

{ CyberKids }

an app-visory for the 21st century

Choosing Digital Media

- Make intentional decisions about digital media.
- Explore apps on your own before exploring them together with your pre-reader.
- Look for apps and other media that help you and your child write, read, play, sing and talk together.
- Consider the 3 Cs: Context, Content, Child (discussed in *Screen Time* by Lisa Guernsey).

Evaluating Book Apps

- Are the interactive elements meaningful or do they distract from the story?
- Is it a great story? Are the images visually appealing and age appropriate?
- Is the font easy to read? No typos or grammatically correct?
- Is there a read-to-me and read-to-myself option?
- High quality audio? Is the narrator easy to understand?
- Can you turn off the music or other sound effects?

Evaluating Game/Education Apps

- Value: Will it be fun to use over and over?
- Does it offer open-ended play?
- Is it easy to navigate and intuitive?
- Is it visually appealing with an uncluttered display?
- Is it age-appropriate?

Helpful Books & Websites

Screen Time : How Electronic Media-From Baby Videos to Educational Software-Affects Your Young Child by Lisa Guernsey
Born Reading: Bringing Up Bookworms in a Digital Age - from *Picture Books to eBooks and Everything in Between* by Jason Boog
Media Moms and Digital Dads: Fact-not-Fear Approach to Parenting in the Digital Age by Yalda T. Uhls

Fred Rogers Center
Joan Ganz Cooney Center
Sesame Street Workshop
Common Sense Media
Digital Media Diet
Digital Storytime
Know What's Inside
Smart Apps for Kids

fredrogerscenter.org
joanganzcooneycenter.org
sesameworkshop.org
commonsensemedia.org
digitalmediadiet.com
digital-storytime.com
knowwhatsinside.com
smartappsforkids.com



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Early literacy: talk, sing, read, write, play

Below are iPad app suggestions for preschool and early elementary students based upon “Every Child Ready to Read,” a national literacy initiative PPLD supports. It encourages the five practices of talking, singing, reading, writing, and playing to advance early literacy development. This list is dynamic and we will be adding more suggestions for other ages and platforms.

TALK

[Don't Let the Pigeon Run this App](#) (Loud Crow) iTunes

[StoryBots – Learning Books, Videos and Games Starring Your Child!](#) (JibJab Media Inc.) [free] iTunes

[Toca Robot Lab](#) (Toca Boca) iTunes

SING

[Barnyard Dance](#)– Sandra Boynton (Loud Crow Interactive) iTunes

[Felt Board – Mother Goose on the Loose](#) (Software Smoothie) [free] iTunes

[Storybots Tap and Sing](#) iTunes

READ

[The Very Cranky Bear](#) (We Are Wheelbarrow PTY LTD) iTunes & Google Play

[The Monster at the End of this Book](#) (Sesame Street) iTunes

[Reading Rainbow: Learn & Read with A Library of Children's Books, Kids Videos & Educational Games](#) (Reading Rainbow) [free] iTunes & Amazon

WRITE

[Alphabet Tracing](#) (Oncilla Technologies Inc) [free] iTunes

[Fingerpaint Magic](#) [free] iTunes & Amazon

[Kids Doodle - Movie Kids Color & Draw](#) (Bejoy Mobile) [free] iTunes, Google Play, & Amazon

PLAY

[Felt board](#) (Software Smoothie) iTunes

[Firefighter Dress Up](#) (Jumpsewow, Inc.) iTunes

[Sock Puppets](#) (Smith Micro Software) [free] iTunes

PPLD's CyberShelf at ppld.org

- **TumbleBooks**: Accessible through PPLD website, currently not as an app. Features animated, talking picture books which teach kids the joy of reading in a format they'll love.
- **TumbleBookCloud**: Videos and chapter books suitable for middle school and high school.
- **TumbleBookCloud Junior**: Videos and chapter books suitable for elementary grades.
- **OverDrive (CyberShelf)**: App available through iTunes, Google Play, Amazon. OverDrive hosts premium audio and digital titles for all ages and reading levels. Current formats are Kindle, ePub, & PDF.
- **ComicsPlus: Library Edition**: Accessible through PPLD website, currently not as an app. An online streaming service with access to digital graphic novels.

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