

Free iPad APPS for Communication and Learning (Search and Download in APP Store on iPad*)

**Notes: Descriptions copied from websites. These are current as of 3/15/2021, subject to change.*

Early Communication, Vocabulary & Language Development

- [Tom Taps- Speak](#): Tom Taps Speak is designed, in collaboration with parents and speech therapists, to help people with communication impairments. It is picture-based and has a friendly text-to-speech function.
- [Choice Boards](#): Choice Boards is a simple but useful communication app. It is designed for children and adults with autism (ASD) or other conditions that make communication difficult. Can be used as a form of Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC).
- [Yes/No Question Made Simple](#): Yes/No is a simple app that enables people with disabilities to answer questions with a yes or no.
- [My First Words](#): "My kids love the games and flashcards. I have recommended it to all of my friends!" Endorsed by parents, teachers, and kids.
- [Sounding Board](#): SoundingBoard by AbleNet allows you to create communication boards on your iPad or iPod touch.

Sign Language

- [The ASL APP](#): The ASL App is made by Deaf people to learn conversational ASL on the go, with all phrases and signs organized to make it easy to learn.
- [Hands on ASL](#): ASL Fingerspelling Practice. Learn how to receptively and expressively finger-spell with an interactive application using the American Sign Language alphabet.
- [WeSign Basic](#): Videos of Deaf adults asking some common questions to Deaf children relating to school. This app features questions with various answers with both "normal" and "slow" play speed options.

AAC Communication Systems

- [CoughDrop APP](#) (free for 2 months): CoughDrop is a full-featured AAC communication app built for individuals with autism, cerebral palsy, Down syndrome, Angelman syndrome, Rett syndrome, or other complex communication needs. CoughDrop is flexible and configurable enough to accommodate the access and comprehension needs of many communicators.
- [GoTalk NOW Lite](#) (Free Version): GoTalk NOW LITE, is a communication app that introduces the flexibility, ease of use, and power of Attainment's popular GoTalk NOW.
- [Chatter Boards](#): ChatterBoards is an easy to use AAC aid for people of any age who have speech or language difficulties. This can include people with autism, aphasia, apraxia, stroke, downs syndrome, or any other disability that causes the individual to have difficulties in communicating or expressing their needs.
- [MyTalk Lite](#): MyTalkTools is an award-winning app that people with communication difficulties to express their needs and desires to those around them. It supports users, teachers, therapists, caregivers and parents.
- [SymboTalk – AAC Talker](#): SymboTalk is an app that talks by clicking on symbols

(images or icons). The app has predefined communication boards from different areas of life, each board contains symbols (images).

- [Alexicom AAC](#): Alexicom AAC for iPhone/iPad for use on an iPhone, iPad, or iPod Touch as an augmentative communication device.

Play & Learning (Cause/Effect, Music, Drawing, etc.)

- [ChatterPIX Kids](#): Chatterpix Kids can make anything talk—pets, books, doodles, and more. Simply take a photo, draw a line to make a mouth, and record your voice.
- [Xylophone by Interactive Alphabet](#): X is for Xylophone is a standalone toddler friendly Xylophone.
- [Talking Tomcat 2](#): Talk to Talking Tom, play with him, poke him, and dress him in cool outfits. Customize his home. And make funny videos and to share.
- [Build and Play](#): Build and Play 2 is a sequel to the award-winning Build and Play app, bringing colorful and exciting toys that young children can easily build themselves and then control and play with.
- [Music Sparkles](#): Music Sparkles brings a world of music to your fingertips. From piano and xylophones to electric guitars - just tap and play. Enjoy spectacular sparkles created by your own music as you play. With the large collection of musical instruments, your little one will be able to develop their musical hearing and future talent!
- [Musical Me- Kids Songs Music](#): Musical Me takes kids on a musical learning journey! Through a variety of activities, kids will learn musical FUN-damentals like notes, rhythm, and pitch.
- [Finger Paint with Sounds](#): An opportunity to finger paint without the mess! A fun alternative to help children with special needs and others to practice their first interactions with a touch screen
- [More Trucks – Duck Duck Moose](#): An award-winning creative play app, More Trucks has 4 new activities that stimulate young imaginations and teaches sequencing, sorting and problem solving.
- [Pepi Garage](#): Calling all cars! Hurry up and stop by Pepi Garage. Paint, customize, photoshoot your cars and unleash them into the real world. Garage is even outfitted with a camera tool, so grab this app and capture many images of colourful and funny cars!
- [Jigsaw Box](#): Jigsaw Box allows you to create jigsaw puzzles using your own pictures.

Early Learning (Animals, Numbers, ABCs, Colors, Shapes, etc)

- [Bitsboard](#): Bitsboard includes dozens of highly engaging mini-games and lessons for all ages. The free version of Bitsboard has access to all of the games and the entire Bitsboard catalog of lessons.
- [Peek-a-Boo Farm Lite](#): A peekaboo game designed for infants and toddlers with animated farm animal illustrations and sounds. Games include Peekaboo - I see you! and Guess who's next to guess the animal that will appear or what sound it will make.
- [Animal Fun](#): Animal Fun is a simple animal learning program for children. Children learn about animals by seeing and hearing the sounds an animal makes. It combines an easy-to-use interface and fun sound effects to entertain children while they learn.
- [Animal Zoo](#): Hundreds of animal flashcards with sounds. Customizing with entering new flashcards and sounds is possible.
- [LetterSchool - Block Letters](#): LetterSchool is an educational app designed to help every child play and learn how to write all letters of the English alphabet (from A to Z) and numbers from 1-10. Kids practice and develop essential phonics and handwriting skills

as they play three exciting games per letter or number – as an extra, they learn words associated with the letters.

- [Homer Learn and Grow](#): HOMER is an early learning program that builds skills for school and life— taking kids from ages 2-8 years on a personalized learning journey that boosts their confidence and grows with them.
- [Starfall ABCs by Starfall Education](#): Children delight as they see, hear, and interact with letters and sounds in words, sentences, and games. They learn to recognize letters while developing the skills they need to become confident readers. All children can benefit, especially English language learners.

Literacy

- [ABC Kids - Tracing and Phonics](#): ABC Kids is a free phonics and alphabet teaching app that makes learning fun for children, from toddlers all the way to preschoolers and kindergartners. It features a series of tracing games to help kids recognize letter shapes, associate them with phonic sounds, and put their alphabet knowledge to use in fun matching exercises. Any toddler, kindergartener or preschool age child can learn English and the English alphabet simply by following the arrows with their finger.
- [EPIC- Kids' Books & Reading](#): Welcome to Epic - the leading digital library for kids, where kids can explore their interests and learn with instant, unlimited access to 40,000 high-quality ebooks, audiobooks, learning videos, and quizzes for kids 12 and under.
- [Kahn Academy Kids](#): Khan Academy Kids is a free, fun, educational program with thousands of activities and books that will inspire a lifetime of learning and discovery for children ages 2-8.
- [Unite for Literacy \(Web Based, not an APP\)](#): Unite for Literacy has developed the platform, publishing tools, and systems-based strategies that support our public and private sector partners to change the literacy landscape of their communities and optimize the future for all their young children. Our projects build home libraries and support families to develop a daily habit of reading, both of which are key factors in growing lifelong readers.
- [Starfall Learn to Read](#): Each numbered section features a vowel sound and its related spelling. Children hear, touch, read and eventually master this sound-spelling through a variety of engaging activities, movies, and songs. The goal is for your child to learn to recognize the relationship between spoken and written language while having fun learning to read. This app is designed for emerging readers and English language learners.
- [Starfall I'm Reading by Starfall Education](#): Starfall I'm Reading develops comprehension and reading fluency in beginning and advancing readers. This app is designed to assist students to make the leap from learning to read, to reading to learn. The stories in this app contain a controlled vocabulary set, using the words most frequently encountered in print. The stories and activities reinforce high-frequency words, also called "sight words," in sentences rather than in isolation.
- [Story Creator-Easy Story Book Maker for Kids](#): With Story Creator, students can easily create their own story books containing photos, videos, text, and audio all in one collection.
- [Draw and Tell](#): Draw and Tell is a creative app that brings children's stories to life! Use the tool to draw, color, decorate with stickers, create animations and record stories.

Math

- [Number Games Match Game Free Games for Kids Math](#): Number recognition and learning to count in a play format. This app adheres to kindergarten math and was designed by parents and teachers.
- [Prodigy: Kids' Math Game](#): Amazing pets, epic battles and ... math practice? That's Prodigy, the math game where kids can earn prizes, go on quests and play with friends — all while learning math. With Prodigy math homework is disguised as a video-game.

Science

- [Zoo Mobile](#): Discover an extraordinary app with vibrant animal game features and a wide variety of zoo game options. Decorate and complete everyday tasks and challenges, from caring for animals to breeding endangered animals.
- [Arctic Express](#): “Arctic Express” – is a 3d presentation of a tanker that is unique in its class. Easy to navigate, interesting to discover. Watch the gallery with real photos of the ship, find out the way it floats, study its main features, fly around, see the model of the ship in the way you want.
- [BrainPOP Featured Movie](#): Help kids understand their world with the BrainPOP Featured Movie app. Animated movies engage via narrative, humor, and characters who speak in a voice kids can relate to, encouraging self-directed learning and further exploration of the world around them.
- [K-5 Science for Kids--Tappity](#): Spark your child's curiosity with Haley, Tappity's science expert. Developed by educators and storytellers, Tappity offers fun interactive lessons on more than 100 science topics.

Teaching Apps

- [Show Me](#): Interactive ShowMe allows you to record voice over whiteboard tutorials and share them online.

Websites with Free APP reviews:

- [Angela Morad](#): Free and Affordable Symbol-Based AAC apps
- [Bridging Apps](#): (Search by Category for Free Apps)
- [Moms with APPS](#): (features free app each Friday)

Free iPad APPS is provided by Project Building Bridges and the Nika Project



[Project Building Bridges](#)

Office of Special Education Programs
USDOE, Grant #H325K150405



[Nika Project](#)

Providing global access to
sustainable communication and learning
technology