

Title: SimpleMind – Mind Mapping

Version: 1.28.2

Developer: xpt Software & Consulting B.V.

Target Audience: 4+; I think the actual purpose of the app would be best served if people over 10 used it, but a 4-year-old could probably use it to play.

Type(s) of software with your justification: SimpleMind – Mind Mapping would be considered a *Tool*. This app allows users to create mind maps and organize thoughts, notes, and schedules.

Curriculum(s) (possible environment(s) and why): I would definitely use this in my ELA classroom as a graphic organizer maker. I could ask students to download the app or use a school-provided iPad with the app to create graphic organizers for a novel we're studying. Or students could use this app to prepare for an essay by organizing their ideas and topics in a simple and individualized way.

Cost: The app is free on the iPhone App store, but the full version is \$8.99.

Description paragraph: As I mentioned in the review checklist, the app looks very basic. You start out looking at a “Welcome” Mind Map that has all the functions of the app inside of the text bubbles. There are links to the website for questions and resources about the app. You can use the “Local” tab in the top left corner to start creating your own mind map! I made a to do list by simply typing what I wanted, picking my shapes, and resizing until I had my desired mind map. You can pick among bright colors, soft colors, aqua levels, and so much more! It is a very personalized tool that would be great for staying organized. It's basically a digital planner in your pocket, just way more fun!

Impressions and usage paragraph: As you could probably tell by my description paragraph, I really liked this app. I think it serves its function well without being over the top. It has several uses, but I think that it'd be best to use in the classroom as a graphic organizer creator. This would allow students to express their creativity and individuality, which is empowering. It would probably be worth the \$8.99 if you used this app all the time, but if you only need it for one class, the free version works great.

Does the software pass **Review**? Yes

Does the software pass **Evaluation**? Yes