

# Kindergartners

Apps change quickly and vary in quality; the free versions may contain pop-up ads or in-app purchases. Download apps in advance and try them yourself—as you would any classroom materials—before you give them to the children.

| App                                   | Type                                                        | Platform         | Benefits                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| ABC—Magnetic Alphabet (Lite) for Kids | Scene creation<br>Digital manipulation                      | iPad,<br>Android | Includes letters, numbers, multiple seasonal magnet packs, and voiceover for the letter/numeral names when tapped. Users can explore patterning, letter/numeral names, and create scenes that could be a springboard for storytelling.                                                      |
| Book Creator                          | Drawing & painting<br>Scene recording                       | iPad,<br>Android | Offers drawing, typing, photo-importing, and voice-recording tools; e-books can be saved/shared as video, ePub, or PDF. Includes a “read-to-me” function. Users can create fiction and nonfiction multimedia texts that can be revisited and shared to other devices outside the classroom. |
| Draw & Tell HD                        | Drawing & painting<br>Scene creation<br><br>Scene recording | iPad             | Provides drawing/painting tools, “sticker” manipulation/recording, voice recording. Files are saved automatically and can be exported. Users can engage in storytelling and demonstrate visible thinking/concept explanation.                                                               |

<https://www.naeyc.org/resources/pubs/yc/nov2017/open-ended-apps> 2/27/2018

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| App                  | Type                                   | Platform             | Benefits                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|----------------------|----------------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Geoboard             | Digital manipulation                   | iPad,<br>Web version | Includes different size/shape boards, multicolored rubber bands, shading, grid- numbers, drawing, and math-text features. Users can explore shapes, vertices, grids, and numbers.                                                                                                   |
| Monster Mingle       | Digital manipulation                   | iPad,<br>Android     | Offers multiple items for creating a monster (e.g., bodies, eyes, noses, arms, legs, wings) who can be moved to different locations (sky, water, land) and engage in a variety of activities. Users can create monsters and engage in dramatic play                                 |
| Quiver               | Drawing & painting<br>(coloring)       | iPad,<br>Android     | Provides online coloring pages for download (some paid, some free). When app is pointed toward a coloring page, the design becomes 3-D with some interactive features. Users can explore science, community, and seasonal concepts, depending on the color sheets available online. |
| Sago Mini Doodlecast | Drawing & painting<br>Scene recording  | iPad                 | Offers drawing prompts and the ability to record the drawing session (image and sound) via automatically saved videos that can be shared. Users can create stories based on the prompt, talk, and create simultaneously, and voice their thinking.                                  |
| ScratchJr            | Scene creation<br>Digital manipulation | iPad,<br>Android     | Includes multiple backgrounds, characters, sounds, and drawing tools for character creation, as well as coding blocks to animate the characters. Users can create animations, stories, or games in an infinite number of ways, while engaging in simple visual programming.         |

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| Shadow Puppet Edu | Scene creation | iPad | Provides backgrounds, images, image searches, image importing, and maps that can be combined in a specified order for recording with voice-over; the resulting video can be saved and shared. Users can create multimedia videos to share stories, songs, and rhymes. |
|-------------------|----------------|------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

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| App           | Type                 | Platform      | Benefits                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|---------------|----------------------|---------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Sock Puppets  | Scene recording      | iPad          | Offers a selection of puppets, backgrounds, changeable voices, and props that can be recorded, saved, and shared. Users can create narratives and explore social and emotional learning concepts.                                                                                                                                     |
| Toca Blocks   | Digital manipulation | iPad, Android | Includes blocks, characters, and items that can be combined to make new features; these can then be combined to create a digital world that the player can move the characters through. Users can build multiple worlds, play inside them, and share them with others.                                                                |
| Toca Mini     | Digital manipulation | iPad, Android | Provides outline character shapes, animated facial features, stamps, and colors for creating creatures. Users can create characters in a simple format and share photos of their character.                                                                                                                                           |
| Toontastic 3D | Scene recording      | iPad, Android | Offers premade characters (e.g., astronauts, pirates, princesses, and animals), tools for drawing additional characters, backgrounds, voice recording, and music for recording shareable animated video files. Users can create animated stories, newscasts, or nonfiction videos (e.g., about family, friendship, or the community). |
| Train Kit     | Digital manipulation | iPad          | Includes tracks, bridges, tunnels, trains, and scenery that can be combined in multiple ways. Users can explore trains by designing their own digital tracks and viewing their running train from a bird's-eye view and a conductor's view.                                                                                           |

## Reference

Moore, H.C. (2017). "Look what I made!" Open-ended apps that spark creativity. *Young Children*, 72(5),