
Splice

VERSION: 3.6.3

PUBLISHER: Bending Spoons Apps IVS

Target Audience:

Middle to High School

Curriculum:

This can be used to create videos for projects, for students to make a video of the work they have done for class, for students to showcase their understanding of a project in a creative, multi-media way that allows them to record, to add pictures, to add sound effects, to add songs, to add text, to add titles and end cards, and more.

COST: Free

Software Description:

The app is represented by an S on a black screen with the colors red to blue (with purple in the middle) meeting to create a visually appealing 'S'. When you first open the app it will ask to send you notifications. The first page you go to has the text 'No Projects Yet' on a gray background and 'Start New Project' in blue underneath it. On the middle bottom of the screen, there is text that says 'Learn More About Splice' that takes you to their 'Help' page. At the top of the first page is a black navigation bar that says 'Projects' in the middle with white text. At the left-hand top is a gear symbol that takes you to settings. At the right-hand is a question mark in a circle that takes you to 'Help' again, and if you hit 'Projects', it takes you to pre-set questions and answers for how to use the features of this app. And finally, there is a plus button next to the question mark that allows you to add videos and photos so you can put them in your projects. You must allow access before you can do anything.

Once you hit start new project, it will take you to your photos page. You can download any photos and videos that you want to add to your project. You will choose how many photos you want to add to your project, then, at the top of the screen in the black navigation bar on the right-hand side, hit 'Add (#)' (# is the number of pictures you choose) and it will add all the pictures you choose and take you to the next screen which will ask you to choose audio. If you do not want audio you may skip, which is in the right-hand top of the screen on the black navigation bar. It has a lot of pre-set audio files that you may use or you can get your own off Itunes.

From there, the next page is 'Projects Settings' which will ask you for the Project Name, the format you want it to be in (Landscape or Portrait), the background color of your video, the default transition (ex. crossfade), the transition duration, the photo duration, whether or not you want an outro, and then if you want photo motion. Once you are finished you hit 'Done' in the top right-hand side on the black navigation bar.

It will then prepare your project on a screen that says 'Preparing your Project' in white text on the dark background. It asks you not to close Splice or lock your device. They have to download everything and import your music. It has a loading bar that is a circle surrounding text that says what percentage your download is at with a blue loading sign.

Impressions:

While the app commits the terrible crime of light words on a dark background, it is actually pretty pleasing to the eye and easy to work with. The words aren't too bright and the background isn't too dark and it seems to work for the most part. The screen design is good. The navigation is easy to work with for the most part and it isn't hard to get to anything. It takes a bit of time to download everything but beyond that, the app is mostly user-friendly and fast. It has a lot of built-in options that you can use and everything is free. There are no adds on this app.

I could see children using this app with a minor explanation of how to use it. They would be able to add songs and noises and once they get to the video editing, they can change the the length of video, how fast it goes, add more sound effects there, and I can see creative children having a fun time with this and non-creative children not finding it too hard to work with. The pre-set features make it easy for people who are not creative to create something that is visually appealing.

There isn't much feedback on this app but it doesn't exactly need much feedback. It does have features that pop up and tell you how to use the app the first time you use it, and a help screen for more questions, which I can see being helpful for students who need extra scaffolding. Once the students are done, they can upload the video to Facebook, Instagram, to other apps, save it to files, send it via mail, or even AirDrop their creation.

Does it pass:

Yes