Supporting Emerging Literacy Skills of SLIFES with Apps
TESOL Baltimore 2016

Beth Amaral
amarale@norwalkps.org

Helene Becker
beckerh@norwalkps.org

Donna Reeves
reevesd@norwalkps.org

ELL Education Department, Norwalk (CT) Public Schools

PHONICS		
	ABC Word Builder	Students build words and sentences using letters, blends and diagraphs, vowel patterns, endings and affixes, word families, and high frequency words.
	Phonics Genius	Helps students recognize and distinguish words by sounds. Over 6,000 professionally recorded words grouped into 225 categories by phonics.
	PBPhonics 1-3	Students hear phonemes that make up a word, hear those phonemes run together to make the word; hear the whole word. They record themselves speaking the word and compare their recording with PBPhonics. Instruction provided through animated gestures. Goes from simple to more complex.
SIGHT WORDS		
	Sight Words by Little Speller	Provides students with an interactive way to learn Dolch sight words. The word is read aloud and students move individual letters to spell the word themselves. The app recites the name of the letter as it is entered into the word.
	Sight Words Ninja	Helps students rapidly learn sight words by sight, sound, and touch.
	Sight Words List	Helps students instantly recognize 315 high frequency words in order to be proficient and fluent readers.
VOCABULARY		
	Bluster	This word matching game develops vocabulary and word understanding; match rhyming words, prefixes and suffixes, synonyms, homophones, adjectives, and more. Includes over 800 vocabulary words.
	Action Words	Focuses on helping students learn new action words by showing photos of actions. Easy to customize and add new concepts (actions, emotions, etc.) in one click. Comes loaded with over 100 action words grouped by level of difficulty.
	Quizlet	Students can access their own sets of flashcards or search for those created and shared by others; accessible without internet connection. Quizlet flashcards can include audio elements in eighteen languages.
	Popplet	Simple tool to capture and organize ideas. Students can jot down ideas and sort them visually. They use Popplet to think and learn visually. By capturing facts, thoughts, and images, students learn to create relationships between them and generate new ideas.
	Homophones	Student is presented with a pair of homophones, and must slide the correct word into the sentence. The sentence is spoken by the app, and a picture appears to help the student understand the sentence. This app allows each student to work at their own level.
	First Food Words - Flashcards	8 different play modes to show the flashcards in a variety of ways. Play modes include image only, word only, flashcard only, word then flashcard, word then image.

		GRAMMAR
	Sentence Maker	Students learn to make and complete their own sentences with the touch of a finger. Get started with 2 word combos or jump straight to 5 word sentences. Turn Tile Magnets ON or OFF from the settings page; the tile magnet automatically snaps letters in their place.
	Read on Sight	A sentence is read aloud, then the word tiles scatter, and the player rebuilds the sentence.
	English Tenses	Students study tenses and do practice tests with 15 sections. A scoring system helps keep track of progress.
		LANGUAGE LEARNING
	Mango Languages	Access to over 60 foreign-language courses and 17 English courses taught in the native language of the user. Incorporates the four key conversational components: vocabulary, pronunciation, grammar, and culture.
	Duolingo	Work through exercises or activities to complete lessons which are part of larger units. Keeps track of progress synchronously across all the places where you can use Duolingo.
	Learn English Vocabulary Pop Quiz	Uses a quiz format to learn vocabulary; students keep playing and automatically learn and discover the meaning of the words they don't recognize on first attempt.
	Mondly	Designed to make learning a language easy and fun, in a low-stress environment. Forty hours of material.
		TEXT-TO-SPEECH/SPEECH-TO-TEXT
	Dragon Dictation	Voice recognition application that allows students to easily speak and instantly see text or email messages. Can also dictate status updates directly to Social Networking applications (Facebook and Twitter) or send notes and reminders to oneself….all using voice.
	Speak it!	Copy emails, documents, web pages, PDF files, and more; paste them into Speak it!, and have the text spoken back with high quality text to speech.
		TRANSLATORS
	Google Translate	Type, speak, or use camera to translate text instantly. Draw with finger as a keyboard alternative; star and save translations for future reference.
	iTranlate	Translate words, phrases, and text between 90 languages. See instant text translations.
	Speak and Translate	Dictate or type text; The app speaks the translation or reads it on the screen.
	Talking Translator	Translate speech into more than 60 languages. Dictate text instead of typing it.