

SpeechLanguageNeighborhood.com
Recommendations and Uses of Speech Therapy Apps
for
Articulation
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*Please visit SpeechLanguageNeighborhood.com for language app reviews and ideas for therapy.
There are many available and we're always adding more, so check back often!*

ArtikPix Full Version

by Rinn Apps

\$29.99

Pre-K – 8th grade

<http://rinnapps.com/artikpix/>

If I could only have one app on my iPad, it would be this one!

– Amanda Backof, M.S. CCC-SLP (SpeechLanguageNeighborhood.com)

How I use it in therapy:

This amazing app, with its fun and engaging illustrations by “SymbolStix”, can be used with one student individually or in a group setting. My students love using this app instead of the traditional speech cards. They especially enjoy swiping from right to left to get to the next card.

The first page allows you to choose from two interactive activities: Flashcards or Matching. My students know they have to practice their speech sounds prior to playing the matching game, so they often volunteer to select “Flashcards”. In flashcard mode SLPs and parents can choose target sounds. You can select a target sound and the position in which it occurs in a word (initial, medial or final). If you want only one position (initial), it should be the only target with a check mark to the right. Multiple targets can be practiced at one time as the flashcards are color coded with different color bands around the edges of the cards. My students love this feature. If you listened in on my therapy sessions, you would hear, “Wait it’s my turn I’m working on /sh/ see the green”, or , “Ooo Ooo it’s my turn, blue”. After choosing the target sounds, students practice single words with the option of producing the word in short sentences (arrow in top left corner). Students can record their production and get immediate auditory feedback via the record and play feature. My students love the matching game and it is a fantastic reward, but it has a dual purpose (fun and practice). Scoring information can be saved via the manila folder in the bottom left hand corner and add a student via the big blue plus sign. The little read house takes you back to the initial “home” screen.

Of course, this app is not a substitute for the expertise of a licensed speech language pathologist. Although this app allows students to practice the sounds, it’s up to the qualified provider to correct any errors in production.

An unexpected positive effect of this app is that after a few trials, students have memorized their target speech sounds (so they can choose the sound themselves at the beginning of the session). The addition of the happy (correct) and sad (incorrect) faces promote greater self awareness of correct and incorrect production of target sounds. Students, and often peers, are listening to sound production more closely and providing feedback for themselves and for others.

PhonoPix Full Version

by Rinn Apps

\$24.99

Pre-K-8th grade

<http://rinnapps.com/phonopix/>

How I use it in therapy:

Similar to ArtikPix, but students are able to work on improving their production of phonological processes: Prevoalvic Voicing (bear/pear), Word final Devoicing (pick/pig), Final Consonant Deletion (bee/beach), Marked Blend Reduction (fog/frog), Fronting (tea/key), Stopping (ton/sun), Unmarked blend reduction (pants/plants), Gliding (walk/rock), initial consonant deletion (air/chair), Backing (cape/tape).

Pocket SLP Minimal Pairs (Parent version is called “Speech Pairs”)

by Synapse Apps

\$29.99

Elementary - Adult

<http://pocketslp.com/apps/minimal-pairs/>

How I use it in Therapy:

This app was slightly confusing to navigate at first, but there are tutorial videos available on the developer’s website. In addition to allowing you to customize each speech session for individual students, the app allows for both auditory discrimination (recognizing the sound when you hear it) as well as the expression of the target sounds. The targets are clip art, carefully chosen to be kid friendly. You can work with more than one student at a time by choosing the students and their targets prior to the start of the session. During the session, data can be collected at the top of the app and then saved or e-mailed.

Articulate it! 2.0

Smarty Ears

\$38.99

<http://smartyearsapps.com/2010/10/25/articulate-it/>

How I use it in therapy:

When I first purchased the iPad it was tough to choose which apps to purchase. I needed to fill it with apps that would be appropriate for my Headstart and Preschool students but was on a pretty tight budget. In choosing an articulation program, I chose ArtikPix because it was cheaper and the pictures were cute. I had heard great things about Articulate it!2.0 from a colleague, so jumped at the generous offer from Smarty Ears to receive a complimentary copy for review on this site. I used it in therapy today (10/24/11), and have to say “What a fantastic app!!” It is a great addition to my articulation deck. I would liken this to buying the Super Duper Webber artic decks and then later purchasing the “Photo-artic” decks - the more variation the better. I used this app with my elementary level students and they really enjoyed being able to swipe the cards. When I asked them what they liked best they replied, “I like the check and x”. Having the ability for students to monitor their own speech is critical to successful articulation intervention. They appeared to be more mindful and even monitored peers’ production of target sounds saying things like, “give yourself a check” and/or “sorry that’s an x”.

This app allows SLPs to choose targets by phoneme (sound), phonological process (example: t/k=fronting), all back sounds (k,g) are produced with the tongue in a forward position (t/d); or manner of articulation: Where and how the sound is produced in the mouth (example: Fricatives require air flowing through the mouth with slight restriction by the tongue, teeth (/f/, /s/, /sh/, /z/, /th/). This app is excellent for older elementary school students as many of the words are harder to produce. It provides the next step

after ArtikPix. If the developer were to do an update I would love to see a breakdown of blends (in therapy, SLPs tend to target a few blends at a time instead of all concurrently). In addition, it would also be fantastic if we could choose the number of syllables in a word. The data collection feature is fantastic and it allows me to collect individual data for each student.

Since we often see articulation students in groups of three or four, this app makes it easy to work with multiple students at one time. After you begin the app and before you begin your therapy session, you can input each of your students' names. During therapy, or right before, it's very easy to set up your session. Tap new session on the bottom menu bar and select the students. When they are selected they will turn blue. Then click "start session" to begin assigning target phonemes (sounds). The program will allow you to choose a sound for each student (see student name at the top). Choose the sound, click done, and select initial, medial or final position and click done. You will repeat this process for every student in the group. Then you're ready to begin. During the session, cards will alternate between students and you can keep separate data for each without lifting a pencil! You can also record productions via the record button in the upper left hand corner and save the recordings as another data analysis tool. The developer has also provided a "notes" section and the ability to share information through e-mail or printing through the "report card" feature.

I have to say, I'm glad I was able to add Articulate it!2.0 to my bag of tricks!!

Additional Apps available for Articulation therapy.

(I haven't had a chance to try these yet, but they are on my wish list.)

- Match2Say by Smarty Ears (\$19.99)
- Smarty Speech by Smarty Ears (\$19.99)
- /r/ intensive by Smarty Ears (\$19.99)
- Pocket SLP Articulation by Synapse Apps (\$29.99)
- SLP Minimal Pairs Full version by SLP TechTools (\$29.99)
- Say it Again! by LIMNET (\$59.99 for all sounds via in-app purchase)
- Speech Squares by LIMNET (\$59.99 for all sounds via in app purchase)

Artic Homework Sheets
now available at
www.SpeechLanguageNeighborhood.com/Resources

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