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 [](http://www.google.com/imgres?imgurl=http://www.hanekedesign.com/wp-content/uploads/2011/01/Side-ZVRS.jpg&imgrefurl=http://www.hanekedesign.com/zvrs-selects-haneke-design-for-mobile-application-design-and-development/&usg=__ChZJM4EtmRubKaeYpxU0PF3smKo=&h=472&w=220&sz=62&hl=en&start=32&sig2=anBgSAmViUz-F7txrMAFJQ&zoom=1&tbnid=mQyYSxztAmsewM:&tbnh=176&tbnw=94&ei=PEYCTt7aII650AG9253CDg&prev=/search%3Fq%3Dapps%2Bfor%2Bdeaf%26um%3D1%26hl%3Den%26sa%3DG%26biw%3D1259%26bih%3D879%26tbm%3Disch&um=1&itbs=1&iact=hc&vpx=756&vpy=422&dur=1279&hovh=329&hovw=153&tx=98&ty=187&page=2&ndsp=24&ved=1t:429,r:3,s:32&biw=1259&bih=879)

* 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

\*\*\* Handout produced by Denise Gagnon Perdue, June 2011 for Appsolutely Hot Apps Workshop, Columbia, MD. Contact: [dperdue@umbc.edu](mailto:dperdue@umbc.edu)