

# iPad: A Tool, Not Just a Toy!

## A Sampling of Mobile Learning Resources Helpful for Developing Language, Social Cognition, and Executive Function/Organization Skills

### Early Learning/Play

- “Digital Toy” apps from Toca Boca, Sago Sago and Dr. Panda: Mirror experiences in the real world and promote use of Sociodramatic Play, Self-Talk
- Art Maker, Toontastic: Touch the screen, move objects and record to depict social scenarios, build storytelling skills
- Buildo apps, Book Creator, My Story: Narrative creation apps, the latter two have academic uses.
- Promoting interaction “Around the App”: PBS’ Parents Play & Learn, Out-A-Bout, AlienAssignment
- Visual Creation apps- Doodle Buddy to iLov Drawing series.
- Games that promote language: e.g. “Bag Game”
- Take advantage of Interactive Books...

### Management

- Guided Access: Available under Settings>General>Accessibility
- Restrictions Area: Settings>General

### Organization Across the Grade Levels

- Choiceworks (\$14.99), First Then Visual Schedule (\$9.99): Visual support/behavior management apps
- Chore Pad: Build Executive Functioning and organization skills (as well as social thinking) through completion/tracking of chores
- Camera, Skitch, Pic Collage: Use visual supports to develop executive functioning.
- Develop time concepts with 4KidCal, Kid’s Calendar, journaling apps such as Kids Journal, Emotionary
- Verbal Organization/Planning: See SGM, Kidspiration and Inspiration apps
- Sync with Tools your School is using (or Not): Google Drive, Dropbox, Notability, DocScanner, Edmodo- apps that “take paper out of the equation.”

## **Social at Upper Levels**

- Sosh (Free to try for 1 week, \$35.99 for full app): Designed by psychologist Mark Bowers, this app features cognitive behavioral tools to help students with relaxation, interaction and problem solving, for older students
- Middle School Confidential series
- Gamifying Life: Superbetter, Epic Win, Unstuck

## **Engagement with Academics Through Creative Tools**

- iMovie: edit video or construct “trailers”
- Haiku Deck: Make a simple photo presentation
- Strip Designer and Comics Head: Easy-to-Use comic creators

## **For Further Learning/Your own “Therapy”!!**

- Apps to find apps: Kindertown, AutismApps, Apps Gone Free (all others in this section are “on the web”)
- Follow Blogs (Feedly app is a great tool to consolidate blogs): Moms with Apps, Smart Apps For Kids, The iPhone Mom, The iMums