

Using your iPad with your child at home

You can use the tablet as a tool to play interactive games with your child, take turns, create stories together, look at photos etc.

Below are some ideas for apps which you can use to play language games and activities with your child. There are many apps which your child might enjoy using on their own but the ones below can be used in an interactive way.

Many children have difficulty moving onto other activities and can play with the tablet for hours on end. Think about setting limits on time that your child can use it. Here are some ideas for moving on to other activities:

- If you use a **visual timetable** at home, put in several slots for the tablet so that your child understands 'Tablet time' will finish but there will be more opportunity later on.
- Use a **First/Then** board to help your child understand what they are going to do after they finish using the tablet. Make sure you follow tablet time with another motivating activity to help move them on.
- **Set a timer** on the tablet which helps your child understand when their time has finished.

Try to stick to one app at a time

iPads have a feature called Guided Access which allows you to block anyone moving on to another app. This could be useful if you are doing an activity together and want to prevent your child moving to another app that they want to play on their own.

- Go to Settings/Accessibility/Guided Access
- Set a passcode and switch on Guided Access
- When in an app that you want to stay in, press the Home button 3 times, click on Hardware Options and activate the Sleep/Wake Button. Then press start. This means that your child will not be able to return to the home page but will have to stay in the app.
- It is also possible to disable the volume button, touch screen function, or specific parts of the screen.
- Press the home button again 3 times and key in the passcode, then End to finish using this function.



Fun games for the family:

 <p>Double match game: Cost: Free How to use: This app is a fun matching game, where you can play different games. The main game is to try and find a matching item on both your card and your opponents card.</p>	 <p>Charades for Kids Cost: Free How to use: This app is a family game where you select a category and then place the phone on your forehead and guess the word with the help of others who act, sing, or describe clues. If your guess is correct, tilt the phone so the screen faces the floor, if not – tilt the phone so the screen faces the sky.</p>
 <p>Air Hockey Gold Cost: Free How to use: This is a great two player turning taking game in which you select a puck and then the aim of the game is to try and get the puck into the other person's goal.</p>	 <p>Guess the person Cost: Free and £0.99 for premium. How to use: A guessing game app that really helps children to develop a range of different questions in order to find their opponent's character .</p>
 <p>Four in a row Cost: Free (in app purchases) How to use: This app is similar to 'connect 4' where you take it in turns to try and get four coins of your colour in a row (vertical, horizontal, diagonal).</p>	 <p>Monster hunt Cost: Free How to use: This app is a fun memory game where you take it in turns to find a matching pair of monsters.</p>

Listening games and following directions:

 <p>Sound Touch Lite Cost: Free for animals/transport How to use: Hide the ipad under a sheet and press one of the pictures. Ask your child to listen first and then identify the picture. You can take turns doing this.</p>	 <p>Fun with directions Cost: Lite version: £0.69 Full version: £6.99 How to use: This app asks children to follow basic instructions and provides motivating sounds and words when they get it right. If you want to read out the instructions yourself, go to Settings and turn 'on' text and 'off' voice.</p>
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Toca tea party

Cost: £1.99

How to use: Encourage your child to choose toys to sit round the iPad. Ask him/her to serve the tea e.g. "give teddy a cup of tea", "give dolly a piece of chocolate cake." There are special effects such as knocking over a tea cup and mopping it up.



Springo

Cost: £1.99

How to use: Choose a level via 'Quick Start.' It works best to turn down the volume and read out the instruction yourself – encouraging your child to listen and follow. You can change the accent to English. After a few correct answers, they will be rewarded with a part of a rocket; once built, it blasts off into space!

Commenting on what is happening:



My PlayHome

Cost: Lite version free/ £2.49 for full version

How to use: This app has a range of different scenes, each with moveable characters and objects and good sound effects. Move the characters around, comment on what is happening and see if your child does the same. Try giving instructions e.g. "give the Mummy some breakfast" and see if your child can tell you to do something different.



Sago Mini music box

Cost: £1.99

How to use: You can select either a boat or a hot air balloon and each tap on the screen creates music as well as an action e.g. fish appear. It's like commenting on a picture book but your child is essentially in control of where the 'story' goes which makes it extra engaging. A great app to use at home to practise commenting on a story.



VerbswithMilo

Cost: £1.99

How to use: Practise using different actions/verbs. Choose a few actions in the List of Actions menu and talk about each one in turn. You can turn the sound down and wait for your child to talk about the action or you can listen to the word and try and make up a phrase yourselves.



Toca train

Cost: £1.99

How to use: Child can control the speed of the train and this provides lots of opportunities for using basic language. You can use "go", "stop", "faster" "slower" or at a more advanced level try talking about where the train is going and what happens when it stops at a station.

Creating stories:



Story dice- story telling

Cost: Free (in app purchases)

How to use: Choose up to 10

dice at a time, shake the phone and iPad. Think of a story using the symbols on the dice that have landed on. This is a great way to build up fun narratives and focus on using sequential language.



Puppet pals

Cost: free for basic version/ £1.99 to add your own photos

How to use:

Either choose 'actors' from the menu or click on 'Add actor from photo'

Take photos of you, your child and your home. Create a movie about something you have been doing that week.

Make a short movie to show your child and then let them do the talking

Make up a story using photos of your child's favourite toys

Dress up and take photos of yourselves, then make them into a movie that you can show other people



Stop motion

Cost: free (in app purchases)

How to use: This is a great movie

app where it you can create your own stories. You could create stories around the house or even with miniature toy figurines. Encourage your children to make a video and to recall it back.



Imagistory

Cost: Free

How to use: This is a wordless picture book to encourage you and your child to make up a story yourselves.

- Click on Create and choose one of the two free stories available
- You can either fill in your name and take a photo first, or just go to Quiet Read to start the story.
- Talk about what is happening and swipe left to move between pages
- Read the story again and again and use new words each time!

Useful apps for structuring time:



First and then:

Cost: £9.99

How to use:

You can create your own visual schedules using your own photos or add photos from the built in Internet image search feature. You can record your own voice to the images.

*Create as many schedules as you need.

*Change the order of a schedule, anytime!



ASD tools:

Cost: £3.99

How to use:

Choose which visual you want to create – some are more user friendly than others.

Take photos (e.g. of child's chosen reward / how completed task should look) or upload photos from the iPad camera roll. Or use in-app cartoons.

Use consistently with child across settings and tasks.

For reward tool: Click on the palm, click on camera icon, choose an image showing child's chosen reward, name the image and click and drag to square. When the child completes a step, press + to give a coin. When they get 5 coins, they get their reward.



ChoiceBoard-Creator:

Cost: free

How to use: Take photos of activities/ food and encourage your child to make a selection of what they would like to do.

Sand timer:

Cost: free <https://www.online-stopwatch.com/egg-timer-countdown/>

How to use:

When your child is carrying out an activity this is a great visual to help them understand how much time they have left (for work or relaxing time)

Useful apps for social stories and comic strip conversations.



Story creator

Cost: free

How to use: You can use this app for retelling stories of things you have done and places you have been/ creating stories to help with their understanding.

- Click on the + and Add New Story
- Give the story a name and add a photo for the front cover
- Click on Add new page symbol to add new pictures to the story
- Click on the microphone picture to add a recording



Pictello

Cost: £18.99

How to use: This visual story telling app is another story creator where you can make a social story or visual schedule for a child with autism or a slide show of holiday pictures. You can use the included natural-sounding Text to Speech voices, or record your own voice

Each page in a Pictello story consists of a photo or video and some text, which can be read aloud by a Text to Speech voice or your own recorded audio.



Strip designer

Cost: £2.99

How to use: This could be a great way to use comic strip conversations in which you can create comics from beginning to end. You can add speech and thought bubbles to add what people say and may be thinking.



Make Beliefs Comix

How to use: Make Beliefs Comix is a website and iPad app that helps students create comics and build writing skills. It also offers a wealth of resources for teachers and parents to support comic creation and writing instruction.

Ideas for home: Sensory apps for iPads

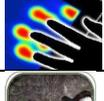
Interactive light/sound apps:



Light Box

£1.50

Over 20 different light/sound cause and effect settings

	Fluidity	FREE	Interactive light sparkly fluid flow
	Fireworks	FREE	Coloured fireworks + sound effects appear when screen touched
	Ibeams Lite	FREE	Interactive light/shapes and water sound effects
	Heat pad Lite	FREE	Colours appear when screen touched plus accompanying music.
	Pocket Pond	FREE	Water rippling and sound effects. Can add fish and other animals.

Cause/effect:

	Balloon Maker	£0.69	Create balloons by touching screen and then pop
	Bubbles	£0.69	Create bubbles by touching screen and then pop
	Talking Tom	FREE	Cat character repeats what sounds you make. Responds to stroking.

Interactive drawing:

	Paint sparkles	FREE	Draw lines and pictures which sparkle and make music.
	Falling Stars	FREE	Creates music by drawing lines

Interactive music:

	Singing Fingers	FREE	Make noise/sing as you draw and when you trace the line again, your sounds are repeated
	Discover Musical Instruments	FREE	Touch whole screen picture of instrument for music
	MusicSparkle	FREE	Press notes on xylophone or press different drums