

The Holiday Are Here. Which Apps Will You Share With the Children in Your Life?

This app¹ resource guide was complied by Harvard Family Research Project and accompanies an <u>article</u> by Julie M. Wood and Nicole Ponsford of TechnoTeachers.

AGE GROUP REFERENCES

- 0-3: Appropriate for early childhood learning
- 4+: Appropriate for children in pre-kindergarten through elementary school
- 9+: Appropriate for children in middle school
- 12+: Appropriate for students in high school

		12+: Appropriate for students in high school				
Learn on the Go: Anywhere, Anytime!						
APP / MAKER	AGES	DESCRIPTION *All apps are free of cost unless otherwise noted.				
<u>Let's Play</u> Zero to Three	0-3	Let's Play is a parenting app for on-the-go families. From the daily commute to bed and bath time, this app proposes learning opportunities for children ages zero to three to engage in while families move through their daily routine.				
Ready Rosie ReadyRosie	4 ⁺	Ready Rosie is a parent engagement app that helps children prepare to enterpreschool or kindergarten. The app features videos of children performing various daily activities that parents are then prompted to help their children mimic so that they can learn important skills and tasks they will use in school (Free 5-day trial; subscription required to continue use)				
Ansel & Clair: Little Green Island Cognitive Kids, Inc.	4+	Ansel & Clair: Little Green Island is a game in which children explore the impacts of pollution and find ways to prevent or mitigate its effects. (\$1.99)				
<u>Duolingo</u> Duolingo	4+	Duolingo helps young children learn Spanish, French, German, Portuguese, Italian, and English through a series of fun quizzes and games.				
Alien Assignment Fred Rogers Center at St. Vincent College	9+	Alien Assignment is an interactive game that encourages problem solving and discovery. Children embark on a scavenger hunt around their home to take pictures of various household items that will help a stranded alien family fix their spaceship.				
State Bingo & Road Trip USA Niyaa LLC	9+	State Bingo & Road Trip USA allows children to learn about the different states in the country through playing bingo, solving state riddles, and putting their map reading skills to the test.				
PBS Parent PBS Kids	Parents	<i>PBS Parent</i> is a collection of interactive games for parents to play with their young children based on specific locations, such as the store or the zoo. This app brings learning and fun to even the most mundane tasks.				
Make School Curriculum Feel Like Play!						
APP / MAKER	AGES	DESCRIPTION *All apps are free of cost unless otherwise noted.				
<u>Montessori Numbers</u> L'Escapadou	0-3	Montessori Numbers provides numerous activities to expose young children to math concepts such as decimals and counting to 999. (\$2.99)				
Khan Academy Khan Academy	4 ⁺	The <i>Khan Academy</i> app provides educators and students with access to extensive curriculum in the sciences, math, humanities, finance, and more! Features include videos, research articles, and tools to track users' learning progress. Curriculum spans grades K-12.				
WordGirl Superhero Training PBS Kids	4 ⁺	WordGirl Superhero Training is a collection of 4 mini games, each with 30 levels, and each designed to help children practice and improve their vocabul skills. Based on the PBS KIDS series, "WordGirl."(\$1.99)				
Sid's Science Fair PBS Kids	4 ⁺	Sid's Science Fair allows students to explore many science and math concepts in engaging ways. Children learn to identify patterns and understand how growth and change happen over time. (\$2.99)				
Molecules Sunset Lake Software	12 ⁺	The <i>Molecules</i> app allows users to view and manipulate various 3-D molecular structures. Molecules for the app are downloaded from the RCSB Protein Data Bank.				



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Explore and Contribute to the World of Art					
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	Art Lab MoMA, The Museum of Modern Art	4 ⁺	Art Lab users learn to create their own sound compositions, poems, group drawings, and paintings. Children can save their works of art to share with friends and family.		
	ABCya Animate ABCya	9+	ABCya Animate users can create their own cartoons and stop-action animations. The app features 100 colorful frames and over 100 unique images to choose from. (\$1.99)		
	Faking It Metropolitan Museum of Art (MET)	12 ⁺	Faking It is a companion to the MET's "Faking It" exhibit, in which children can compare photographs and try to identify which pieces of art are the real thing and which have been faked!		
Bring the Museum to Life Right in Your Own Home!					
	APP / MAKER	AGES	DESCRIPTION *All apps are free of cost unless otherwise noted.		
	Beyond Battle Metropolitan Museum of Art (MET)	4+	Beyond Battle is a companion to the MET's "Beyond Battle" exhibit in which players can complete quizzes and learn information about arms and armor.		
	<u>Dinosaurs</u> American Museum of Natural History Collection	4 ⁺	<i>Dinosaurs</i> can be used as a guide in the American Museum of Natural History Collection, or right at home. This app provides interactive photographs of real dinosaur fossils, and images of what scientists believe dinosaurs looked like when they roamed our planet nearly 65 million years ago.		
	Beyond Planet Earth Augmented Reality American Museum of Natural History	9+	Beyond Planet Earth Augmented Reality is a companion to the "Beyond Planet Earth: The Future of Space Exploration" exhibit, which allows users to access supplemental exhibit information, including videos of spaceship take-offs, 3-D visuals of asteroids, and information about the planets and moons!		
	<u>Creatures of Light</u> American Museum of Natural History	9+	Creatures of Light can be used as a companion for the "Creatures of Light" exhibit and features interactive animations, photo galleries, and videos that reveal the beauty of organisms that produce light.		
Super Fun Science Apps!					
	APP / MAKER	AGES	DESCRIPTION *All apps are free of cost unless otherwise noted.		
	<u>Star Walk</u> Vito Technology Inc.	4 ⁺	Star Walk is an interactive astrology guide to the night sky. It uses your device's camera to overlay images and information about the stars and constellations captured by your device's photo lens. (\$2.99)		
	MythBusters HD Phunware, Inc.	9+	MythBusters HD provides access to MythBusters video content plus behind-the-scene information and games to supplement the show content. Join in on the adventure as MythBusters Adam and Jaime prove and disprove some of the coolest myths of our time!		
	This is My Body Urbn Pockets	9+	This is My Body teaches children about the basic functions of the human body and its systems. Children can explore the skeletal system, their five senses, ways that their body grows, and much more! (\$2.99)		



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Check Out App Reviews At These Locations!

Common Sense Media

Common Sense Media is an organization that seeks to help families "harness the power of media and technology." Ratings of many educational apps based on their learning approaches and ability to engage children.

Jinny Gudmundsen

Jinny Gudmundsen is the editor of www.TechwithKids.com and author of iPad Apps for Kids, a For Dummies book. She also writes a special-feature-for USA Today that reviews apps for children.

¹ Links to apps in this guide will direct you to the manufacturer's website, where you can select the device platform, such as iTunes or Android.