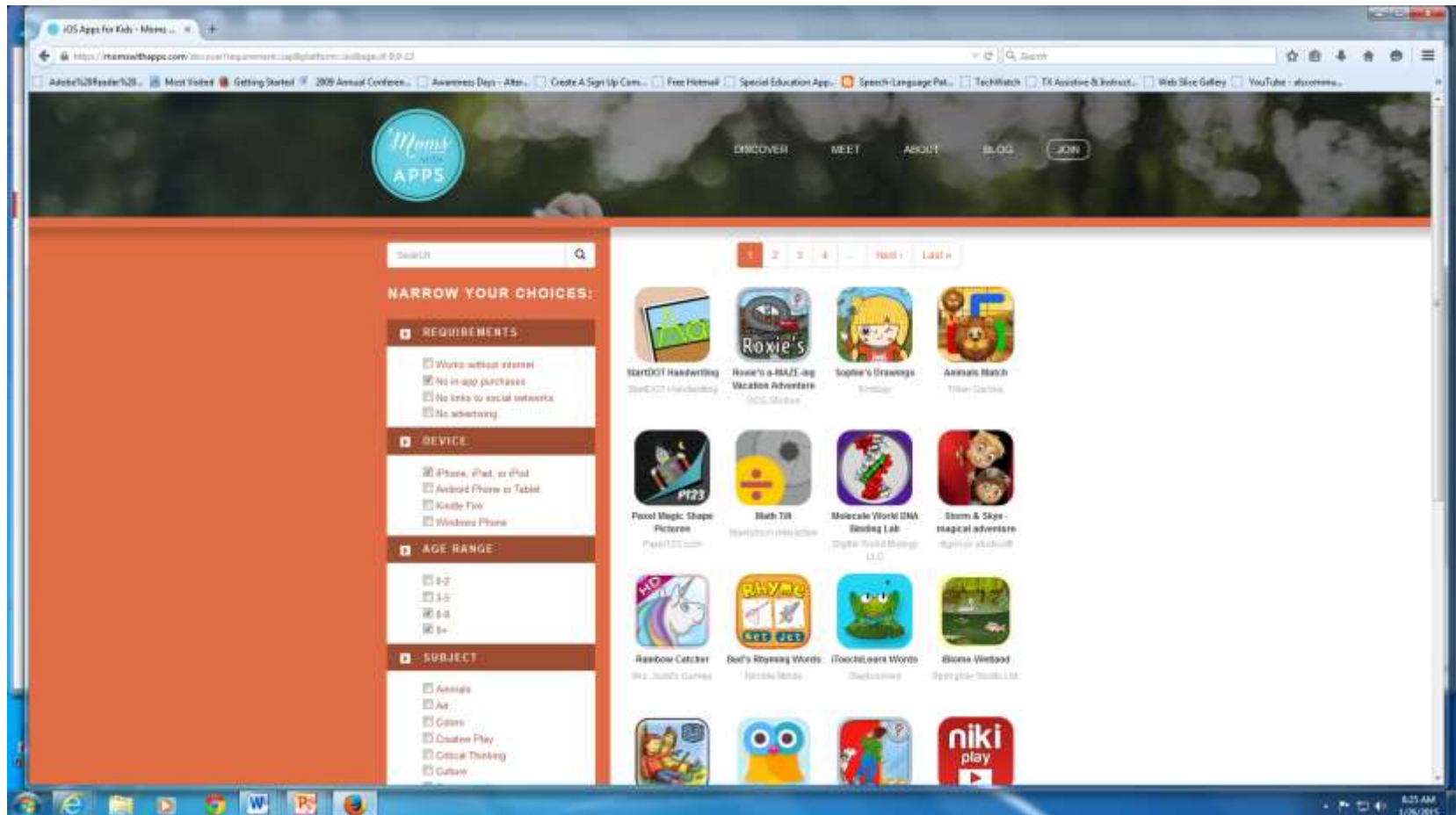
A software program that searches a database and gathers and reports information that contains or is related to specified terms

Moms with Apps

- Search by device type (iOS, android, Kindle, Windows phone); age range (0-2, 3-5, 6-8, 9+), subject area “A” (animals) to “T” (transportation)
- “App of the Day”
- Also connect on Facebook, twitter, blog
- “Meet the Developer” feature
- List includes screenshot, description, other reviews and awards, overview of features
- Goal: Safe, family-friendly apps



www.momswithapps.com



Handouts are available at: www.atia.org/orlandohandouts

TFL AppFinder

Search by:

✓ **App Name**

✓ **Categories**

- Book
- Education
- Environmental Adaptations
- Hearing
- Cognition, Learning, Developmental
- Navigation
- Personal Care and Safety
- Productivity
- Communication
- Therapeutic Aids
- Vision



The screenshot shows the Georgia Tech Tools for Life website. A blue arrow points from the top right towards the 'TOOLS for LIFE' logo. A green arrow points from the right towards the 'AppFinder' search section. Another green arrow points from the left towards the 'FUNDING' sidebar. A third green arrow points from the left towards the 'Online Equipment Exchange' link in the funding sidebar. A blue arrow points from the bottom left towards the 'Add an App' link in the footer area.

Georgia Tech TOOLS for LIFE
Georgia's Assistive Technology and Program

HOME ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY TFL NETWORK CALENDAR OF EVENTS Search our Site Go

TRAINING

- View Presentations
- Request Training

FUNDING

- Resource Assistance
- Dollars & Sense Database
- Online Equipment Exchange

RESOURCES

- TFL Newsletter

CONTACT US

- Meet the TFL Team
- Advisory Council

AppFinder

About | Our Other Favorite Apps Databases | Helpful Links

Welcome to the Tools for Life Database - Our Favorite Apps for Living, Learning, Working and Playing!

Search By:

Name:

OR

Category:

Price: ☒ Free ☐ Up to \$4.99 ☐ Up to \$9.99 ☐ All

Device Type: ☒ All ☐ Android ☐ iOS ☐ Microsoft

[Add an App](#) | [Rate an App](#) | [Comments and Suggestions](#)

Version: 1.0

2013 IDEAS CONFERENCE

2013 Institute Designed for

Epworth by the Sea, St Simons Island

[Exhibitor Details](#)

WEBINARS

APR 18 [Free for All Resources for Teachers and Students](#)

APR 24 [Assistive Technology and Adapted Recreation: A Perfect Match](#)

[Current Webinar Schedule](#)

[Webinar Archives](#)

APP FINDER

...for Living, Learning, Working, and Playing.

AT ONLINE EXCHANGE

[aTRADE](#) aTRADE - Georgia's Online

TRAINING

[View Presentations](#)

[Request Training](#)

FUNDING

[Resource & Assistance](#)

[Dollars & Sense Database](#)

[Online Equipment Exchange](#)

RESOURCES

[TFL Newsletter](#)

CONTACT US

[Meet the TFL Team](#)

[Advisory Council](#)

[Directions/Map](#)

[Join our Mailing List](#)

My Favorite Apps

You searched for: Learning, Cognition, and Developmental

Logo	Name	Category	Device Type
	tango Video Calls Tango brings you free, high-quality mobile voice and video calls over 3G and Wi-Fi! Millions of people around the world are using Tango in an exciting new way. It	Learning, Cognition, and Developmental	iOS
No Ratings			
	i-promt Professional Tele-prompting software for your iPhone or iPod Touch.	Learning, Cognition, and Developmental	iOS
No Ratings			
	Dragon Dragon Dictation is an easy-to-use voice recognition application powered by Dragon	Learning, Cognition, and Developmental	iOS
★★★★★ 5 stars by 1 users			
	iBooks iBooks includes the iBookstore, where you can download the latest best-selling books or your favorite classics	Learning, Cognition, and Developmental	iOS
No Ratings			
	Say Text SayText reads out loud the text in the image. It is intended for the visually impaired users. SayText is a free spin off product from the DocScanner team.	Learning, Cognition, and Developmental	iOS
No Ratings			

2013 IDEAS CONFERENCE

2013 Institute Designed for Educating All Students Conference: June 3 - 6, 2013
Epworth by the Sea, St Simons Island

- [Submit a Proposal](#)
- [Conference Website](#)
- [Exhibitor Details](#)

WEBINARS

APR
18

[Free for All! Resources for Teachers and Students](#)

APR
24

[Assistive Technology and Adapted Recreation: A Perfect Match](#)

[Current Webinar Schedule](#)
[Webinar Archives](#)

APP FINDER



...for Living, Learning, Working, and Playing.

AT ONLINE EXCHANGE



[gTRADE](#) Georgia's Online Equipment Exchange.

encourages members to offer AT and OME for sale or donation to others who may benefit from using technology unneeded by others.

Future Plans for TFL AppFinder

- Always evolving
- Want to hear from you!
- Divide into educational categories
 - Pre-school
 - Elementary
 - High school
- Have some information about tablets



AAC Apps Assistant



- aactechconnect.com
- Modest cost (\$40) for both app and device assistant
- AAC “only” – 300 apps reviewed!
- Side-by-side comparisons of features
- Robust-simple-starter-more features...

Social Media: Facebook, Twitter, Linked In, Blogs

- May or may not be associated with a website [Advantage to social media: the message comes into your mailbox/mobile device (passive delivery) and may be more timely]
- “Like” commercial pages— view user comments as well as track free/discount offers (e.g. Technology in Education “deal of the day” freebies or discounts; Speak for Yourself implementation stories)
- Join user or professional groups for reviews (and sometimes sharing of freebies): e.g. (FB) Speech Pathologists at Large; (LI) Augmentative and Alternative Communication Professionals

Social Media: Facebook, Twitter, Linked In, Blogs (More!)

- Your favorite website may have an associated blog or FB page (and vice versa)
- The activity of a FB group, tweeter, or blogger may vary from MANY to 1x/month – or less.
- TCEA (Texas Computer Education Association, an affiliate with the International Society for Technology in Education [ISTE]) – <https://twitter.com/tcea>
- Appsforspeechtherapy.blogspot.com
- Some of my favs:



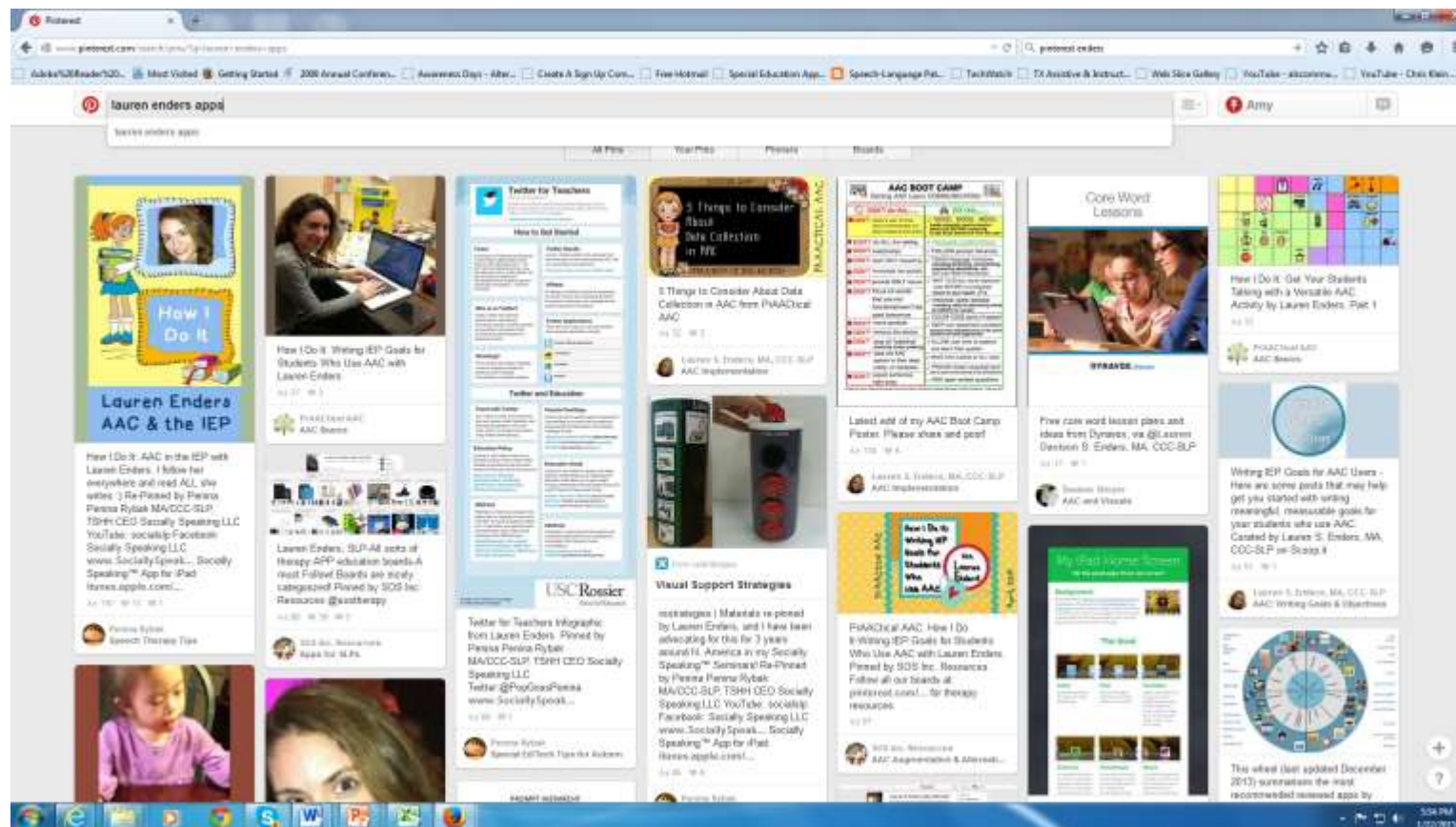
PrAACtical AAC; Augmentative Communication Program at
Boston Children's

Social Media: Pinterest

- Lots of resources for apps
- Search box
- Virtual cork board
- Apps have been vetted
- Pin to your board for organization
- Create your own board
- Follow and share boards



Fav: Lauren Enders



Fav: Apps for disabilities

apps for disabilities x

Doug

All Pins Your Pins Pinners Boards

75 apps for your kids-
speech & language
reading & writing
auditory processing
disorder
special education
special needs
ABA

from A Day in Our Shoes

75 best apps for special education, special needs, speech and language, reading...

We asked special education teachers, OTs and SLPs to recommend their favorite apps for autism, speech and language, reading and writing, auditory processing disorder, executive functioning and more. Here is their list.

50 Popular iPad Apps For Struggling Readers & Writers | TeachThought...there's some interesting apps I've not seen before.

222 17

Heidi Samuelson
Reading

App Name	Price	Age Range	Platform	Key Features
ABCmouse	\$9.99	2-8	iOS, Android	Comprehensive early learning curriculum with interactive games, books, and videos.
Reading Eggs	\$9.99	2-12	iOS, Android	Phonics-based reading program with interactive stories and games.
Lexia	\$19.99	3-12	iOS, Android	Adaptive reading program that adjusts to the student's reading level.
Proton	\$19.99	3-12	iOS, Android	Phonics-based reading program with interactive stories and games.
Reading Eggs	\$9.99	2-12	iOS, Android	Phonics-based reading program with interactive stories and games.

15 Apps for Students to Stay Organized in College ...

7 Top Apps for Students to Stay Organized in College

189 31 1

Kendall Ross
College

20 tips for using your smartphone to organize your ADHD or LD life

The best apps for special needs kids

The best apps for special needs kids - The Washington Post

672 48 1

Nancy Conn
iPads y tecnologia

C A T

Tech Finder

Collection of apps to help students with learning disabilities like dysgraphia or dyslexia

613 41

American Speech-Language-Hearing Association
Apps for SLPs

DYSLEXIA TOOLKIT
Resources, Testing, & More!

DOWNLOAD

Create your own Boards

Apps

Doug Neal  Invite

4 Pins 40 Followers

New! [Move Pins](#) [Edit Board](#) [...](#)


Add a Pin



Apps for Kids with Learning Disabilities

Pinned from [memphisparent.com](#)



5 Mind Mapping Apps for Students with Learning Disabilities

Pinned from [scoop.it](#)



reading apps

Pinned from [lovetwoteach.com](#)

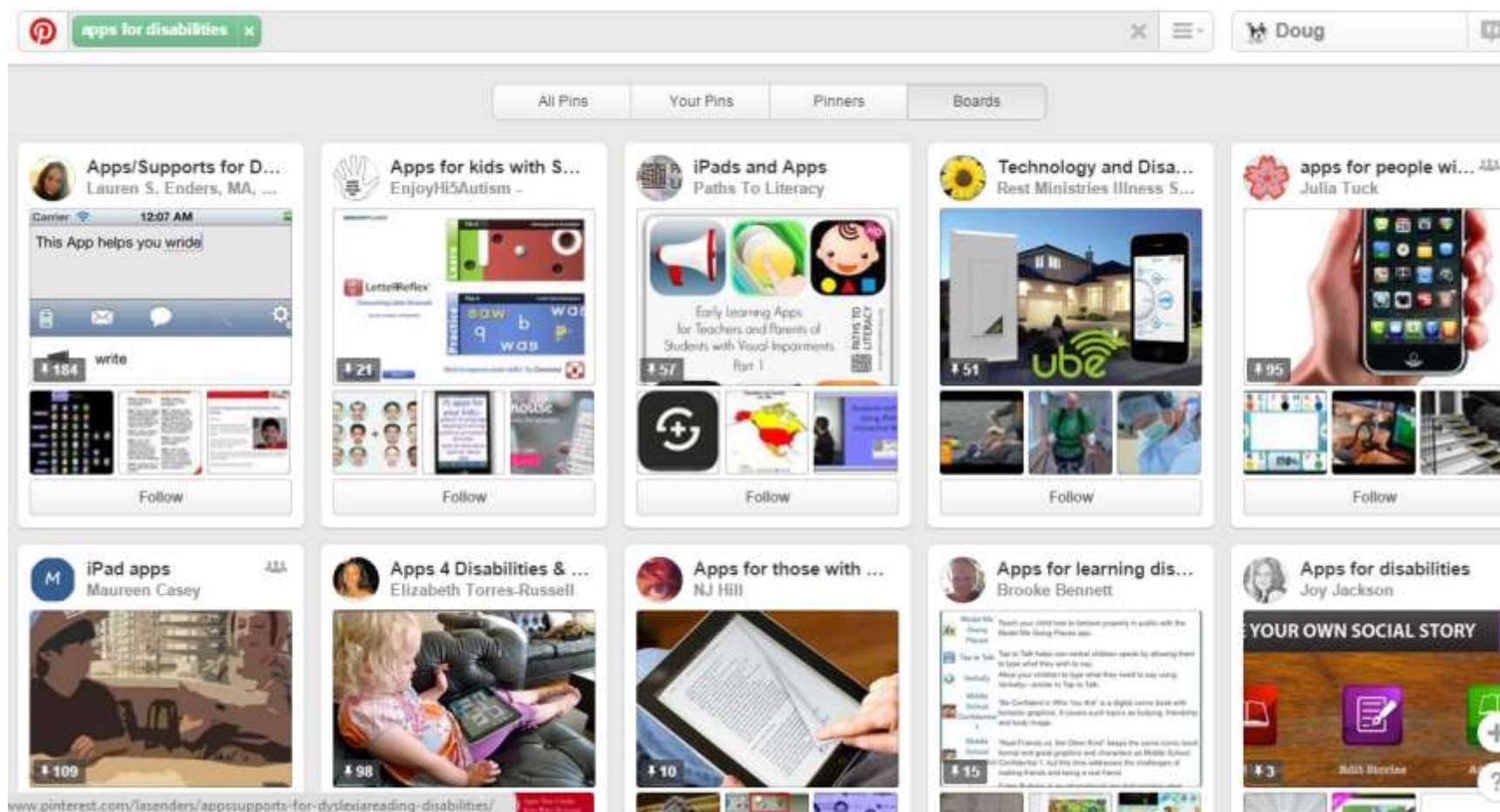


"50 Best iPad Apps for Students with Reading Disabilities"
[edudemic.com/...](#)

Pinned by pinner



Share your own Board



Sites for Curated Reviews and Organized Apps

- www.yappguru.com – “uniting expert blogs for language, learning, and living”
- Categories: OT/PT/SLP; AAC/modalities; aphasia; articulation; cognition
- Reviews are completed “by only the best App Experts”
- “Ratings” tell you what the community thinks
- Blog reviews linked to app reviews
- Key word search
- Free, but you have to register to vote and comment



Sites for Curated Reviews and Organized Apps

- <http://www.ipads4teaching.net/>

KATHY SCHROCK'S IPADS4TEACHING

Twitter Google+ LinkedIn Pinterest YouTube RSS

HOME

Kaffeeklatsch Blog

Kathy Schrock's Home Page

Guide to Everything

About

Offerings

Search



Welcome!

Welcome to my iPads4Teaching site! These pages will provide you with tips, tricks, and resources for teaching and learning with the iPad.

This site will promote the use of the iPad to support sound pedagogical practices and provide professional development options for you. If you have items to share, please use the form in the footer to let me know about them.

I hope you come away with some great ideas!

Contact me



Sites for Curated Reviews and Organized Apps

- <http://www.janefarrall.com>
- Star ratings (0-3)
- AAC symbol and picture apps, symbol and text based apps, and text-based (only) apps
- Feature reviews: device type, symbol type, availability of pre-programmed pages, customization, voice/speech output, access options
- Switch apps (not specifically AAC e.g. play, literacy): device, about, keystrokes, type of AAC)



Sites for Curated Reviews and Organized Apps

- <http://www.schrockguide.net/bloomin-apps.html>



Sites for Curated Reviews and Organized Apps

- <http://dyslexiahelp.umich.edu/tools/apps>

The screenshot shows the website **Dyslexia Help** with the tagline "Success starts here". The header includes a search bar, social media links (Facebook, Pinterest, Twitter, RSS), and a "Read this Screen Out Loud" button. The navigation menu includes: Home, Dyslexics, Parents, Professionals, Success Stories, The Latest, Answers, Tools, Contact Us, and Join Email List. The main content area is titled "Apps for Dyslexia and Learning Disabilities" and features a paragraph explaining the site's purpose: "The following is an extensive and meticulously organized list of apps that may be helpful to individuals with dyslexia, parents of dyslexics, or the professionals who work with dyslexics (teachers, tutors, reading specialists, etc.). We carefully consider each app before we add it, ensuring that it claims to help dyslexics in ways that are in line with the evidence on how to help dyslexics. In other words, we add apps that aid with the cognitive processes used in speaking, reading, spelling, and writing, but we do not add apps that are visual aids for reading, because evidence shows that dyslexia is not a visual disability. If you are looking for a specific app, please type its name in the search bar above. If you have questions about our apps list or would like to suggest we add or remove an app, please email us at dyslexiahelp@umich.edu." Below this text is a section titled "MOST RECENT ADDITIONS" featuring a card for "Spy Sam Reading Series - Free". The card includes a cartoon character icon and text: "Compatible with iPad. Requires iOS 7.0 or later. Created by a doctor to help his son learn to read, this multi-book adventure starts with a few simple words on each page. Gradually the simplistic cartoon façade falls". On the right side of the page, there is a sidebar titled "IN THIS SECTION" with a list of links: Stay Organized & Manage Your Time, Books to Get Kids Reading, Our Favorite Books, Reading & Spelling Programs, Comparison of Programs, Book Scanning Services, Bookshare, Scholastic, and Other Helpful Online Resources, Fun & Games for Dyslexics, Apps for Dyslexia and Learning Disabilities, Software & Assistive Technology, and Tips for Mac Users.

Handouts are available at: www.atia.org/orlandohandouts

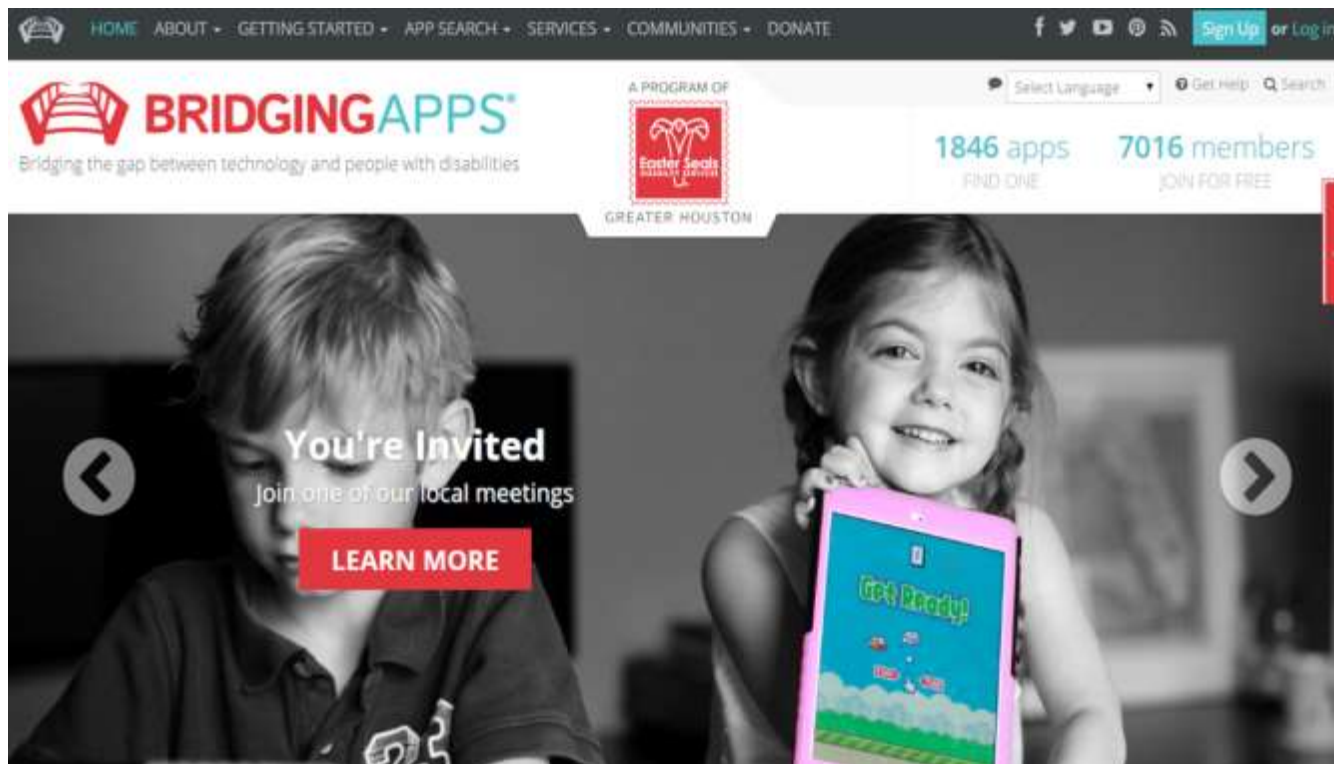
Sites for Curated Reviews and Organized Apps

- www.balefirelabs.com
- More than 3500 apps reviewed and “graded” by trained reviewers (80% inter-rater reliability).
- Evidence-based review criteria
- Criteria: Instructional design (e.g. feedback, error remediation, clear learner objectives); Usability design (e.g. easy to use interface; performance reports, age appropriate reading level)



Sites for Curated Reviews and Organized Apps

- <http://bridgingapps.org/>



Bridging Apps (continued)

HOME
 ABOUT
 GETTING STARTED
 APP SEARCH
 SERVICES
 COMMUNITIES
 DONATE

Welcome martharust! [Log out](#)

Our custom-built App Search Tool allows users to access app reviews conducted by therapists and special education teachers and focuses on skill, rather than age or diagnosis. Learn more about our App Search Tool features below and check out some video resources to help you get started searching for apps on our website.

Search by Skill

Explore our custom-built search engine to find apps categorized by skill to meet your specific needs.

Search App Lists

Search lists of curated apps or create your own list of apps you find helpful to share with others.

Read Professional Reviews

Access apps that have been evaluated and trialed with special needs users using standards-based assessment tools.

Save Searches

Input search criteria to search for apps and save that search for future reference.

Review and Rate Apps

Provide feedback to help others find and benefit from your favorite apps.

Add Notes to Apps

Add comments to apps that you have saved in your app lists.

Connect to App Stores

Connect directly to the iTunes and Google Play stores to purchase apps from our app reviews.

Join a Community

Connect with others who are using mobile devices in our community to share ideas and learn.

bridgingapps.org/bridgingapps-review-system

[Help](#)

Sites for Apps – Blind/Low Vision

The screenshot shows the AppleVis website homepage. At the top left is the AppleVis logo, consisting of the letters 'AV' in a large, bold, black font, with 'AppleVis' in a smaller, black font below it. To the right of the logo is a black rectangular box containing the text 'Empowering blind and low-vision users of Apple products and related applications' in white. In the top right corner, there is a navigation menu with links: 'Login', 'Register', 'Submit Content', 'Donate', and 'Help'. Below this is a dark blue horizontal bar containing a navigation menu with links: 'Apps', 'Forum', 'Blog', 'Podcasts', 'Guides & Tutorials', 'Accessory Reviews', and 'App Deals'. To the right of these links is a search bar with a 'Search' button. Below the dark blue bar, the word 'Home' is displayed. The main heading reads 'Find, Share and Recommend iOS and Mac Apps Which Are Accessible To Blind And Low Vision Users'. Below this heading is a white box containing the text: 'Here at AppleVis we strive to make it easier for you to find great apps to use on your Macs and iDevices.' followed by the heading 'iOS Apps' and 'iOS App Directory'. Below this is the text: 'Our main resource for iDevice users is the iOS App Directory, which currently contains user-submitted information on the accessibility of more than 2500 apps.' followed by two links: 'View the latest entries in the iOS App Directory' and 'Browse the iOS App Directory by category'.

AV
AppleVis

Empowering blind and low-vision users of
Apple products and related applications

Login Register Submit Content Donate Help

Apps Forum Blog Podcasts Guides & Tutorials Accessory Reviews App Deals Search

Home

Find, Share and Recommend iOS and Mac Apps Which Are Accessible To Blind And Low Vision Users

Here at AppleVis we strive to make it easier for you to find great apps to use on your Macs and iDevices.

iOS Apps

iOS App Directory

Our main resource for iDevice users is the iOS App Directory, which currently contains user-submitted information on the accessibility of more than 2500 apps.

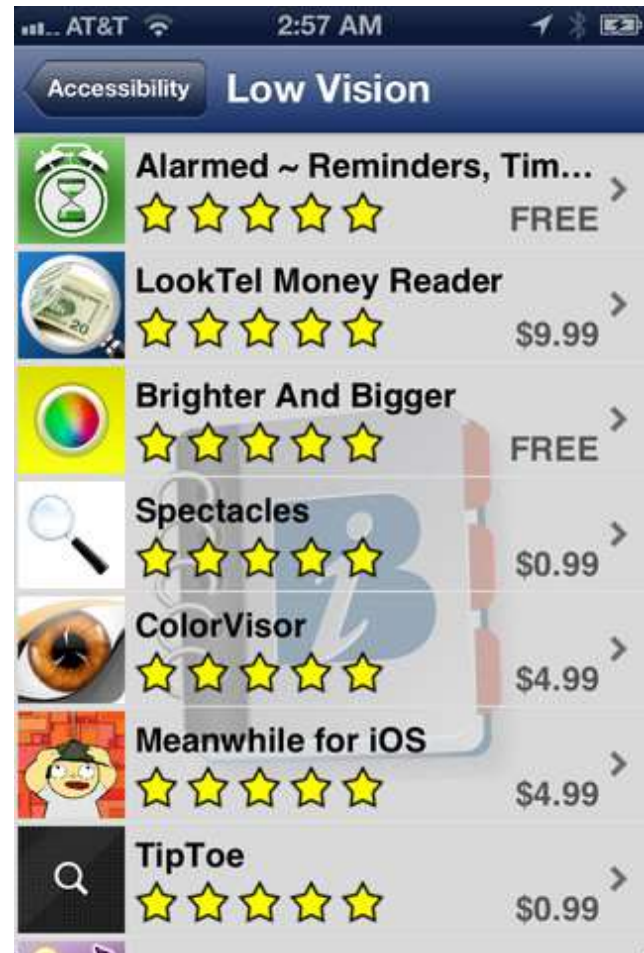
[View the latest entries in the iOS App Directory](#)

[Browse the iOS App Directory by category](#)



ViA

- Visually Impaired Apps by the Braille Institute
- Searchable app database that lists apps for adults and children
- allows users to sort apps by category, price, and the App Store star rating
- Create profile
- Track new apps
- Free



More resources!

- <http://www.smartappsforkids.com/> (and related sites) app giveaways (e.g. free android app Friday!); top picks (out of 5 stars); categories
- Subscribe for updates and alerts (free)



What is YOUR favorite?

App search engine?

App list?

App review?

App give-away?

Any questions?



- Thank you for your participation!
- Thanks to ASHA SIG 12 members who shared their favorites!

Thank you for attending this session

- CEUs – Session Code: XXX-YY
 - More info at: www.atia.org/CEU
 - For ACVREP, AOTA and ASHA CEUs, hand in completed Attendance Forms to REGISTRATION DESK at the end of the conference. Please note there is a \$15 fee for AOTA CEUs.
 - For general CEUs, apply online with The AAC Institute: www.aac institute.org
- Session Evaluation: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ET-012>
 - Please help us improve the quality of our conference by completing your session evaluation form.
 - Completed evaluation forms should be submitted as you exit or to staff at the registration desk.
- Handouts
 - Handouts are available at: www.atia.org/orlandohandouts
 - Handout link remains live for 3 months after the conference ends.

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