Apps-olutely Hot Apps for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Students

**Tips:**

**Research** – read user reviews and testimonies before you purchase. Parents and deaf users will often explain the pro’s, con’s and adaptations they made with an App. User ratings – a measurement tool of colored stars. Don’t overlook the number for reviewers and their specific comments if provided:

* Blogs (text) and V-logs (ASL logs) done by deaf and hard of hearing users
	+ Examples: Speak it (<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OBMvQv3hk7U>)
	+ Examples: Captionfish iphone/ipod App( <http://www.alldeaf.com/captioning-sign-language-interpreter/81398-captionfish-app-iphone-ipod-touch.html>) 
	+ “The 10 most useful iphone Apps for the Deaf – by Thomsen Young <http://blog.youngthomsen.com/2011/06/updated-10-most-useful-iphone-apps-for.html>
* Search using a variety of keywords, including: Deaf, deaf, hard of hearing, hearing-impaired, hearing, special education, assistive technology for deaf, etc.

**Contact the developer** - provide feedback. Many developers are small start-up companies or parents looking to solve a need of their own. Developers look for feedback in order to update their product(s).

**Updates** – occur often and many times are free if you have already purchased the initial product.

**Apple Accessibility Built –in’s** include Bluetooth audio, supports for subtitling, open and closed captioned products. Accessibility features also support the creation of movies with captions with additional software also available by Apple.

**Network** – with everyone about the Apps they’ve tried and like. There are so many Apps and so little time to find and try them yourself!

**Apps…**

…for video phone application 

* FaceTime by Apple
* Tango
* Video phone providers as well (Sorenson, Sprint, Purple, I-P Relay)

…to learn sign language (Dictionary)

* iSign – animated images by Aaron Basil $7.99
* ASL by D Technolabs $.99
* Signing Time Lite ASL - free
* Baby Sign Language Dictionary by My Smart Hands - $4.99
* ASL Dictionary by AppSavers.com $2.99

…for reading

* iStoryTime books for deaf children (iStoryTime is part of FrogDogMedia LLC) <http://www.istorytimeapp.com/> First book “Danny the Dragon Meets Jimmy”
* DevelopEase, LLC <http://developease.com/DevelopEase/Products.html> has created several books that include sign language:
	+ “In My Dreams” by DevelopEase, LLC $.99
	+ “5 Pumpkins” by DevelopEase $.99 
	+ Global Roos
	+ Jolly Holiday

…to amplify sound

* SoundAMP by Ginger Labs $4.99

…for speech-to-text

* SpeechTrans Multilanguage speech translator $99
* Dragon Dictation by Nuance Communications - Free
* Speak it! By Future Apps Inc. $1.99
* Vlingo by Intelligent Voice - free, add-ons $9.99 each

\*This handout is not exhaustive but highlights several applications for iPad, iPhone, and iPod products that might be used by deaf and hard of hearing people.

\*\*Android has many Apps for similar features for Droid phones

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