

Evaluating Apps

Title: Vooks on Apple iPad

Evaluator: Molly Allen

Questions	Yes	No	Comments/ Notes
Have you played enough to know every aspect? • 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? • Color, items on screen, sounds	X		The storybooks looked very enjoyable and fun to watch.
Is it easy to navigate?	X		
Is it easy to learn?	X		
Does the user need Supervision to use		X	There are only storybooks on the page, so the child can choose which book they want to read/listen to without supervision.
If the App required a response, was it appropriate? (right or wrong)	X		The book reads to you for its responses. The

Evaluating Apps

			voice is not hard to listen to either.
<p>Were there bells and whistles?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If so, do they enhance instead of detract? • If not, should there be? 		X	
<p>Did you like using the App?</p>	X		<p>This would be great for circle reading time instead of the teacher having to read the book they can just put on a storybook for the class to listen to.</p>
<p>What was the cost?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Was there a "lite" version <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ If so, was it enough 	X		<p>There is a one week free trial and then it is \$4.99 a month or \$49.99 a year.</p>
<p>Were there in-app purchases?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If so, what were the additional costs? 		X	
<p>How does it compare to other apps that do the same?</p>	X		<p>The app is just about reading books, but it is the same as any other book reading app. There is nothing special about it.</p>

Evaluating Apps

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		There are a variety of books available for children with different interests. This is not for children to learn new content or for any teaching method. It is strictly just reading.
Individual <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does it match individual's abilities? • Does it meet individual's needs? 		X	There are not any individualized profiles for children, however you can save what books you would like to read under "my list."
Social/Cultural <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bias? • Commercialism Comments 	X		There are more books for girls than there are for boys.

Version: 5.902.2

Publisher: Vooks Inc.

Evaluating Apps

Target Audience: 4+, however the description says the stories, promoting literacy, imagination and fun for children 2-8 years old.

Type: This app is simulation because it gives students a variety of books that show real life things, or it gives children a chance for imagination.

Curriculum: This could be used in place of carpet reading time. For instance, instead of the teacher reading to the students, the students can find one of these books and have it read to them.

Cost: The 1st week is free and then it is \$4.99 a month or \$49.99 a year.

When you open this app, it asks you to either sign up or login. After you login, multiple story books pop up with many categories. The categories are: New releases, Popular titles, Age: Elementary, Age: Preschool, Seasonal, Animals, Be Brave, Be creative, Be you, Be kind, Friendship, Familius Presents, Slumberkins Presents, Little Princess, Dream Big, Bedtime, and Free Access. You are able to have a library that contains a list of your books.

I like this app, however since it is just reading books, I do not think it should cost anything. Honestly, you could just go get these books and read them yourself. I do like how the pictures are emphasized and make the stories exciting. I didn't understand how one of the categories is Little Princess, but there isn't a Prince one? Why would there be one for girls but not boys? To me that seems a little bias.