Perky Apps! Teacher Tools, Resources and Instruction for Students with ASD

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IMPORTANT Information to Know About the Unique Learning Style of Students with ASD

- Strengths in processing static / non-transient information (information given visually) versus weakness in processing transient information (information given auditorilly)
- Across the spectrum – even if verbal!

RESEARCH TO SUPPORT!

How does iTechnology fit?

Perfect fit, as it is highly VISUAL, and motivating, provides "on-the-go" and "ready access" to convergent learning and supports differential instruction for our learners with ASD

NOTE: iTechnology = Apple Devices

NOTE: iOS 11 Update CHECK IT OUT!!

- HUNDREDS of AWESOME features! A few pertinent ones:
  - Multi-tasking: Allows you to open a second app from the Dock, and both apps remain active in Slide Over or Split View. NOTE: Not all apps support this feature
  - Customizable Control Center: Allows you to add / delete apps for easy access from CC.
  - Camera app can read QR codes
  - Drag and drop text and images between apps
  - Screen recording!

Managing Family Media Time?

- Media Time Calculator: From the American Academy of Pediatrics
  - https://www.healthychildren.org/English/media/Pages/default.aspx#wizard
- Family Media and Device Agreements: Written contracts per age level
  - https://www.commonsensemedia.org/research/technology-addiction-concern-controversy-and-finding-balance/resources

What Apps?!?!

- Over 2.1 million apps (March, 2018) available ranging in price from free to several hundred dollars.
- There's truly an app for anything and everything!
- Difficult to find app review websites that can keep up with the ongoing introduction of new apps!
- Difficult for app developers to keep apps updated so that they will work with operating systems updates (e.g., update to iOS 11). REASON WHY YOU MAY NOT FIND AN APP! TIP: Go to app developers website and attempt to "Download" from there (will take you to App Store)

AutismApps
by Touch Autism

FREE

- Comprehensive list of apps organized into categories to EASILY search!
- Can set filters to sort by device type, cost, featured, name, price, or rating
- NOT just for people with ASD!

- Bridging Apps: http://bridgingapps.org/
  - Special needs app search tool website that allows for extensive filters that can be set according to skill levels, target skill, category, price, age, grade level and mobile device.
- Moms with Apps: www.momswithapps.com
  - Great articles and app reviews!
- AppAdvice: www.appadvice.com (also available as an iPad app)
- The Tech Toolbox: https://toolbox.thearc.org

iTechnology Issues for Teachers & Students...

- Locking students into an app
- Getting students off of an app

Settings App

- <u>Guided Access</u> added with iOS 6 update
  - Features:
    - Locks an app to prevent student from pushing home button and exiting app and to prevent perseverative pushing on home button
    - Can set up "hot spots" to restrict user from accessing specific areas of an app
    - Timer – will shut down app after set time
    - Go to "General" in Settings App
      - "Accessibility"
      - "Guided Access"   *Keep on for ready access!*

Clock App

- Useful for shutting student down from iPad to prevent power struggles. Allows student to freely roam device for set period of time - unlike Guided Access that locks them into an app, with an optional timer feature.
- Settings > Touch ID &Passcode Lock
  - Set a passcode and / or Touch ID
- Open iPad clock app
  - Tap timer tab at bottom
  - Set timer
  - Select time alarm button
  - Scroll to select "Stop Playing"
  - Select Set > Start

A Few Apps for Visual Schedules
FYI ONLY

- <u>ChoiceWorks</u>: by Bee Visual, LLC
- <u>ChoiceWorks</u> Calendar: by Bee Visual, LLC
- <u>First–Then Visual Schedule HD</u>: by Good Karma Applications
- <u>Visual Schedule</u> : by Good Karma Applications, Inc,
- <u>Pocket Schedule</u>: by Appxy
- <u>CanPlan</u>: by CanAssist (FREE)
- <u>Children with Autism: A Visual Schedule</u>: by Enuma, Inc. Apple Watch app

UnSplash
by UnSplash

- Over 900,000 FREE high resolution photos that can be used / saved for anything!
- No watermarks!
- AWESOME for creating visual supports without having to sort through Google Images

HP Reval
by Aurasma

FREE

- Formerly called "Aurasma"
- Augmented reality app Similar to QR codes but more concrete.
- "Trigger images" make "auras" (an image, object, place) come to life via a video or website!
- Makes following visual directions more motivating!

Cloud QR
by Digital Hjarta

- Cloud QR Generator ($4.99): EASILY create QR codes with images, sounds, text, videos, slideshows and docs from your device. Cloud QR automatically uploads files to the cloud and creates QR codes from the link. Can scan QR code via the app or any Apple device using the camera app.
  - Full support for VoiceOver
  - Great for giving "discrete" visual directions for students who understand this more abstract visual presentation.
- Cloud QR Wifi Education ($4.99): Create QR codes offline to access without internet connection - allows for privacy. Images, sounds, or videos are stored on the device. Codes can be also be scanned and information accessed by devices on the same wifi network.
- Cloud QR Wifi (Free Trial Version)

Wunderlist
by 6 Wunderkinder

FREE

- A very robust – but easy to use – task manager app.
- Create folders organized in any way (e.g., Locations such as "Home" or "School").
- Create lists within those folders (e.g., "World Cultures" or "Laundry")
- Create "To do " lists for each list (e.g., Wash sheets on 6/2/18).
- Can share with others; assign tasks to others; add notes; attach files; create subtasks and make comments amongst shared users.
- Due dates can be automatically placed into Calendar with reminders sent.

CanPlan
by CanAssist

FREE

- Task sequencing app
- Breaks each task into easy-to-follow sequence of photos, with optional video, text, or audio.
- Scheduling and reminder components:
  - Scheduling: shows a list of tasks to be completed during the day
  - Prompting: provides the option of audible and timed reminders
  - Active Task Reminder: helps the user stick with a task until it's complete
  - Task Categorization: allows tasks to be filed in customizable categories for easy retrieval

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CanWork
by CanAssist

FREE

- Designed to increase independence for employment and work-related tasks.
  - Shift scheduling
  - Shift notifications
  - Comprehensive task support: day before / same day / day after tasks
  - Task sequencing with optional photos
  - Contact within the app: call or SMS caregivers, job coaches, etc.

Google Drive App

FREE

- Put ANY "Low tech" visual supports designed on your computer into Google Drive and access via the Google Drive app on an iTech device

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Presentation & Word Processing Apps

- Keynote: (Apple)
- Pages: (Apple)
- PowerPoint
- Word

SEE: http://www.kansasasd.com

Link to "Classroom Materials"

(small print at bottom of home page)

ChatterPix
ChatterPix Kids
by Duck, Duck, Moose, LLC
FREE

- FREE and ENDLESS FUN!
- Add a "voice" to ANY photo
  - 30 second recording
- Add filters, stickers, frames, and text
- Can save in app "Gallery" or Photos
- AWESOME for creating evidence-based practices of visual supports and social narratives to learn skills, model behaviors, etc.
- Can be used academically for giving brief reports, sending messages to others, etc.

TeleStory App
by Launchpad Toys
FREE

- Video-creation tool that allows for students to create and star in their own themed movies/tv shows!
- Videos can be saved to Camera app and shared from there or published on TeleStory's moderated video channel ToonTube.
- Students select themes, scenes, costumes, create cue cards, and add special effects.
- Useful for video self-modeling any target skill and behavior!

A Few PERKY Apps for Functional Living Skills
FYI ONLY

- iDress for Weather: by Pebro Productions ($1.99)
- iDo Hygiene: by C.E.T. (FREE)
- iDo Chores: by C.E.T. (FREE)
- iDo Getting Dressed: by C.E.T. (FREE)
- iDo Food: by C.E.T. (FREE)
- LaLa Lunchbox: by LaLa Lunchbox, LLC (FREE)

Teacher Tools and Instructional Support Apps

Teacher Toolbox

Khan Academy Kids
by Khan Academy
FREE

- Thousands of interactive activities, books, and videos for toddlers, preschoolers, and kindergartners (2 - 5+ years old).
- Curriculum includes: reading, language, writing, math, social-emotional development, problem-solving skills, and motor development. Can monitor child's activity completion and progress.
- Can set up multiple children and view child's progress.

ASDetect
by La Trobe University
FREE

- For children between 11 and 30 months to determine "likelihood" of ASD using a combination of videos, questions, and activities.
- After assessment, will receive an on-screen result and comprehensive formal assessment results via email.
- Research based with 81% accuracy for detecting ASD (Olga Tennison Autism Research Centre).
- NOT FOR DIAGNOSIS NOR TO REPLACE FORMAL EVALUATION!

SnapType
by SnapType
PRO $4.99 · **FREE**

- Easily add worksheets/forms into the iPad via the camera for the user to to directly add in answers (text or draw).
- Can drag, drop and delete text boxes.
- Adjustable font size; multiple font colors; organize into folders.
- Work can be saved, printed and shared.
- SnapType Pro ($4.99) allows you to draw, save more than 3 docs, and gives access to a whiteboard feature for ease in printing.

YouTube Kids
by Google, Inc.
FREE

- Vast collection of kid appropriate channels, videos, and playlists.
- Set up user profiles to limit content to age
- Search by "Create", "Shows", "Music", "Learning", "Explore" and "Search"
- Settings:
  – Can turn-off "Search"
  – Built in timer
  – User profile
- Parental control options to allow child to "Free explore" videos or hand-pick content

Instructional:
See. Touch. Learn.
by Brain Parade

FREE/
Pro $49.99

- Complete visual learning and assessment tool.
- Comes with 300 lessons with 2000 exercises and 4400 real photo images
  - Access to many more lessons, exercises and photos via the Brain Parade Community library
- Easily customizable
- Versatile – useful for all ages / levels
- Data collections
- Lite Version = Free / Pro version $49.99

Autism Core Skills
by Infiniteach

FREE

- Academic focus: Pre-K through 1st grade common core standards in math and readingIndividual customization: ability level and high interests – as a motivator
- Expands student's social skills by adding in friends to engage in communication activities and games
- Useful as a an adult supported tool with student
- Lessons are auto created per individual student – based on student profile
- Focus skills on social turn-taking and communication
- Data is auto recorded and can be shared/printed
- Printable curriculum for hard-copy focus / off iPad

Overcoming Obstacles
by Overcoming Obstacles

FREE

FREE Research-based life skills curriculum – available in PDF (online www.overcomingobstacles.org) or app formats.

- K – 12 Program organized into elementary, middle school, and high school focusing on three fundamental skills as foundation for development of other skills: communication, decision making, and goal setting.

About My Day
by CanAssist

FREE

- App that allows for caregivers, family, educational staff, etc. to makes notes about daily events/ experiences for a person that they are working with versus using less secure paper journals.
- The note is identified by the author (person writing note), location / event, and optional mood of noted individual.
- Could also be beneficial for collecting behavioral data.
- Settings options include enabling / disabling note deletion; only display today's notes; mode rating; and custom date and note creation.

Looking for "More, More, More?!" Closing the Gap PreConference!

- October 1, 2019 8:00 - 4:30
- "AWESOME Web-based Resources and iOS Tools for Supporting Students with ASD! Evidence-based Practices for Individual Students and Classroom Programs"
  - https://www.closingthegap.com/preconf-workshop/pc-18/
- www.closingthegap.com

For Additional Information on Trainings, Consultation and Coaching:

www.susanlewisstokes.com

The Puzzle

The puzzle is incomplete, but I do not fit. My edges are rough, my curves don't match the indentations, my colors are muted (compared to the other pieces), and my "picture" is not quite right. The puzzle is incomplete. But how do I fit? I have searched for other pieces only to find them ill-fitting.

Until…

One day, the puzzle-solver found me and smoothed my edges, enhanced my colors, rounded my curves, and put my "picture" into focus. I still don't fit every piece, but each day more and more come together for me. I may never fit every puzzle, but thanks to you, I have found my place in many.

May we all be "puzzle-solvers"