







Literacy iPad Apps





Engage with a broad range of texts:	Analysing and evaluating texts:	Letter formation and handwriting:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IBooks • Podcasts • Pocket • First News Newspaper 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Me Books • Explore Shakespeare 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inkflow • Educreations • Little Writer
Creating texts:	Find and use information:	Developing vocabulary and understanding:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Little Story Creator • MeMatic • Book Creator • Dragon Dictation • Puppet Edu • Educreations • Toontastic • POP Appmaker • FX Guru: Movie FX Director 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pocket • Podcasts • Little Story Creator • Encyclopaedia – Britannica • First News Newspaper 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Me Books • Dictionary.com
Reading skills:	Critical literacy skills:	Developing higher-order thinking skills:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read with Biff, Chip and Kipper • Word Monsters • Me Books 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Educreations • Nearpod • Pocket 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inkflow • Me Books
Listening and talking skills:	Spelling, grammar and punctuation:	Scots Language and Scottish resources:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dragon Dictation • Puppet Edu 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brainbean • Dragon Dictation • Dictionary.com 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scots Dictionary for Schools




<p>iBooks</p>  <p>Apple</p>	<p>Free (Many free titles also)</p>	<p>P3-P7</p>	<p>Useful if you need more copies for a class study of novel.</p> <p>Hosts a variety of books of different level/genre which can provide more challenge for able readers. Some with read-aloud feature.</p> <p>Can zoom, enlarge font, and change background for ASN pupils.</p> <p>Some texts are set to fonts that some pupils may find difficult.</p>
<p>Podcasts</p> 	<p>Free</p>	<p>P1-P7</p>	<p>Read aloud stories which are free of various genres. Also includes podcasts on different topics such as history and science that are suitable for children.</p> <p>A 'sleep' timer can be set for turn-taking.</p> <p>Once subscribed, a series will update automatically when a new item is added.</p> <p>A teacher needs to download/subscribe to check suitability</p> <p>A useful app to help pupils to practise note taking and gathering information from a variety of sources.</p> <p>It can also be used as an alternative method of research for those who struggle with reading and writing. Pupils can listen to a podcast on particular subject and report key facts back to group.</p>
<p>FX Guru</p> 	<p>Free (Charges for access to all special effects)</p> <p>Packs start at £0.20 Super 64 pack is £0.22</p>	<p>P3-P7 (although some effects not suitable for all – violence/horror)</p>	<p>Can layer effects on top of video. Pupils find the app easy and fun to use.</p> <p>An interesting alternative for creating stories as it helps pupils visualise the action in their plot.</p> <p>Pupils can save as a video and use in other programs.</p>
<p>MeMatic</p> 	<p>Free (Pro for removal of ads and saving templates)</p>	<p>P1-P7</p>	<p>A really easy and fast app to use.</p> <p>Choose photos from albums and add captions/speech – with a limited character space (forcing annotations to be short and snappy!)</p> <p>Pupils can save their creations to Photos easily</p> <p>Could be used when learning about direct speech and used to annotate characters.</p> <p>Set a challenge to create story with a limited number of words/pictures</p> <p>Younger pupils could take photos from environment and label with words/sounds</p> <p>Set pupils a challenge of keeping a picture diary of a project</p> <p>Can be used to create simple and visual instructions when explaining a process.</p>

<p>Read with Biff, Chip and Kipper (RWBCK)</p> 	<p>First two books free (£21.99 for all books at 6 different levels)</p>	<p>P1-P2</p>	<p>The app is very simple to use and set out like the ORT books but with interactive pages for pupils to explore.</p> <p>Books can be set to 'read aloud' or 'read alone' (with touch the word to hear to help pupils when they are stuck)</p> <p>Use to create additional or follow-up reading tasks. Can be used for additional phonics and early reading skills practise.</p>
<p>Brainbean</p> 	<p>Free</p>	<p>P2-P5</p>	<p>An app with several easy to use spelling and word building games. Most of the games are open ended with adjustable time limit so pupils can play at their own level of ability.</p> <p>Useful app for morning challenges!</p>
<p>Word Monsters</p> 	<p>Free (Charges for additional books)</p>	<p>P1-P2</p>	<p>A collection of colourful, interactive ebooks that follow phonics and sight words progression (with a monster theme!)</p> <p>Texts can be set to 'read aloud' or 'read alone' with touch to hear to help pupils when they are stuck on a word.</p> <p>Additional texts for enjoyment or pupils who need extra phonics/early reading skills practise.</p>
<p>Me Books</p> 	<p>£2.29 per book for most titles Some ORT titles available</p>	<p>P1-P3</p>	<p>A wide variety of popular books from familiar children's authors to nursery classics that can be set to 'read aloud' or 'read alone' 'with touch to hear to help pupils when they are stuck on word.</p> <p>Hot-spot tool: Allows teachers and pupils to annotate any part of the book with their own recordings by simply drawing around the area they wish to annotate (on words, pictures or layout features).</p> <p>Teacher can record interactive hot-spots including questions or challenge that pupils can discover and record their own responses. Allows teacher to incorporate more challenge into an independent or paired activity.</p>
<p>My Little Story Creator</p> 	<p>Free</p>	<p>P1-P7</p>	<p>A simple and very easy to use scrap-book tool.</p> <p>Young pupils can draw, type, recordings and add photos to make pages. They change size and position of text and images by pinch and grow.</p> <p>Pupils can play back, save and edit multiple scrap-books to one device.</p> <p>An alternative method for creating texts: instructions, fictional stories, design plans, re-tell historical event, using photos to compare old and new, explaining a journey etc.</p> <p>May be a good app to create an electronic pupil learning record for projects or subjects. Need to check limits.</p>

<p>Toontastic</p> 	<p>Free with limited access £1.49 per cartoon/sticker set Or £10.99 for full-access</p>	<p>P3-P7</p>	<p>Starts by asking pupil to manipulate a visual story map as a plan for their cartoon (adding climax, conflict, resolution etc.)</p> <p>Pupils can add background and characters to create their story (pre-made or free paint)</p> <p>Pupils click and drag to move objects and save as moving cartoon. Pupils then can add music based on how their characters are feeling in a particular scene.</p> <p>Save as a video and could then add narration by voice over with iMovie.</p> <p>An alternative method for creating new texts or making a previously written story come to life.</p> <p>Great as a pre-writing tool to map out a story as pupils can replay when needed for extended writing tasks. Useful for teaching different aspects of fictional writing – such as plot, feelings and setting.</p> <p>Pupils could also use in other areas of the curriculum: Re-creating a historic event, creating solutions to scenarios, using for alternative outcomes/endings</p>
<p>POP Appmaker</p> 	<p>Free</p>	<p>P6-P7</p>	<p>A design tool for creating an app. Can be difficult to use so better suited for older pupils.</p> <p>Pupils can sketch out app design and then take photos of sketches to edit image digitally.</p> <p>Set challenge of creating an app to present learning of a given topic. Challenge pupils to use tool to collate and link information for an independent research project.</p>
<p>Pocketphonics</p> 	<p>£4.99</p>	<p>P1-P2</p>	<p>Pupils progress through a programme of sounds. Different activities for each sound. Sound progression and sound pronunciation matches Jolly Phonics programme.</p> <p>Additional input on recognising sounds, writing sounds, sound blending and word building</p> <p>Settings allow font to be changed and set to left/right handed.</p>

<p>Dragon Dictation</p> 	<p>Free</p>	<p>P1-P7</p>	<p>Simple app that is easy to use and will turn recorded voice into text.</p> <p>The app recognises most voices even in noisy environments.</p> <p>The text can be saved and used in other programs such as Pages/Word for further editing or cut and paste into scrap-book apps.</p> <p>Alternative method of creating texts (particularly for pupils who find writing a challenge) or for recording group discussions.</p>
<p>Puppet Edu</p> 	<p>Free</p>	<p>P3-P7</p>	<p>Pupils can take photos or use Google images/existing photos and the app automatically makes a slideshow. Pupils voice over each image with a maximum of 30 secs. Pupils can add text, zoom and drawings.</p> <p>Slideshow saves as a video for easy sharing.</p> <p>Useful app for summative assessment – end of topic or project presentation. Good tool for teaching summarising, sequencing and good presentation skills. Allows pupils who struggle with writing to record their knowledge and ideas.</p>
<p>Twinkl Phonics(Phase 1, 2, 3, 4)</p> 	<p>(Various phonics app according to Phases) £4.99 for full-set</p>	<p>P1-P2</p>	<p>A collection of various writing, phonics and reading activities including: sound recognition, word building, high frequency words and word blending. App allows teacher/user to record own sounds on to the sound board (no American accents!)</p> <p>The Word Wall feature – pupils can annotate around a given sound with written words, photos or drawings to make a multi-media collection for that sound</p> <p>The app is easy to use with visuals and minimal instructional text.</p>
<p>HearBuilder</p>  <p>Phonological Awareness</p>	<p>Free (Select Take a Tour menu)</p>	<p>P1-P2</p>	<p>Games that explore early phonics skills such as recognising number of words, syllables, rhyme and blending.</p> <p>Same pronunciation of sounds as Jolly Phonics.</p> <p>Pupils can choose and progress through three levels of difficulty.</p> <p>Teacher cannot set the sounds/phonemes they wish pupils to practise.</p>

<p>HearBuilder</p>  <p>Sequencing</p>	<p>Free (Select Take a Tour Menu)</p>	<p>P1-P2</p>	<p>Games that focus on sequencing short stories – with read aloud for pupils who struggle with reading.</p> <p>Presents pupils with an easy to follow tutorial and instructions.</p> <p>Level 1 – Sequence pictures and spoken words Level 2 – Sequence pictures Level 3 – Sentences only</p>
<p>HearBuilder</p>  <p>Following Directions</p>	<p>Free (Select Take a Tour Menu)</p>	<p>P1-P2</p>	<p>Various games for practise or assessment of following instructions and listening skills.</p> <p>Includes three levels of difficulty (increases in complexity of instruction and number of parts to a given instruction)</p> <p>App is very easy to use and P1 found Level 3 particularly challenging. Independent task with headphones ideally.</p>
<p>Endless Reader</p> 	<p>Free All reader packs are £22.99</p> <p>12 Levels £3.99 for one Level or £8.99 for 4 Levels</p>	<p>P1-P2</p>	<p>Activities that focus on building sentences and recognising high frequency words. The game creates a story to show meaning of a common word. Includes a ‘read aloud’ function.</p> <p>Useful helping pupils to spell high frequency words (sight words) – but not good for phonics.</p>
<p>Inkflow</p> 	<p>Free</p>	<p>P1-P7</p>	<p>Pupils can use app as a collaborative brain-storming tool.</p> <p>Insert pictures to annotate, add text or drawings. Save as an image or pdf to print out later.</p> <p>Good “doodle pad” for kids whilst researching or sharing ideas.</p> <p>Alternative way to create new texts or gather information for creating texts later. Allows pupils to share their work and ideas with others in a simple, visual way.</p>

<p>Encyclopaedia Britannica</p> 	<p>Free</p>	<p>P4-P7</p>	<p>Interactive ebook of the encyclopaedia.</p> <p>'This Date' section provides a new daily fact linked to the date. Useful for morning challenges or daily discussions.</p> <p>Pupils can increase font size for easy reading.</p> <p>Link Map feature – produces a visual web of your topic or searched item and links to other areas of study, such as important people, locations, relevant ideas.</p> <p>Pupils have the option to browse or search. Good for research skills and also for reading for enjoyment.</p> <p>Pupils can save articles that they wish to return to at a later date.</p> <p>Good app for teaching summarising and paraphrasing skills.</p> <p>Challenge pupils to create a research hunt of using the Link Map feature.</p>
<p>Skitch</p> 	<p>Free</p>	<p>P2-P7</p>	<p>Quickly take photos and annotate with words and labels.</p> <p>Save in Photos for use later or send via email.</p> <p>Very fast and easy to use.</p> <p>Useful for outdoor learning or on school trips – taking photos of observations and adding notes to use later.</p> <p>Great tool for taking photos during experiments and annotating.</p>
<p>Explore Shakespeare</p> 	<p>Free (samples of classics)</p> <p>£4.99 per collection</p>	<p>P6-P7</p>	<p>Samples of Shakespeare's works brought to life with pictures, audio, character maps and theme charts.</p> <p>Beautiful drawings and music helps plays and sonnets come to life.</p> <p>Use to challenge and enhance literacy teaching for able learners.</p> <p>Use as an interactive way to discover literacy elements such as creating tension, writing character dialogue and evoking feelings and settings.</p>

<p>Scots Dictionary for Schools</p> 	Free	P4-7	<p>An online dictionary tool for pupils to look up the meaning of Scots words.</p> <p>Some words have audio pronunciations.</p> <p>Pupils find app simple to use with search feature. Finding spelling or meaning of words for a piece of Scots writing or for further understanding of Scots texts.</p> <p>Use 'random word' feature to set daily challenges.</p>
<p>Duolingo</p> 	Free	P4-P7	<p>Pupils progress through a series of levels that involve selecting words, translating, recording speech, choosing pictures.</p> <p>Visual and easy to follow with easy touch to reveal features as support.</p> <p>Several different languages to choose from.</p> <p>Pupils can create an account to save their progress.</p>
<p>Little Writer</p> 	Free	P1-P2	<p>An app to help pupils practise formation of letters (upper case and lower case) and numbers. Forces pupils to follow correct direction when tracing or free writing.</p> <p>Can record your own sounds for each letter (no American accents!)</p> <p>Pupils can practise writing words (but beware these are not always phonetic and can cause confusion!)</p>
<p>Dictionary.com</p> 	Free	P3-P7	<p>Online dictionary tool that can be used to search for words to find meaning (sometimes with picture and audio).</p> <p>Can save words to a list to use later. Can create wow word lists, bossy verbs, alternative word lists etc.</p> <p>Slideshows feature – gives pupils ideas for a piece of writing. For example “8 Wintry Words” or “8 Words for Celebration” Great to use as a writing challenge.</p> <p>Word of the Day feature – morning warm-up tasks</p>

<p>Pocket</p> 	<p>Free</p>	<p>P3-P7 (Requires an email address)</p>	<p>Use one email address for your class to create a collaborative account.</p> <p>As pupils are researching, they can add items to the class 'pocket.' It will save webpages (including articles, images and videos) all in one place to review at a later date. Add tags for creating multiple topic areas.</p> <p>Easy to add bookmark tool to Safari or other search engines so children can easily save what they find with one click.</p> <p>Pupils can log in at home and add items as homework.</p> <p>Can change font/size/background so items are easier to read.</p> <p>Great app for developing researching skills; investigation and enquiry skills</p> <p>Can be used for several literacy tasks such as: Compare and contrast sources, learning about trusted sources and bias, building an argument</p>
<p>First News Newspaper App</p>  <p>First News</p>	<p>Free (Some issues are £1.49 charge)</p>	<p>P3-P7</p>	<p>An interactive newspaper created for young people with suitable content.</p> <p>Use for discussion about a particular topic, teaching gathering information and evaluating skills or as examples for writing.</p>
<p>Educreations Interactive Whiteboard</p>  <p>Educreations Inc</p>	<p>Free</p>	<p>P4-P7</p>	<p>Pupils/ teachers record and create diagrams, explanations or presentations that can be shared with devices. Pupils can add images and annotations to share understanding. Screen is recorded.</p> <p>Saved as 'Lessons' can then be synced with linked Ipads for instant sharing. Works with other apps for image/text drops and can be shared via different methods such as email.</p> <p>Pupils can create their own texts: stories, explaining an experiment, adding ideas or annotations to pictures.</p>
<p>Book Creator</p> 	<p>Free</p>	<p>P3-P7</p>	<p>Pupils can create ebooks (using text, images, sounds etc). Books can be shared or printed. Pupils can even publish to iBooks for a wider audience.</p> <p>Pupils can create presentations, project scrap-books, electronic learning records stories etc.</p> <p>Older pupils found the app simple and easy to use.</p>