

Explain Everything

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Publisher: Explain Everything

Version: 5.3.6

Target Audience

The age rating that the publisher gives the app is ages 4 and up. We think that this app would be too difficult for 4-year-olds and even first graders because of the number of features that the app has. We think that children younger than 8 years old would get confused and possibly distracted. This app is a tool app because the user would be able to create something entirely new, design something based on a template, and collaborate with others. This app allows users to be creative.

Curriculum

The teacher can use this in his or her classroom however he or she wants. The app can be used for all of the different subjects such as math, language arts, science, and social studies. The app could be used both as a teacher tool and for student work such as single user, small group, one computer classroom, and mobile environment work. However, we think that this app would be best used as a teacher tool and small group work. The teacher can manipulate the app in a way that best suits his or her classroom. The students can use it for making collages, showing their work, brainstorming, or group projects.

Cost

There is a free/temporary version of the app and a paid/permanent version of the app. The free trial allows the user a 30 day trial to the entire app and its collaboration options. The license options for the app are as follows: individual licenses are \$12.99 monthly or \$107.99 yearly, educational group licenses are \$119.99 monthly or \$899.99 yearly, the annual educational group 5 license is \$269.99 yearly, and the business group licenses are \$59.99 monthly or \$499.99 yearly. We believe that the paid version would be the best to use in the classroom because the trial would eventually run out.



Software

Explain Everything is an app that allows users to create whatever they want, however they want. Due to the versatility of the app and its features, it is a tool. When a user first opens the app, it prompts them to create a login as well as to sign up for a free 30 day trial to the app. It states that after the 30 days, the iTunes account will be charged. Then, it takes the user to the main screen that has buttons for making a new project, inviting others to the user's work, joining other users' works, or sharing the user's creation as a web video link/export file. The app has many features such as inserting images, inserting gifs, recording voices, drawing, sending things to the front or the back of the screen, creating gifs, creating text, and a grabber tool that allows the user to move things around the screen.

Impressions

We think that the Explain Everything software can be used in many different ways such as group projects, homework that can be submitted via the internet, and teacher organization. When we first opened the software, we were slightly confused as to what we were supposed to do. The main screen is pretty vague and we think that there could be a better way to do a tutorial for the app. We think that we would personally use the app in our classrooms as a way for students to collaborate on projects.

This app had both good and bad features. The app had pretty easy navigation and the screen design was nice. The toolbar was on the side of the screen and the bottom which gave it an organized look. The colors that were used for the app's icons and screens are kind of bland. The colors of the app were mostly black, gray, purple, and white. While this made the app feel mature and finished, we feel that the app should seem more kid friendly with more vibrant colors. The feedback was nearly immediate. There are a ton of features that the user can have access to. However, the app had confusing icons for the features. The app did not have any sound that went with it. If the user wants sound in their document, they have to pick it from their iTunes account. We feel that the app should have built-in sound so that the user does not have to go outside of the app. The app says that it is for ages 4 and up, but 4-year-olds are not going to know what is going on. We believe that the app is more suitable for 8-year-olds because they can read larger words as well as have some knowledge of technology prior to working with this app.

Does the software pass?

This app passes our evaluation. Even though it has a few minor issues, we think that the good outweighs the bad in this situation. The app can be very useful in the



classroom for many different things, which is one reason it passed our inspection. Another reason is because of the number of features that the user has access to.

