10 Great Apps For Children With Special Needs

1. Yes/No Answers HD

 A great app for non-verbal people and those with limited communication skills for simply saying 'yes' or' no', or demonstrating a choice between two options. Multiple two-choice page sets can be added and configured with pictures, audio and text as required. A great simple communication app!
Price: $3.99 (£2.47)

2. My Choice Board

 Another communication/choice-making app for people who have limited communication skills. Users can build multiple boards displaying choices of up to six on each screen. More can be added to a board but they will need to be swiped through. Each option can be configured with pictures, audio and text.
Price: $9.99 (£6.99)

3. Scene and Heard

This is a fantastic interactive communication and learning tool. There are too many features to list here but basically you can add interactive hot-spots to an image that will speak, display video or take you to another scene when you touch that area of the screen. This really does need to be checked out!
Price: $49.99 (£34.99) (Lite version is free)

4. Proloquo2go

A full-featured augmentative and alternative communication (AAC) solution for people who have difficulty speaking – and for under £130! Again, this app is packed full of features but in a nut-shell, it offers symbol based communication pages that can be configured for a wide range of abilities. This app has the potential to save people thousands of dollars over a dedicated AAC device.
Price: $189.99 (£129)

5. All About Me

This is a photo album story book and can be a really useful way of collating and displaying important information on someone who has specialist requirements

but no easy way of articulating them. You could create a communication passport for example, detailing personal information such as a medical condition or likes and dislikes to help others understand their needs.
Price: $2.99 (£1.99)

6. Grid Player

The Grid Player allows you to use grid sets created with Sensory Software's PC based software, The Grid 2. I probably use The Grid 2 more than any other piece of software for developing communication and computer control solutions with clients. Simply create an online account and sync your grid sets to the iPad. Unfortunately it doesn't support switch access but is still a great app.
Price: Free

7. Bloom

This is one of my favorite ever apps! Developed by Brian Eno, Bloom offers the most amazing musical and visual sensory experience. It's been around for a couple of years now but still makes my top ten!
Price: $3.99 (£2.49)

8. Cause and Effect Sensory Light Box

Does what it says on the tin really but is a very cool app! There are quite a few of these apps available now such as [Laserlights](#) but this one has 21 different scenes to play around with such as glow worms and fireworks. Fantastic for any age or ability.

Price: $1.99 (£1.49)

9. Puppet Pals Pocket Director

With Pocket Pals you can easily create unique shows with animation and audio by simply picking your actors and backdrops, moving them around and recording sound. Great as a class project or at home as a family activity. It is really quick and easy to use with great results.

Price: $1.99 (£1.49)

10. Flick Kick Football

Okay, there isn't really anything specialist about this one but I thought I better add one for the dads! This app should come with a warning as it is highly addictive! This is probably my favorite ever app. Simply flick or swipe the football into the

back of the net with an increasing amount of defenders in your way as you progress. There are variations on a theme with targets to hit and skill shots to take. It is really easy to play. Great for some healthy family competition time!
Price: Free

Assistive Communication Apps

 AAC Speech Buddy

With AAC Speech Buddy you can create custom PECS Speech Sets at AACSpeech.com and download them to your favorite Android device.
Rating: 4.5 Stars from 4 Reviews
Downloads: Between 100-500
Price: $27.99

 Alexicom AAC for Android

Alexicom AAC lets you use your Android phone or tablet as an augmentative communication device. They offer over 1,200 pre-made pages and over 7,000 images in their public libraries.
Rating: 4.5 Stars from 21 Reviews
Downloads: Between 5,000-10,000
Price: Free

 Gabby Tabs – AAC for Kids

Gabby Tabs is a kid friendly, easy to use and personalize, augmentative alternative communication app that helps and encourages non-verbal children to communicate .
Rating: N/A
Downloads: Between 500-1,000
Price: Free (Pro version available)

 JABTalk

JABtalk is a free speech communication application designed to help non-verbal children and adults communicate. Speech therapists commonly refer to JABtalk as an easy and effective augmentative and alternative communication (AAC) device.
Rating: 4.5 Stars from 31 Reviews
Downloads: Between 5,000-10,000
Price: Free

 AAC speech communicator

AAC speech communicator is an easy to learn communication method for anyone with speech disabilities. The app forms grammatically correct sentences from a list of pictograms that are clicked and reads them (text-to-speech).
Rating: 4 Stars from 8 Reviews
Downloads: Between 1,000-5,000
Price: Free

TapToTalk

TapToTalk turns an Android device into an affordable augmentative and alternative communication (AAC) device. Tap a picture – TapToTalk speaks. Kids think it's fun.
Rating: 4 Stars from 50 Reviews
Downloads: Between 10,000-50,000
Price: Free

Voice4U

Voice4u is an simple application that consists numerous of fun and memorable images that can help assist and improve language.
Rating: 5 Stars from 4 Reviews
Downloads: Between 100-500
Price: $49.99

Quick Talk

Quick Talk AAC is a mobile, simple, and flexible app to use. The app covers basic categories and gives individuals who can not communicate a way to tell others their wants and needs.
Rating: 5 Stars from 7 Reviews
Downloads: Between 100-500
Price: $14.99

Other Special Needs Apps

AutismXpress

Autism Xpress is designed to encourage people with autism to recognize and express their emotions through its fun and easy to use interface.
Category: Social Skills
Rating: 3.5 Stars from 68 Reviews
Downloads: Between 10,000-50,000
Price: Free (Pro version available)

Webteam Apps

Webteam Corporation offers a number of different apps designed and developed to serve children with autism. The apps teach skills such as learning to count, differentiating colors and much more.
Category: Social & Life Skills
Rating: n/a
Downloads: n/a
Prices: Free-$0.99

First Then Visual Schedule

First-Then visual schedule is an affordable user-friendly mobile application designed for caregivers to provide positive behavior support through the use of "visual schedules".
Category: life Skills
Rating: 3 Stars from 4 Reviews

Downloads: Between 100-500
Price: $9.99

 iPrompts – ASD Visual Support

iPrompts, the original app for visual supports, is used by parents, special educators and therapists of those with autism and other developmental delays. iPromts offers visual schedules, countdown timers, choice prompts and more.
Category: Life Skills
Rating: n/a
Downloads: Between 10-50
Price: $9.99

 iReward Chart

iRewardChart makes it easy to reward your children for good behavior and keep them motivated. This app is beneficial for children with and without special needs.
Category: Behavioral
Rating: 4 Stars from 76 Reviews
Downloads: Between 1,000-5,000
Price: $3.99

 Life Skills Winner

Life Skills Winner teaches life and social skills in a interactive way with positive feedback through a mobile device.
Category: Life Skills

Rating: 4 Stars from 6 Reviews
Downloads: Between 1,000-5,000
Price: Free (pro version available)