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Whet your APPetite with a Bountiful Menu of Social Skill Teaching Options

Presenter: Laurie Jacobs MA CCCC-SLP

Moderated by:

Amy Hansen, M.A., CCC-SLP, Managing Editor, SpeechPathology.com

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Whet your APPetite
with a Bountiful Menu of Social Skill
Teaching Options



Laurie Jacobs MA CCCC-SLP
Social Skill Builder, Inc.
www.info@socialskillbuilder.com

iPad®/iPod® Apps
and Ideas



Research


Handheld devices can leverage the power of technology to enable all students to succeed (Gulchak, 2008).

There is a direct correlation between the amount of student learning and personal development and the student involvement in the program (Astin, 1985).

Teachers in this generation are more aware of the motivation benefits from using technology in special education (Rao, Dowrick, Yuen, & Boisvert, 2009).

Due to the ubiquitous adoption of mobile devices in our society, mobile technology offers a contextual and authentic medium for learning (Fisher & Baird, 2007).


Bonnet & Agrawal, 2011



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Research,
Continued

- In a study done in a graduate level History class, Vess (2006) found that the use of iPod created a learner-centered environment, created continuous engagement, and active learning along with a strong sense of community.
- Video iPod was found to be an effective instructional tool in increasing independent responding of an individual with developmental disabilities in a community based employment setting. This also led to decrease in outside prompting (Laarhoven et al. 2009).
- iPods were used with 8th grade literature classes. It was found that students developed deeper understanding of the concepts taught, were actively engaged and happy (Bauleke, & Herrmann, 2010).
- In special education, researchers have shown that the iPad has a positive impact on special needs student performance in almost all academic areas (King, 2011) and with various disabilities (Vanderwerf, 2012).
- Social skills specifically have also been targeted with use of these portable devices. One study found that "activities based on applications that run on multitouch tablets....increased pro-social behaviors such as collaboration and coordination, augmented appreciation for social activities, and provided children with novel forms of expression." (Hourcade, Bullock-Rest, Hansen, 2012).




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Video Modeling is becoming Portable and Research-Validated "Ipad/padification of Education"

Video Modeling via iPod... to ease transitions (Cihak, 2010)


- Visual and Auditory Reinforcers
- Behavioral Interventions
- Visual Schedules
- Flash Cards
- AAC
- Social Stories
- Ebooks
- Etc. Etc.

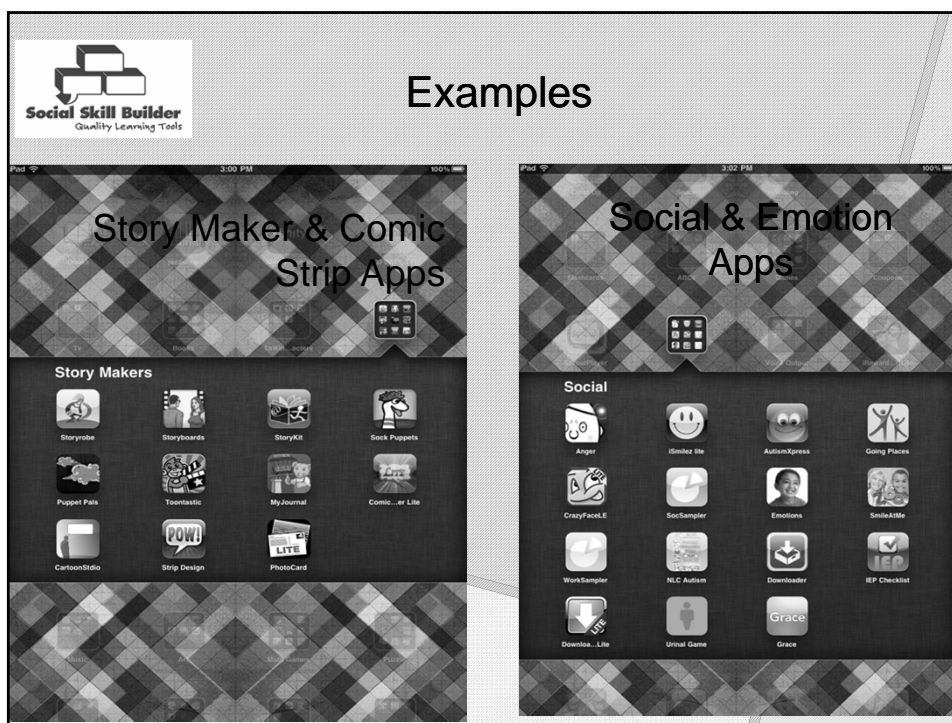
"Educators are digital immigrants, while our students are digital natives..." (Prensky 2001)

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Organization of Apps

- Create folders (by dragging app thumbnails on top of each other) and name them. Some categories include:
 - Story Maker Apps - allow you to create characters or narratives. You can target both expressive and receptive language as well as social expectations found within a story.
 - Social/Emotional Apps - designed specifically for social skills instruction.
 - Games - used for reinforcement. Timer app to monitor play time.
 - Video - downloaded from the internet. These videos make great resources. Because almost all i-devices have video capabilities you can easily take downloaded videos and edit them using several available editing apps

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App Recommendation Sites – Some of the many

- Momswithapps.com (App Friday)
- OTswithApps.com
- Iphonemom.com
- Pinterest (Search-Pedistaff Apps)
- Smarttots.com
- Geekslp.com
- Autismepicenter.com
- Bridgingapp.org
- Appolious.com
- Lilie'sPad.com-Blog
- Autism Apps-App to download
- Twit.tv/ipt
- mobilelearning4specialneeds.wikispaces.com
- <http://slpsharing.com/>
- connsensebulletin.com/2011/01/apps-for-education-update/
- bestkidsapps.com
- iear.org
- scribd.com/
- itouchforspecialneeds.pbworks.com/w/page/27170032/iTouch-for-Special-Needs
- pcmag.com/article2/0,2817,2366274,00.asp

Apps to find Apps


- Use the “Genius” feature of your iTunes
- Apps to find apps:
 - discover apps
 - Apps Gone Free
 - appsfire appstream/app deals
 - Kindertown
 - AutismApps



Choosing the BEST Apps

CRITERIA WHEN EVALUATING AN APPLICATION

- **Price:** Look for the “lite” versions to give you a taste of what they have to offer
- **Reviews:** Several internet sites and apps review apps. Some of these reviewers do receive payment for positive reviews so be wary of sites that only offer positive reviews. There are review sites for educational apps, even Autism specific apps. (See Slide 9)
- **Content:** It is sometime difficult to see what you are about to buy from the descriptions given. Google the title of the App or look on App Blog or review sites. Youtube & Vimeo are your evaluation pals! (Slide 9)
- **Multi Level:** Provides a broader range of complexity to cover more students or allow the student to develop with the program
 - REAL PEOPLE, REAL PEOPLE, REAL PEOPLE
 - Ability to Re-purpose and customize
 - Not too complicated
 - Customizable
 - Re-Purpose



What does it mean to Re-Purpose an App?

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"A search focused only on a specific profile of dedicated apps (speech production, targeted language goals, augmentative communication) could miss many well-designed apps that offer motivating and fun learning opportunities. Using creativity, clinicians can reach beyond an app's intended target audience and purpose and adapt it to support interventions."

Jessica Gosnell (Children's Hospital, Boston), "Apps, an Emerging Tool for SLPs," ASHA Leader Online, October, 2011

Social Skill Builder App
<https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/social-skill-builder-full/id570787918?mt=8>

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Question 2 of 10

Great to use with any children who require assistance understanding social skills that are so important to function in their environment.

Question 1 of 12

Our award-winning programs use real life scenarios that immediately engage the user to answer questions, make judgements, and establish outcomes.

Re-Purposing App Examples



- Using Movie Maker
- Pictures of Your Own
- Audio Recordings
- Sequencing
- Prediction
- Comic Strips
- Screenshots from Videos
- Social Stories

Sequencing: What happened in what order?



Comic Strips

Can I play with you?

Yes you can!

He is nice

Good

Ok

Let's play over here

This fun!

Happy

He is flexible

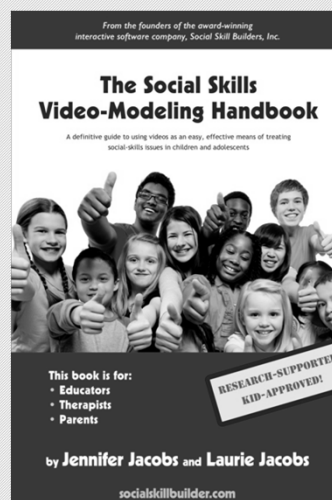
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A Few Suggested Apps for Re-purpose

- Social Skill Builder-24.99 (Full/Lite)
- Conversational TherAppy-19.99 (Full/Lite)
- Conversation Builder-19.99
- Conversation Builder Teen-19.99
- iMovie-4.99 Always look for (?) for help
- Video Sequences- .99
- Story Creator-Free
- Between the Lines-9.99 (Lite) Inferencing
- Conover Company (many)- 1.99 Older Students
- Verbal Reasoning-12.99
- PhotoComic-Free
- Puppet Pals-Free

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amazon.com




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-pivotshare.com/



<https://socialskillbuilder.pivotshare.com/#/media/friends-house-taking-turns/4024/feature>

<https://myschoolday.pivotshare.com/categories/recess/2222/media>


Video Modeling Becomes Portable



- Taking what you worked on in the therapy room out to the natural environment
- Take your iPad to the playground, show a playground scenario video or still image
- Use Email/Text function to include teachers/parents
- Apply the language or behavior skills to a current activity. Go back to the video sequence if needed.
- Use a turned-off i-device as a mirror. The child's reflection on the screen can provide a reminder to check their own bodies and facial expressions to see the non-verbal messages they may be giving.
- Using as cues and reminders to goals
- Students are motivated to learn and more likely to carry over skills

WH Map to Generalization

*Who;
What; Where; When; How*



Who:

Skill can be generalized to

Discuss these people-Practice with this group of people


- Slang Lang
- Topics of Conversation

Watching video of a child trying to discuss a popular video game to a peer versus a grandparent, and highlighting the effective transfer, is very helpful.

Generalization - What

What:

- The “what” of generalization is primarily for the teacher or parent choosing “what” skills to focus on.
- Try not to pick a skill that is so specific to one person, one place, one time or one particular way of doing something that you don’t get much mileage from the skill.
- Lining Up, Requesting


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Generalization - Where


Where:

Skill can be generalized

- Discuss these places-Practice in these places; e.g., Lining Up
- Discussing with a student “where” these skills can be generalized to, is a transfer of a skill from one context or place to another (e.g., a school or a movie theater).
- Using video from the classroom of lining up and having the student identify the similar skills used in lining up for a turn on the slide is a great transfer activity. The student sees how mastered skills can be generalized.

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Generalization - When



When:

- Discussing with the student “when” a skill should be implemented is also very important to successful generalization.
- Often students will use an all-or - nothing rule of when to use the skill; interrupting, for example.
- How to appropriately interrupt is a great social skill to learn, but it is the “when” do I use it that is the important piece to generalize into different situations.
- Using video to ask the student to identify when the newly learned interrupting skill should be implemented and when it should not is a great way to start generalizing.


Generalization - How



How

- Discussing with the student “how” a skill should be demonstrated is another important generalization activity.
- If a student is raising his hand to answer a question and is showing success with this skill, the next step in the transfer process would be to show video of the limits of “how” you raise your hand. This might include how long you wait to get called on, how you hold your arm still while waiting, how you keep your mouth quiet during the time you are waiting, etc.

Other Supports



Portable Devices, Apps, Printable Images

Fade prompts & supports

- Just because the video is first seen in one teaching environment, doesn't mean that it can't be taken into other environments with portable devices such as a tablet or printable images.
- Using a blank screen in different areas of a video, or leaving out pictures in a sequence of pictures of the social activity allow the student to fill in the blanks and demonstrate true understanding of what comes next.
- Add incentives for pro-social behavior – Computer Time
- Feedback from peers & adults
- Use Social Skills Rating Sheet - Peer Ratings is most effective!


Create Natural Consequences



Use Natural Consequences= Independent Behavior

Kent McIntosh & Leslie D. MacKay,
University of British Columbia
2008

Fine Tuning –
The process is
on-going



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- If you don't use it, you lose it.
- Videos always available as a review.
- Generalization is fluid and constantly growing as new experiences and expectations arise
- Never put a "completed" stamp on a skill

QUESTIONS???



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- Info:
Laurie Jacobs
Socialskillbuilder.com
- Contact: info@socialskillbuilder.com
- App Demos:
http://socialskillbuilder.com/ssb_wp/social-skill-builder-app/
- Sign Up for Newsletter for tips and new applications:
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