# There's an App for That: iPod/iPad 101

Resources for staying current with iOS Technology

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*updated 5/9/11*

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# The Rapidly Changing World of Technology

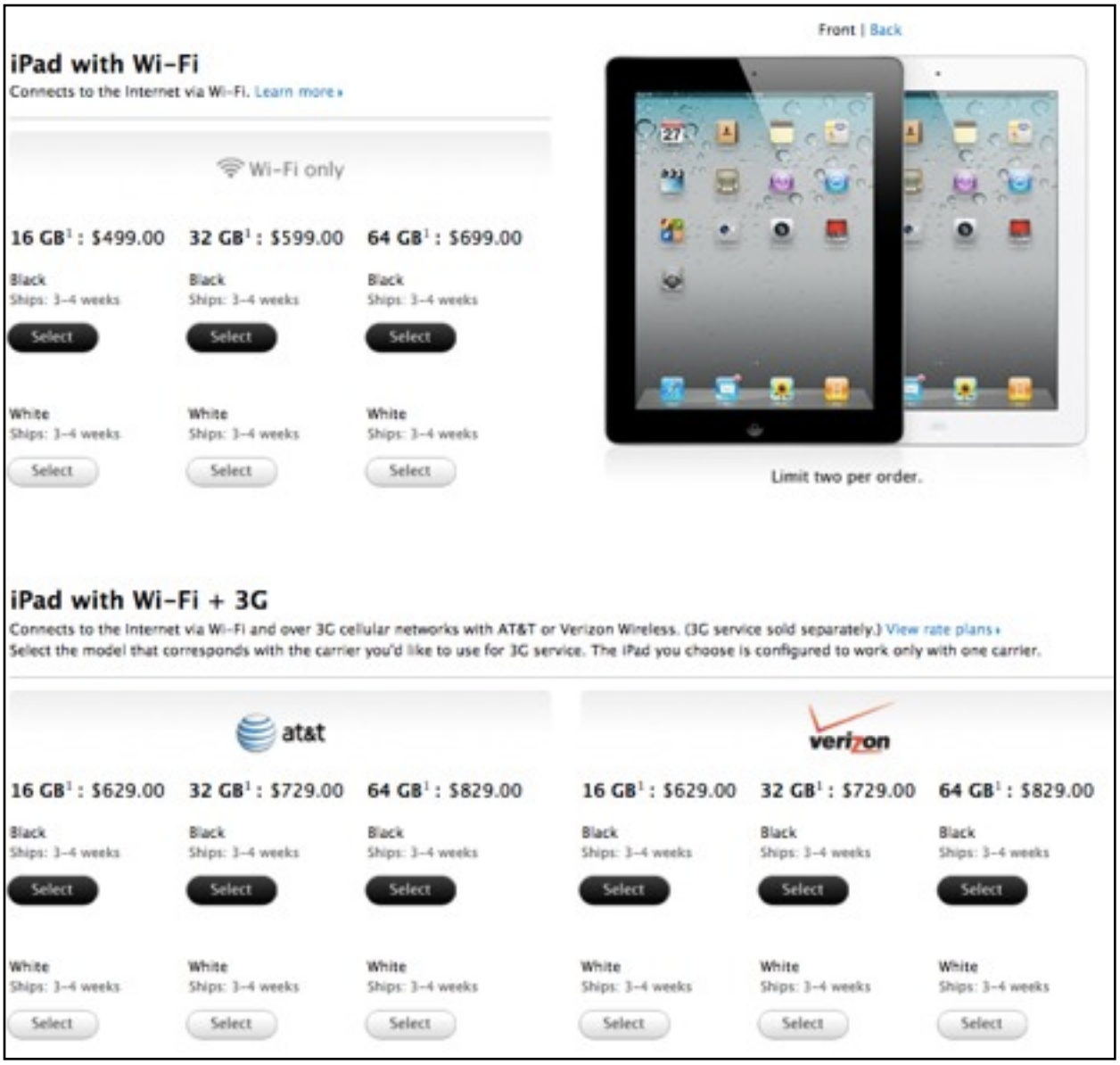
Since its debut in 2007 the iPod touch and most recently the iPad have taken the world by storm. With its touch screen technology, its mainstream look and appeal and thousands of apps readily available, the iPod/iPad have also taken the education world by storm.

## Which Device is Right

- iPod Touch 4th Generation
    - built in camera and recorder
    - the difference is in the amount of memory available

- iPad with Wi-Fi or Wi-Fi +3G
    - increased screen size, flexible orientation

- iPad 2 with Wi-Fi or Wi-Fi + 3G (available in black or white)
    - thinner, lighter, rear and forward facing camera, 10 hour battery life



## Questions to Ask

- What is the purpose of the device?
- How much memory do I need?
- How will the user access the device?
- How long will the battery last?
- Other questions?

## 4 Questions to Ask When Considering an App

1. Look at the date that the app was last updated. If it was released a year ago and there are no updates, question the purchase.

2. Read the reviews with a grain of salt. (Also consider leaving thoughtful reviews)

3. Check to see if the developer can be reached: If the website no longer works, no email is given, or the email isn't returned means that there may be little to no tech support.

4. Check the listed operating systems and confirm the app will run on the device.

## Apps Aren't Everything

Thoughtful blog post from Moms With Apps on the approach we should be taking when thinking about the educational value of the iOS and the many "educational" apps available on the market.

*http://momswithapps.com/2011/03/30/apps-arent-everything/*

# Basic iPod/iPad Resources

## Apple Accessibility

A page on the Apple website devoted to accessibility features of all Apple devices including the iOS devices.

*http://www.apple.com/accessibility/*

## iPads in School

Blog by Michael Kaufman, one of the four founding principals of a small consulting firm. The blog is a journal reflection that chronicles the ever expanding use of the iPad in schools.

*http://www.ipadinschools.com*

## with iPod Touch and iPhone

Resource from Apple to help you get started with iOS Technology. The size of iOS technology combined with the many education apps available, allow users to carry an entire library of reference materials with you where ever you go.

*http://www.apple.com/education/ipodtouch-iphone/*

## What are Web Apps?

Web applications — or web apps — combine the power of the Internet with the simplicity of Multi-Touch technology. Browsing web apps is easy. Simply it is a web application optimized to run as an app on mobile technology. There are over 1700 web apps to flick and scroll through.

*http://www.apple.com/webapps/whatarewebapps.html*

## Why an iPod touch in Education?

Educator Chris Webb thoughts on using iPods in education from a blog post dated 2009

*http://projects.minot.k12.nd.us/groups/chris/weblog/5ce29/*

*Why_an_iPod_Touch_in_education_.html*

*Chapter 1*

# The Magic

## *A video tells it all*

A collection of my favorite video examples of folks being creative with using the iPod/Ipad and the many different apps that are available.

### Atomic tom - Take Me Out

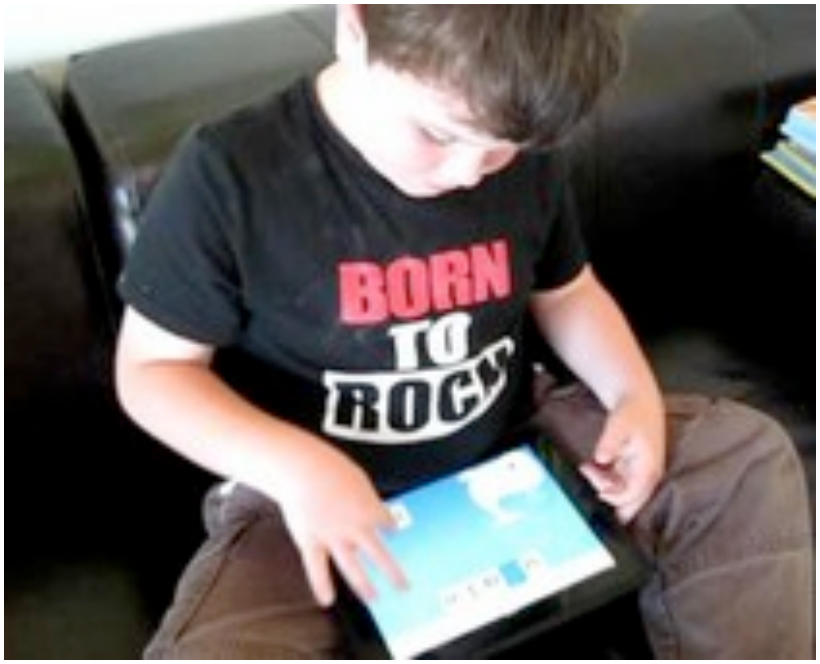
Atomic Tom is a group of musicians from Brooklyn, NY whose instruments were stolen. They improvised and used iPod/iPad apps to sing and record their song *Take Me Out* on the subway.

## iPad Music - Hey Soul Sister/Soul Train

One musician and her iPad. In response to her family's take that the iPod/iPad was only for play or fun, Ellen created this video. She recorded the video with her iPhone 4 Pro Camera. More information about her story and the apps she used can be found on her blog http://www.ellenonceagain.com/content/hey-soul-sister-new-soul-train-yael-naim-cover

## $5 Raffle Ticket

The iPad was not initially considered an option for Leo. His parents thought it would be too fragile for him. But a $5 raffle ticket won them a brand new iPod and for Leo in the words of his mother a transformation. Check out Leo Playing FirstWords on His iPad. Read more about Leo at http://www.blogher.com/ipad-nearmiracle-my-son-autism



## The Best iPad Commercial (Not Made by Apple)

Video submitted by a dad of his 4 year old playing with a borrowed iPad. http://news.cnet.com/8301-17852_3-20017639-71.html

## Becoming Han Solo

In Brooklyn, New York, a nearly paralyzed boy, Owen, who cannot talk, uses an iPad to tell his mother what he wants to be for Halloween.

*Chapter 2*

# iPods/iPads for Education

## *Links to information about using iOS in schools*

A collection of web sites about using iPods/iPads in education. I'm on the lookout for sites that are collecting data on using iOS in education.

### Apple Volume Purchase Program for Education

With the launch of the 2.0 iOS firmware in 2008, Apple allowed users to download applications through the iTunes desktop software or the iPhone's App Store. The applications can only be run on iPhones, iPod Touch and iPad. Each application is protected with iTunes FairPlay DRM which associates them with a specific iTunes account. Prior to August 9th, Apple's End User license Agreement (EULA) only allowed for sales to individual consumers. On August 9th, 2010 Apple announced a Volume Purchase program for Educational institutions.

*http://iear.wikispaces.com/Volume+Purchase+Program*

### Evaluation Rubric for Educational Apps

Harry Walker is the principal of Sandy Plains Elementary School in Baltimore County, Maryland. One of his challenges is wading through the huge number apps available. He's crafted a rubric to evaluate the quality and effectiveness of an app in terms of how it may impact student achievement. His criteria include curriculum connection, authenticity, feedback, differentiation, user friendliness, and student motivation.

*http://learninginhand.com/blog/evaluation-rubric-for-educational-apps.html*

### iPads for Education Victoria, Australia

Web site of the Victorian Government's iPads for Learning initiative. Contains links to information about *Why the iPad?, Case Studies, 21 Steps to iPad Success, Classroom Ideas, Education Apps* and more. More than just a list of apps for education this site takes you on their iOS learning journey.

*http://www.ipadsforeducation.vic.edu.au/*

*Chapter 3*

# iPod/iPad Accessories

## *Input, Access, Protection and More*

As fast as folks are creating apps, folks are creating accessories for the iPod/iPad. From stylish and durable cases to small and portable speakers there is something for everyone.

### 6 Great Gloves for Touchscreen Gadget Lovers

Mashable, provider of social media news and web tips brings us these recommendations for gloves that users can wear and still have access to their touch screen technology.

*http://mashable.com/2010/12/11/gloves-touchscreens/*

### AbleNet Inc. - Blue2

AbleNet, an assistive technology curriculum and assistive technology developer, carries the Blue2. The Blue2 is a bluetooth wireless switch interface that connects via Bluetooth to your iOS device. Apps need to have scanning ability built into the app. AbleNet's communication app Sounding Board recognizes the Blue2 switch.

*http://www.ablenetinc.com/AssistiveTechnology/Switches/Blue2BluetoothSwitch/tabid/905/Default.aspx*

### Griffin Technology

Griffin Technology began designing and manufacturing technical solutions with an innovative flair in 1992. We've since grown to become one of the largest providers of accessories for personal computing and digital media.

*http://www.griffintechnology.com*

### iAdapter

Protect your iPad with the iAdapter housing complete with rubberized corners and handle to help protect your iPad from damage. A small slide cover on the front of the housing will hide the home button from little fingers that will close running applications. The iAdapterTM is also

an amplifier with dual speakers that will deliver clean crisp sound. It comes with a rechargeable Lithium-Polymer battery, shoulder strap for portability and a plastic stand for table top use.

*http://www.amdi.net/iadapter/*

## iHome

iHome, a division of SDI Technologies, was launched in 2005 to market iPod Electronics. In just its first year, iHome became the #1 brand in the iPod Electronics market and its iPod Clock Radio became and continues to be the #1 selling iPod Speaker System in North America.

*http://www.ihomeaudio.com*

## iLife

LIVE. WORK. PLAY. Three simple words that LifeWorks™ has embodied in its work. Launched in 2009, their product line is designed to fit the lifestyles of all consumers, with a blend of style and technology.

*http://www.life-works.com*

## iLounge

iLounge® is an independent provider of information about Apple Inc.'s iPod, iPhone and iPad digital media players, accessories, and related software, published online. Based in Irvine, California, the iLounge website is owned and operated by Dennis Lloyd's company iLounge, Inc., and is not affiliated with Apple Computer or the manufacturers of iPod- or iPhone-related products. We do not make or sell iPod or iPhone services or products

*http://www.ilounge.com*

## Otterbox

Starting with something as simple as a box, OtterBox was created in 1998 and built upon fundamentals of hard work, creativity and perseverance. In their words, their cases or boxes are dedicated to all the klutzy, spontaneous, chaotic, graceless individuals who have broken a device or valuable due to their active lifestyle.

*http://www.otterbox.com/*

## RJ Cooper

RJ Cooper makes special software and hardware products for the special needs community. Recent offerings include iPad case, with videos putting several cases through their paces; stands, remotes, bluetooth switch interface and more.

*http://www.rjcooper.com/*

## One Design

Ten One Design, LLC is a design firm based in Montclair, NJ specializing in solutions for the mobile lifestyle.

*http://www.tenonedesign.com*

***Chapter 4***

# iPod/iPad Blogs

## *Opinions, Thoughts, Experiences*

It is the nature of technology these days to change rapidly. As soon as a new device is mastered an update is released. The app store features thousands of apps but how do we quickly and easily identify the best ones or at least a place to start. The following contains information about a variety of people including parents, consumers, developers educators and more sharing their experiences and reviews through their blogs.

### ATMac

ATMac provides usable and understandable information about all Apple and Mac products for users with disability, chronic illness, or other impairments. This blog is written by a user of assistive technology.

*http://atmac.org*

### Autism Epicenter

Web site of parent Shane Nurnberg and his journey and experiences with his son Braden's autism. A part of Shane's web site is devoted to app review.

*http://www.autismepicenter.com*

### Disability Blog: the Accessibility Features of the iPad

A blog about the latest disability related news, information and trends. The link below is to comprehensive information about the iOS built in accessibility features. This specific entry was posted January 26, 2011 by guest blogger Amanda Johansson.

*http://blog.govdelivery.com/usodep/2011/01/the-accessibility-features-of-the-ipad-.html*

### GeekSLP

Web site of Barbara Fernandes (GeekSLP) who received her master degree as a Speech and Language Pathologist. Barbara's vision of Speech Therapy goes beyond the use of paper and

pencil materials. Her site contains a variety of information including video episodes of GeekSLP TV, app reviews and app development for speech/language therapy.

*http://www.geekslp.com*

## iPad Today

Tech geeks Leo Laporte and Sarah Lane love their iPads so much, they've created "iPad Today," the TWiT network's first show highlighting the best apps, most helpful tools, coolest tricks, and essential news surrounding the iPad revolution. "iPad Today" is smart, informative, and lots of fun. Recorded live Thursdays at 1:30pm PT/4:30pm ET on http://live.twit.tv.

*http://twit.tv/ipt*

## JONANDEMILYSWORLD.COM

Jonathan Zemsky and Emily Killebrew are licensed therapists that have tested hundred of apps. Their mission is to bring you information about the best low or no-cost apps.

*http://www.jonandemilysworld.com/*

## Mobile Learning 4 Special Needs

Wiki with information about apps, accessories, reviews, tutorial, video case studies and more.

*http://mobilelearning4specialneeds.wikispaces.com/*

## Moms With Apps

Moms with Apps is a group of individual, independent, family-friendly developers who share best practices on making and marketing mobile apps. Most of their membership is comprised of parents who have launched their own apps on the App Store, have their own access to iTunes Connect, and have the time and inclination to share best practices with other developers at the founder's level. Moms with Apps features a popular App Friday where one or more apps is offered for free or at a significantly reduced price.

*http://www.momswithapps.com*

## Poddy Training

You've heard those catchy tunes floating down the hall from the Kindergarten wing, the clean up song or the goodbye song. This website will describe how one teacher's idea to use an iPod instead of an old, bulky CD player exploded into an integrated iPod Touch program.

*http://web.me.com/eccsms/poddytraining/Poddy_Training.html*

## Speech Language Pathology Sharing

Web site and blog of speech language pathologist Eric Sailers. He has a fondness for Apple and uses iPods/iPads in his work as an educator.

*http://slpsharing.com/*

*Chapter 5*

# iPod/iPad App Lists

## *Compare, Compare, Compare*

Following are links to sites, wikis or documents that contain lists of apps.

### 10 Best iPad Apps for College Students

This article is from the U.S. News & World Report Education feature. Brought to you by Professors' Guide writers Lynn F. Jacobs and Jeremy S. Hyman. They looked to graduate student Ryan Wood for his top 10 list of apps for college students.

*http://www.usnews.com/blogs/professors-guide/2010/04/14/10-best-ipad-apps-for-college-students.html*

### 30+ Best iPhone Apps for Kids

A list of apps for kids from Parenting.com, home of parenting and baby talk.

*http://www.parenting.com/gallery/25-iphone-apps-for-kids?pnid=324401*

### for Education: Connsense Bulletin

This handout, compiles by Carolann Cormier, MS, CCC-SLP, ATP, is meant to be a resource. It is not meant to be exhaustive and is not a suggestion on what apps to buy or download. It is always helpful to review the ratings on apps before purchasing. For review of apps, click on the review button when you are on the app download page in iTunes. If a lite version is available, generally they are free or cheaper, so they can be a way for you to try an app.

*http://www.connsensebulletin.com/2011/01/apps-for-education-update/*

### Best Kids Apps

Their mantra is "We play, so you don't have to." Check out their review of apps in categories divided by age, free, games, books & stories, and more.

*http://www.bestkidsapps.com/*

## I Education Apps Review

IEAR is a grassroots community focused on taking a closer look at the educational value of educational apps!

*http://www.iear.org/*

## Inver Grove Heights Community School District

A list of apps for education maintained by Inver Grove Heights School District. The document link is at the bottom of the page titled *Apps for Literacy & iPod and iPad Apps*. The Excel spreadsheet is sortable by a variety of categories including title, price, education category and more.

*http://www.invergrove.k12.mn.us/iPods_and_iPads.html*

## Apps for Autism and other special needs

Parent blogger Shannon Des Roches Rosa, writes about many apps for autism on her blog, Squidilicious: The Adventures of Leo and his Potty Mouthed Mom. To make finding and navigating the many posts on apps for autism she with some help has compiled a google spreadsheet listing out their list of apps for autism. This list was compiled by a parent, an adult with autism and an SLP.

*https://spreadsheets.google.com/pub?key=0AjbIta8OTS0KdHRMVWx0Q3pvOWRXRXBfd01jc3lqakE&hl=en&single=true&gid=0&output=html*

## iPhone - iPod - iPad Apps for (Special) Education

A list of apps originally created by Eric Sailers. Last update 4/10/2010.

*http://www.scribd.com/doc/24470331/iPhone-iPad-and-iPod-touch-Apps-for-Special-Education*

## iPod Apps (Grade Levels & Subjects)

List of apps created by the Escondido Union School District in Google Docs. The list is sortable by grade level and subject.

*https://spreadsheets.google.com/lv?key=tenru11ELMGfma9kDka2moQ&type=view&gid=0&f=true&sortcolid=0&sortasc=true&rowsperpage=250*

## iTouch for Special Needs

List of over 80 apps by the Open Access Resource Center for learners with special needs.

*http://itouchforspecialneeds.pbworks.com/w/page/27170032/iTouch-for-Special-Needs*

## Jeremy Brown's App Recommendations for Students with Autism

A comprehensive list of apps for iPod/iPad recommended by special educator Jeremy Brown.

*http://www.scribd.com/doc/47441495/Jeremy-Brown%E2%80%99s-App-Recommendations-for-Students-with-Autism*

## Learning Continuity with iPod Touches

An extensive listing of apps for teachers for the iPod and iPad. The list can be sorted by curricular discipline, app title, description, link and cost. Links take you to the App in iTunes.

*https://sites.google.com/site/learningcontinuity/with-ipod-touches*

## Ohio Center for Autism and Low Incidence | Document Archive

The document archives of the Ohio Center for Autism and Low Incidence contains a couple of documents with lists of apps available for download:Apps Designed with Disability in Mind and A Spectrum of Apps for Students on the Autism Spectrum. Both are available to download as PDF documents.

*http://www.ocali.org/view.php?nav_id=101*

## Spectronics: Inclusive Learning Technologies

A comprehensive list of AAC apps for iPod/iPad. The list contains information about features of the apps and a rating done by an SLP. The list is updated on a regular basis.

*http://www.spectronicsinoz.com/article/iphoneipad-apps-for-aac*

## TeachWithYourIPad

Wiki site created by Nathan Stevens that contains a wealth of information including basic getting started type information to lists and reviews of apps divided by education category, type, and grade level.

http://teachwithyouripad.wikispaces.com/iPad+Apps

## The Best Educational iPhone Apps for Kids

They "play" with all the iPhone, iPad and Android apps so you don't have to (unless you want to).

*http://www.bestkidsapps.com/ages-0-4/the-best-educational-iphone-apps-for-kids/*

## Top 40 Free iPhone Apps 2010

PC Magazine gathered their 40 favorite free apps to help make the most of the iPhone/iPod experience.

*http://www.pcmag.com/article2/0,2817,2366274,00.asp*

*Chapter 5*

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## Simon Technology Center Resources

*www.pacer.org/stc*

*simontechnologycenter.blogspot.com*

*facebook: http://www.facebook.com/?ref=hp#!/pages/Simon-Technology-Center/67317820730*

*www.youtube.com/*

*http://www.youtube.com/user/pacercenter*