

## Evaluating Apps

**Title** Epic! (iPad)

**Evaluators** Bethany Niswonger

Questions	Yes	No	Comments/ Notes
Have you played enough to know every aspect? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Did you try things that were wrong and/or unexpected</li> </ul>	X		
Did the software crash?		X	
Was the content appropriate? Did it meet the user's needs?	X		
Were the screens appealing? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Color, items on screen, sounds .....</li> </ul>	X		
Is it easy to navigate?	X		
Is it easy to learn?	X		
Does the user need Supervision to use		X	
If the App required a response, was it appropriate? (right or wrong)			
Were there bells and whistles? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If so, do they enhance instead of detract?</li> <li>• If not, should there be?</li> </ul>		X	
Did you like using the App?	X		

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What was the cost? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Was there a "lite" version                         <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ If so, was it enough</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	X	X	The app was free, but it does require a subscription.
Were there in-app purchases? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If so, what were the additional costs?</li> </ul>	X		The app requires a subscription after a trial period.
How does it compare to other apps that do the same?			
Additional Comments			

### Developmentally Appropriate

Questions	Yes	No	Comments/ Notes
Child Development and Learning <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Subject Matter appropriate?</li> <li>• Educational Focus?</li> <li>• Provides for Learning New Content?</li> <li>• Follows Appropriate Teaching Sequence?</li> </ul>	X		
Individual <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Does it match individual's abilities?</li> <li>• Does it meet individual's needs?</li> </ul>	X		
Social/Cultural <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bias?</li> <li>• Commercialism Comments</li> </ul>		X	

**Version:** 4.5

**Publisher:** Epic Creations, Inc.

**Target Audience:** 4+, ages 6-8

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**Type:** I would consider this a discovery app because it is a database of all kinds of books, including any topic you could think of. This allows the kids to engage in content of their choice.

**Curriculum:** This is a great tool for teachers to use when doing group reading activities. If the iPad was large enough, she could hold it up and read to the kids, having a gigantic library with thousands of books at the touch of the finger.

**Cost:** The app is free, but the subscription is 7.99 per month. Not bad compared to other education apps.

When you first open the app, it prompts you to login in and begin your 30-day free trial. Once you choose your plan, you set up your child account. Then you can access the reading content that is appropriate for your child's reading level. They can access books to read on the screen, or select books that can be read to them through the app. There are also educational videos that the students can access. The students have the option to create a favorites list, and the parents can assist in selecting appropriate content by updating the child's interests or their reading level.

This app is great for students just beginning to read. They can listen to audio books and have books read to them. The content is safe and ad-free which is a plus. The students account can be linked to a parent and a teacher account so that both can monitor student progress. The app reports hours read, and books read to both parents and teachers. There is also an option to create assignments which both parents and educators can do.