

Sites to Help Select Apps for Children with Special Needs

1

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Fabulous IPAD Book "iPads for Communication Access Literacy and Learning" - [Click Here to Access PDF](#)

Websites for Evaluating and Selecting Apps for Young Children with Special Needs

- [One Place for Special Needs](#) - This website organizes the apps in sections, such as apps that work on cognitive skills, apps that work on fine motor skills, math apps, etc.
- [Apps4stages](#) – a wikispace with clear lists of apps based on children’s development. This site also offers PDF downloads explaining apps that support children with disability and provides links to apps using Bloom’s Revised Taxonomy.
- [BridgingApps](#) – a program of Easter Seals disability service and formerly (www.snapps4kids.com) have over 1800 apps especially for individuals with disabilities. The home pages gives users the opportunity to search for “apps reviewed using standards-based assessment tools,” “learn to use mobile devices to effectively target skill development,” and “join our community to get involved and keep up with the latest resources.” A well-organized, easy to use and informative website for app selection and device use.
- [Participate Learning](#)– Users can select their device, the age group, and subject or learning goals. Search results include an image of the app icon, cost, a summary, and an option to download. Click on one of the apps and view an app report card for details, ratings, reviews and common core competency connections.
- [Special Needs App Review](#) – use the site to do an open search for an app or select a specific purpose (e.g., social skills, communication, life skills, educational, behavior etc.), clearly organized and fairly easy to use.
- [Technology in Special \(SPL\) Education](#) – A comprehensive site with links at the top to search apps by: iep goals, basic skills, speech, OT, advice, reviews, best apps. Users can sign up for their email list to receive news, almost 800 education apps available with nearly 50% free.

Selecting AAC apps for children with disability

- [Two Way Street Communication Therapy Solutions and Resources: iPads and Communication](#) – A small but good selection of tools and websites for selecting appropriate apps to support “children and adults with complex communication needs (CCN)” use of iPads and iPods for communication.
- [Jane Farrall Consulting](#) – provides a comprehensive [list of apps](#) for augmentative alternative communication (AAC) and switch accessibility. She also provides the following resources – click the links below:
 - [Symbol Picture Apps](#)
 - [Text Based Apps](#)
 - [Symbols/Text to Speech Apps](#)
 - [Switch Accessible Apps](#)
- [AAC Tech Connect](#) – easy to navigate website with simple graphics for making clinical decisions for AAC. Provides tools for app evaluation to select the best app for individual’s communication needs.

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2

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Selecting apps for children on the autism spectrum

- [Appy Autism](#) - The website is in English and Spanish and connected to [iAutism](#). The home page allows users to search by operating system, category, device, use key words or simply search apps by clicking the orange button.
- [Autism Speaks – Autism Apps](#) – A comprehensive list of apps for individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD). Search by “what does it do,” “on what device,” “for what ages,” or by keyword.
- [Touch Autism](#) – App developer and reviewer. This website provides information about apps which support children with ASD. Touch Autism created [Autism Apps](#) (available on iTunes) which provides a simple list of apps used by and to support individuals on the autism spectrum
- [Autism Wheel](#) – Apps for Students with Autism Spectrum Disorders, "Design based on the Pedagogy Wheel designed by Allan Carrington and modified by Cherie Pickering"
- [Squidicious](#) – Blog website created by a mother of a child with ASD. The website has a recently updated spreadsheet of apps categorized by topic, price, link, description and review. The website also provides articles and stories related to parenting a child with autism.

Other Resources to Consider

- [LangWitches](#) website by [Silvia Rosenthal Tolisano](#) - Click on the following link to find her post about [Using Blooms Revised Taxonomy for Evaluating Apps](#)
- [iLearn Technology](#) - An Education Blog about integrating technology in the classroom with specific links to selecting apps using [Bloom’s Taxonomy](#).
- [UDL Placemat of apps](#) found in the [resource bank](#) on the Quality Indicators for Assistive Technology (QIAT) website.
- [Smart Apps for Special Needs](#) – Blog style website providing articles about children with special needs, apps and app reviews. Search for apps using the navigation buttons on the left side of the page by category, rating, or skill focus.
- [OT’s with Apps and Technology](#) – Straightforward site with lists of Apps for visual motor integration, handwriting and other resources. Useful for OTs working with children and adults as well as special educators.
- [Teach with Your iPad Wiki](#) – provides information on how to select apps using [Bloom’s Taxonomy](#).
- [App Advice: Apps for the Deaf and Hearing Impaired](#) – a page on the [app advice](#) website showing a small list of apps for individuals who deaf or hearing impaired.
- [Common Sense Media](#) – a good source for apps and media for educators, but it does not have specific focus on children special needs
- [Moms with Apps](#) – This website has multiple app descriptions. Search by subject, age, purpose or device