



DSAQ Guide to Apps

2nd Edition

Down Syndrome
Association of
Qld Inc.



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PO Box 3223, Stafford DC, QLD, 4053

Ph: (07) 3356 6655

Email: office@dsaq.org.au

Web: www.dsaq.org.au

Contents

Introduction.....	1
About iPad and iPod Touch.....	2
About This Guide.....	2
Phonemic Awareness	4
Spelling.....	5
Vocabulary.....	6
Sight Words.....	7
Reading Skills.....	8
Sentence Construction	9
eBooks	10
Speech and Language Development	11
Fine Motor Development.....	12
Numbers and Counting	13
Operations.....	14
Time, Money and Shapes	15
Matching	16
Behaviour.....	17
Social Skills	18
Music.....	19
Drawing and Colouring	20
Lifestyle	21
Utilities	22
Reference	23

Welcome to the DSAQ Guide to Apps (2nd Edition)

The iPod Touch and iPad are exciting technologies that are providing endless opportunities to support learning and lifestyle for people with Down syndrome of all ages. Perhaps the most exciting aspect of this technology is the move away from traditional 'disability specific' devices and equipment towards the use of a mainstream tool in a proactive and creative way.

The Down Syndrome Association of Queensland Inc. developed the first edition of the 'DSAQ Guide to Apps' in response to the growing number of enquiries about suitable applications for use with children and adults with Down syndrome. Due to popular demand we are back with the 'DSAQ Guide to Apps (2nd Edition)'. Within this guide you will find new and exciting apps in a range of categories, as well as a few of our old favourites.

We hope this guide provides you with a solid starting point on your search for the best apps for your child, student, client or employee with Down syndrome. Remember, this is just a small selection of the apps we like the best. The reality is there's an app for just about everything!

We encourage you to think outside the box and look at ways you can be using apps creatively, and if you find one you think we should know about we would love to hear from you.

'The Team at DSAQ'

About iPad and iPod Touch

iPod's and iPad's have fast become must-have items for people of all ages. Their use by children and adults with Down syndrome is seeing increased engagement and skill development in many areas.

Perhaps the most exciting aspect of this technology is the ongoing release of new applications. When looking at future uses of such devices the possibilities seem almost endless.

The two major considerations that need to be made when choosing between the two devices are:

1. How portable does it need to be?

For example, if being used primarily to support communication an iPod Touch is smaller, lighter and easier to use on the go.

and

2. How developed are the users fine motor skills?

For some people the larger iPad screen is easier to navigate as screen touches often do not require the accuracy of the iPod Touch.

It is important to consider all potential areas of use along with the support needs and abilities of the user when making this choice.

About This Guide

It can be overwhelming to search through the thousands of apps available in the iTunes store so we have compiled this booklet to give you more information about some of our favourites.

We have separated the apps into categories based on their primary use. It is important, however, to recognise that each app may assist with the development of a number of skills in different areas.

Fruit Ninja, for example, is a simple game that is great for improving fine motor skills. In addition to this it is a great app for practicing the skills required to use the iPod or iPad (swipe), it is good for concentration, and can even enhance understanding of numbers by attempts at beating high scores! So think broadly when looking at the potential uses for different applications and consider the many things they have to offer.

We have separated the applications into categories to make the booklet easier to navigate. DSAQ's library has resources available to support the learning of skills across these categories. If you are working on a particular skill using apps, for example matching, you may also like to borrow an activity from the library that focuses on the same task. Some people with Down syndrome have trouble transferring a skill they have learnt in

one area to another (this is called generalisation) so by providing opportunities to practice a skill in a number of contexts you can support the development of competency in that focus area.

Another important thing to check is whether an app is compatible with the device you are using. Under the 'Use' column in this booklet we have given a guide to this and you will find one of 4 options :

1. 'iPod and zoom iPad' This means that the app was designed specifically for the iPod Touch. It will still play on the iPad but will either display at iPod size in the middle of the screen OR you can 'zoom' to make the app fill the screen by tapping the white circle that says '2x' in the corner of the screen.

2. 'iPod and iPad'

These apps are optimised for both the iPod Touch and the iPad. That is, it will play on both devices and automatically adjust it's size to suit the screen.

3. 'iPod or iPad'

This means that there is a separate version of the app available for each device. When searching in the iTunes store make sure you are searching for the version that applies to your device. iPad apps often have 'for iPad' or 'HD' after the title.

4. 'iPad Only'

These apps are available on the iPad only. They often have more detailed graphics and will not load onto an iPod Touch.

Please Note

Considerations need to be made according to the suitability for individuals and their level of support and abilities. This document intends to serve a purpose as a guide only and it is recommended you assess the applications suggested with your own uses in mind.

At the time of writing, all of the apps found in this booklet were available for purchase or free download via the Apple iTunes Store and prices were accurate. Prices can change so please check before purchasing.

For More Information

Please contact the DSAQ Office on (07) 3356 6655 and ask to speak to the Information and Support Coordinator or the Education Consultant if you would like more information about the iPad, iPod Touch, or any of the apps contained in this guide.





Phonemic Awareness

App name	Icon	Description	Use	Price
Alphabet Animals		Interactive alphabet flashcards with animations and sounds.	iPod or iPad	Free or \$2.99
Interactive Alphabet - ABC Flashcards		Interactive alphabet flashcards. Eg. 'x' card includes a playable xylophone and 'z' card includes a zippable zipper.	iPod and iPad	\$2.99
Intro to Letters - by Montessori		Learn to trace, read, write and record letter sounds, names and phonograms.	iPod and iPad	\$5.49
Little Sky Writers		Learn the sounds of letters while practicing to write them by leading your plane through a letter shaped flight path.	iPod and iPad	\$1.99
Pocket Phonics		Teaches the letter sounds for each letter of the alphabet. Includes a 'first words' spelling game and a letter writing activity.	iPod and iPad	Free or \$2.99
Starfall ABC's		'ABC's' activity from www.starfall.com . See, hear and interact with letters and sounds.	iPod and iPad	\$2.99





Spelling

App name	Icon	Description	Use	Price
ABC Phonics Word Families		Multiple learning modes: flashcards (see and hear the word), spelling (hear then spell the word by dragging the letters) and unscramble.	iPad only	\$1.99
Boggle		Electronic version of the classic word search game. Earn points by building words before the time runs out.	iPod or iPad	\$1.99 or \$2.99
Build-a-Word Express		Learn to spell using letter sounds or letter names. Visual and/or audio prompts are provided and the correct letters must be placed into order to spell the word.	iPod and iPad	Free
First Words: At Home		Spelling game that presents images of household items and requires the user to select letters and place them in their correct position within the word. Plays audio and visual reinforcements for correct answers.	iPod and iPad	\$1.99
Spellboard		Generate and complete word search puzzles using your own list of spelling words.	iPad only	\$5.49
Word Wizard Talking Movable Alphabet		Lets kids hear the sounds of letters and words using a movable 'magnetic' alphabet. Spell checks and pronounces unlimited original words.	iPod and iPad	\$2.99



Vocabulary

App name	Icon	Description	Use	Price
ABA Flash Cards		Multiple apps available in this series. Each contains approximately 50 flash card images within a set category. Apps include: emotions, zoo animals, actions, vegetables and vehicles. Icon shown is for 'ABA Flash Cards - Emotions'	iPod and iPad	Free
First Words: Deluxe		Includes 174 words including animals, vehicles, colours and shapes. Can be matched to your child's skills and abilities using a range of options.	iPod and iPad	\$5.49
Montessori Crosswords - Lean Spelling		Includes 3 levels of phonetic difficulty. Level 1 includes simple words, levels 2 and 3 include multi-word crosswords. Animations and sounds for reinforcement.	iPod and iPad	\$2.99
Special Words		Based on the See and Learn Language and Reading resources from Down Syndrome Education International. Includes picture-picture, picture-word, and word-word matching activities.	iPod and iPad	\$14.99





Sight Words

App name	Icon	Description	Use	Price
43 Words		Drag and drop letters into the right place to spell 43 of the most commonly used words. Uses lower case letters and visual reward for correct answers.	iPad only	Free
Little Speller Sight Words		Teaches sight words from the Dolch list. Items can be customised to play own voice recordings. Items can be added using own images and voice. Unwanted items can be removed.	iPod and iPad	Free
Sight Words Flashcard Lite		Includes 1000 sight words compiled from Dolch and Fry lists, in groups of 20. All words start in practice words group but can be moved to familiar words group as child learns.	iPod and zoom iPad	Free
Spell Blocks with Sight Words		Learn to spell over 200 Dolch sight words. Audio of words is played and user must select letter blocks to spell out the word. Includes 5 word levels - pre-primer, primer, first, second and third grade.	iPod and iPad	\$1.99

Reading Skills

App name	Icon	Description	Use	Price
K12 Time Reading Practice		Tracks words per minute when reading short stories. Encourages improvement of fluency to read smoothly and quickly.	iPod or zoom iPad	\$1.99
Reading for Details		Student reads a passage then plays a bingo game that looks at the details - who, what, when, where and why.	iPod or zoom iPad	\$4.49 or \$9.49
Reading for Inferences		Helps build the reading comprehension skill of inferential thinking. Contains 3 different reading levels.	iPod or zoom iPad	\$4.49 or \$9.49
Story Kit		Create electronic story books using your own text, images and sound recordings.	iPod and zoom iPad	Free
Super Why		Includes multiple games including letter hunt, writing, rhyming and sentence building.	iPod or iPad	\$2.99 or \$4.49










Sentence Construction

App name	Icon	Description	Use	Price
Pictello		Create talking photo albums and talking books. Each page can contain an image, up to 5 lines of text and audio (either recorded or text-to-speech).	iPod and iPad	\$19.99
Sentence Builder		Images are displayed and the user is required to construct a sentence that correctly describes the image. Includes 3 levels of play and statistics for each user.	iPod or iPad	\$4.49 or \$6.49
Sentence Magic		Two modes: Sentence builder where child uses image as cue to build 2 or 3 word sentences and sentence reading where the child reads text only and uses the picture to check if correct.	iPod and iPad	Free
Stories 2 Learn		Create personalised stories using pictures, photos and drawings. Add text and record audio for each page. Can be used for story telling, social stories, visual schedules, step-by-step instructions and more.	iPod and zoom iPad	\$14.99

eBooks

App name	Icon	Description	Use	Price
eReading to Go		Progressive reading - starting with single words then moving on to couplets, phrases and sentences. Free app includes a one page example. In-app purchases include single books (\$1.99) and set of 5 books (\$8.49).	iPod and iPad	Free
Little Bella's - I Close My Eyes		Animated story book. Touch activated animations and music with interactive text. Paid version has more animations and interactive components.	iPod and zoom iPad	Free or \$1.19
Milly Molly		Series of individually purchased eBook apps (icon shown is for 'Milly Molly and the Bike Ride'). Great stories that encourage acceptance of diversity and teach social skills. Numerous reading options including word highlighting, audio and DIY recording.	iPod or iPad	\$1.99 or \$2.99
My Friend Isabelle		Children's story book about two friends, one who has Down syndrome and one who does not. A simple story about things friends have in common and the ways they are different.	iPod or iPad	\$1.99 or \$2.99
Read Me Stories		Talking picture books. A new book is made available through the app every day.	iPod and iPad	Free
Spot Goes to School		Interactive 'lift the flap' book about Spot's first day at school.	iPad only	\$5.49

Speech and Language Development

App name	Icon	Description	Use	Price
Articulation Station		Practice sounds with a range of activities at word, sentence and story level. Includes the /p/ sound for free. Other sounds and blends are available as in-app purchases.	iPad only	Free
Artikpix		Articulation flashcards and matching. Free version comes with 'th' sounds set. Other sound sets include: f, v, ch, sh, k, g, s, z, l, r, s-blends, r-blends, l-blends, p, b, m, n, t, d, and j. Available as in-app purchases.	iPod and iPad	Free or \$36.99
iBaldi		Watch and listen to a 3D animated character with realistic facial expressions and mouth movements. Import text to be spoken and customise voice settings.	iPod and iPad	\$1.19
iConverse		Augmentative and alternative communication. Includes 6 buttons to express basic needs: bathroom, drink, food, sick, break and help. Additional buttons can be added.	iPod or zoom iPad	\$12.99
Neo Paul		Text-to-speech application with a natural sounding voice.	iPod or zoom iPad	Free
Proloquo2go		Augmentative and alternative communication. Advanced customisation - create language sets as simple or detailed as needed. Great for kids and adults with speech delays or clarity issues.	iPod and iPad	\$199.99
Puppet Pals		Create shows using animated puppets and audio. Motivation for reluctant talkers and good speech practice.	iPod or iPad	Free
RIDBC Auslan Tutor: Key signs		Photo and video to demonstrate the use of 150 key signs from the Auslan vocabulary. Includes Auslan alphabet for fingerspelling and numbers 1-10.	iPod or iPad	Free
Talking Tom Cat		Cartoon cat Tom responds to touch and repeats everything the user says. Great motivation for speech practice. R	iPod or iPad	Free




Fine Motor Development

App name	Icon	Description	Use	Price
Dexteria		Developed in conjunction with Occupational Therapists. Includes 3 activities for fine motor development: tap it, pinch it, write it. Progress reports can be emailed from within app.	iPod or iPad	\$5.49
Flick Kick Football		Flick finger to kick soccer ball and curve around defenders. Multiple modes including bullseye, arcade and time attack.	iPod and iPad	\$0.99
Flyloop		Fine motor game. Loop groups of butterflies of the same colour by drawing a circle around them to 'catch' them before time runs out. Relaxing soundtrack.	iPod and iPad	\$0.99
Fruit Ninja		Swipe game that requires user to cut as many pieces of fruit as possible within the time limit. Good for the development of fine motor skills.	iPod or iPad	\$0.99 or \$2.99
Learn to Write		Use your finger or a stylus to trace numbers and upper and lower case letters. Animated ball provides visual tracking of correct stroke order.	iPod and iPad	\$1.99


Numbers and Counting

App name	Icon	Description	Use	Price
123 Animals Counting		Visual and audio counting plus animal recognition and sounds. Sequential counting of animals. Full or lite version available.	iPod and iPad	Free or \$1.99
Counting Bear		Counting app that teaches numbers 1-20. Counts out numbers as objects are touched. Audio can be recorded to play counting with familiar voice. Add your own pictures of items to be counted.	iPod and iPad	\$0.99
Whizzit 123		Fun counting game with music, sound effects and animations. Teaches numbers up to 20.	iPod and zoom iPad	\$0.99




Operations

App name	Icon	Description	Use	Price
Cloud Math		Multi choice maths problems with animations and sound effects. Difficulty level customisable including number range, number of q's, how many choices etc. Free version includes + and - to numbers up to 50, paid version required for higher numbers and x and ÷.	iPod and zoom iPad	Free or \$0.99
KidCalc 7-in-1 Math Fun		Number recognition and counting through to addition, subtraction, multiplication and division of operands up to 1000.	iPod and zoom iPad	\$0.99
Math Bingo		The object of Math Bingo is to get 5 Bingo Bugs in a row by correctly answering maths problems. Game modes include addition, subtraction, multiplication and division, each with 3 levels of difficulty.	iPod and iPod	\$0.99
Math Flash Card Challenge by KidCalc		Aims to develop speed at which maths problems can be solved. Addition, subtraction and multiplication up to 1000 and division up to 100. Supports visualisation of maths operations.	iPod or zoom iPad	\$0.99
Pop Math		Pop bubbles to match maths problems with answers. Sound and animation rewards for correct answers. Increasing levels of difficulty.	iPod and iPad	\$0.99






Time, Money and Shapes

App name	Icon	Description	Use	Price
Australian Coin Counter		Learn about money by adding and subtracting coins. Buttons represent Australian coins and are simply tapped in 'add' or 'subtract' mode to calculate the total value.	iPod and zoom iPad	\$1.19
Jungle Coins		Learn to identify and compare coins, calculate coin value and work out correct change. Multiple levels and multiple currencies available including Australian.	iPad only	\$2.99
Learning to Tell Time is Fun		Two games: set analogue clock to match digital or set digital clock to match analogue.	iPod and iPad	\$1.99
Monopoly (International)		Electronic version of the old favourite board game. Great for maths.	iPod or iPad	\$0.99 or \$7.49
My First Puzzles		14 animal themed puzzles. Lite version includes 3 puzzles to try. HD version available for iPad.	iPod or iPad	Free or \$1.99
My First Tangrams		Use colourful shapes to construct tangrams. Contains 36 tangrams to be solved. Lite version available to try.	iPod or iPad	Free or \$1.99
Shape Puzzle		Complete puzzles to show a picture, followed by the name of the object. Complete multiple puzzles to build a scene.	iPod or iPad	Free or \$0.99

Matching

App name	Icon	Description	Use	Price
AniMatch		Pair matching game using animal pictures and sound effects. 3 levels of difficulty.	iPod and iPad	\$0.99
Animal Match		Animal pair matching card game. Plays animal sound for positive reinforcement when correct match is made.	iPod and iPad	\$0.99
Animals Matching HD		Animal pair-matching game with sound effects. Three levels of difficulty.	iPad only	\$1.99

Behaviour

App name	Icon	Description	Use	Price
Choice Board Creator		Create choice boards with 1, 2, 3, 4 or 6 choices. Provides visual and audio reinforcement which can be customised using your own media.	iPad only	Free
First Then Visual Schedule		Audio visual prompting through daily events or the steps of an activity. Visual schedules can be created using photos and voice recording.	iPod and zoom iPad	\$10.49
iPrompts		Provides visual prompting in a variety of ways: visual schedules, countdown timer, and choice prompts. Create schedules and choices using images from stock library or from device photo gallery.	iPod or iPad	\$51.99
iReward Chart		"Parents Reward Tracker Behaviour Chore Chart" Create profiles for multiple children, set custom rewards and target behaviours, then award stars and payout rewards. Lite version supports one child only with a maximum of 4 target behaviours.	iPod and zoom iPad	Free or \$4.49
Time Timer		Visual timer application. Set time and view the visual countdown. Audio signal when time is up.	iPod or iPad	\$1.99 or \$7.49





Social Skills

App name	Icon	Description	Use	Price
Align Four		The classic 'connect four' game - great for turn taking.	iPod or iPad	\$0.99 or \$1.99
AutismXpress		Asks the question 'How are you feeling?' and presents symbols to click for flash card answer. Great to support understanding of emotions.	iPod or zoom iPad	Free
?GuessWho?		Popular Guess Who game. Turn taking, asking questions, problem solving. In-app purchases for additional cards - VIP or create your own.	iPod and zoom iPad	Free
The Social Express		Interactive animated lessons teach children how to manage social situations. It aims to increase development of social-emotional skills.	iPad only	Free or \$94.99
Uno		Classic card game in electronic form. Free version available with fewer features.	iPod and iPad	Free or \$5.99






Music

App name	Icon	Description	Use	Price
ABC For Kids		Contains songs and videos from children's entertainers The Wiggles and Justine Clarke.	iPod and zoom iPad	Free
Baa Baa Black Sheep		Includes 'baa baa black sheep' and 'row row row your boat' with interactive scenes and puzzles.	iPod and zoom iPad	\$1.99
Finger Piano		Virtual piano. Play by tapping or holding key. Scrolling guides show you how to play 88 pieces of music.	iPod or iPad	\$1.99 or \$2.99
Itsy Bitsy Spider		Interactive musical book based on popular song. Tap on parts of image for animations.	iPod or iPad	\$1.99
iXylophone		Play along xylophone for kids of all ages. Includes free play mode or 'play along' to 75 children's songs.	iPod or iPad	\$1.19
Old MacDonald		Interactive music book to touch, explore and discover.	iPod or iPad	\$0.99 or \$1.99
Six Strings		Play guitar and other instruments on the iPad screen. Includes: acoustic and electric guitar, mandolin, banjo, ukelele, steel drum and drum pad. Record and overlay different instruments to create songs.	iPad only	\$7.49
Wheels on the Bus		Interactive musical book. Touch and explore images. Can record child singing along and play back.	iPod or iPad	\$0.99 or \$1.99









Drawing and Colouring

App name	Icon	Description	Use	Price
Chalk Board		Simple drawing application 'chalk board style'. Images can be saved and exported to photo gallery.	iPad only	Free
Doodle Buddy		Art application. Includes finger paint, glitter effect, chalk, text, stencils and stamp tool with sounds. Images can be saved and exported.	iPod or iPad	Free
iColoring Book for iPad		Simple colouring book images. Once an area is selected colour will not go outside the lines. Additional images available for download.	iPad only	Free or \$2.99
Kid Art		Drawing application. Very simple controls. Select from backgrounds, stamps and draw/paint.	iPod or iPad	\$0.99

Lifestyle

App name	Icon	Description	Use	Price
Cooking with Kids		Over 90 child-friendly recipes with easy to follow instructions.	iPod and iPad	\$5.49
OMG! I Can Eat That?		Recipe application with a focus on healthy recipes. Search feature and shopping list creation.	iPod or iPad	\$4.49
Shopping List - Quick and Easy		Quick and easy checklist for shopping. Saves usual products and groups similar items for easier shopping. Cross off items as you shop to keep track.	iPod and iPad	\$1.99
The Video Cookbook		240 recipes with HD video demonstrating the steps involved. App highlights which step you are up to. Ingredients can be added to a shopping list.	iPod and iPad	\$6.49
Woolworths		Create easy shopping lists using the 'barcode scanner' feature.	iPod and zoom iPad	Free

Utilities

App name	Icon	Description	Use	Price
Adobe Ideas		Digital sketchbook app. Create images with up to 10 drawing layers and 1 photo layer. Images can be saved to device or emailed in PDF format.	iPod and iPad	\$6.49
Adobe Photoshop Express		Photo-editing application. Use a range of effects, borders and filters to edit images. Can be linked to free online account to upload and store images or save to device.	iPod and iPad	Free
Animation Studio		Create animation - draw, animate, add music and record voice. Animations can be uploaded to youtube via the app.	iPod and iPad	\$0.99
iThoughts HD		Mind-mapping tool. Fully customisable mind maps compatible with a number of desktop mind-mapping programs. Can be exported in PDF format.	iPod or iPad	iPod \$9.99 or iPad \$12.99
Keynote		Presentation application similar to Microsoft Powerpoint. Slide presentation files can be shared between Keynote and Powerpoint.	iPod and iPad	\$10.49
Numbers		Spreadsheet application similar to Microsoft Excel. Files can be shared between numbers and Excel.	iPod and iPad	\$10.49
Pages		Word processing application similar to Microsoft Word and Publisher. Files can be shared between Pages and Word.	iPod and iPad	\$10.49
Soundnote		Note-taking application that records audio at the same time. Tap on a word and the audio playback skips to the point in the recording where it was written.	iPad only	\$5.49

Reference

App name	Icon	Description	Use	Price
Atlas 2012		Full screen maps. Pinch to zoom. No internet connection required. Pro version contains more maps.	iPod and zoom iPad	Free or \$0.99
Australia Facts		Facts on Australia in a variety of categories including: geography, history, language, transport, population, main cities etc. Includes maps.	iPad only	\$0.99
Dictionary.com		Includes content from dictionary.com and thesaurus.com. Features audio pronunciation, voice to text search and word of the day. Free version available but contains ads.	iPod or iPad	\$2.99 or \$5.49
Getty Images		Search through over 24 million stock photos. Compare images, save to photo gallery and send via email.	iPod and iPad	Free
Google Earth		Satellite images of Earth. Search for specific cities, countries or landmarks, explore by swiping, find your current location.	iPod and iPad	Free
World Atlas HD		National Geographic maps application. 3 styles of world maps that can be zoomed to country level. Includes flags and facts database.	iPad only	\$1.99

The Mission of DSAQ Inc is to build community awareness of Down syndrome and to support, advocate for and empower people with Down syndrome in order for them to take their rightful place as valuable and contributing members of their local and global communities.



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PO Box 3223, Stafford DC, Qld 4053 Ph: (07) 3356 6655 Fax: (07) 3856 2687
Email: office@dsaq.org.au Web: www.dsaq.org.au
All donations over \$2 are tax deductible ABN 38 934 427 390