

Evaluating Apps

Title DragonBox Elements (Discovery Learning)

Evaluators Emilee Hammett

This is an app for iOS. I think it would be perfect for me to use in a 4th grade classroom because it introduces geometry. Geometry is a subject that a lot of students find to be difficult. The story based approach makes kids want to play and so it would be a great introduction to geometry. I would use this during math instruction for several class periods. Then, when we go back and talk about geometry, they are already familiar with the concepts.

Questions	Yes	No	Comments/ Notes
Have you played enough to know every aspect? <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Did you try things that were wrong and/or unexpected	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">• Color, items on screen, sounds	x		The story is that you are trying to build an army to defeat a monster. There are little introduction videos that show you what's going on. Then, you have to create shapes in order to gain minions for your army.
Is it easy to navigate?	x		

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<p>Is it easy to learn?</p>	x		<p>It progresses from easy to harder in steps and it shows you how to complete a new task.</p>
<p>Does the user need Supervision to use</p>		x	
<p>If the App required a response, was it appropriate? (right or wrong)</p>	x		
<p>Were there bells and whistles? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If so, do they enhance instead of detract? • If not, should there be? </p>	x		<p>The animations and sound effects are cool and will capture attention.</p>
<p>Did you like using the App?</p>	x		
<p>What was the cost? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Was there a "lite" version <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ If so, was it enough </p>	x		<p>There was a one time cost of \$4.99. There was no lite version.</p>
<p>Were there in-app purchases? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If so, what were the additional costs? </p>		x	
<p>How does it compare to other apps that do the same?</p>			<p>It is a cool story that will make kids want to play it to see what happens. It makes learning feel like fun.</p>

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Additional Comments			

Developmentally Appropriate

Questions	Yes	No	Comments/ Notes
Child Development and Learning <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Subject Matter appropriate? • Educational Focus? • Provides for Learning New Content? • Follows Appropriate Teaching Sequence? 	x		It is specifically designed for kids age 9-11, which is perfect for 4 th grade. It teaches about geometry.
Individual <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does it match individual's abilities? • Does it meet individual's needs? 	x		
Social/Cultural <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bias? • Commercialism Comments 		x	