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Speech Trainer description

Speech Trainer is an application compatible with the iPhone and the iPad that demonstrates of all the sounds in the English language utilizing realistic 3D animation. Speech Trainer 3D is a tool designed to help individuals to practice every sound in the English language, including vowels and consonants. A detailed 3D animations demonstrates the correct positioning of the tongue, lips, and mouth. Speech Trainer is a great model for children and adults who wish to work on learning to pronounce the English sounds correctly. This app is also a great visual tool for individuals who have suffered a stroke and are relearning speech, children with speech delays, or even as a tool for learning English as a second language.

Speech Trainer 3D demonstrates the sounds in two views: Front and Side View. See examples below:





Speech Trainer uses the International Phonetics Alphabet, which is the best way to represent each sound. Speech Trainer has 30 sounds represented; 23 consonants and 7 vowels.

Speech Trainer 3D was developed by Smarty Ears, LLC under the supervision of a licensed and practicing Speech and Language Pathologist. Smarty Ears has over 26 educational apps all of which have been developed and designed by a certified Speech therapist. For more information please visit our website at <u>www.smartyearsapps.com</u>

You can view a video tutorial of Speech Trainer at http://vimeo.com/24027119

How to use Speech Trainer

As soon as you open Speech Trainer, users will be on the "welcome page". See screenshot of opening screen below:



Users must click play to initiate the intro demo.

Speech Trainer for iPad

Meet Valerie, the virtual Speech-Language Pathologist on your iPad or iPhone

As soon as the user clicks "Play", a virtual Speech Therapist introduces herself.

" Hi, welcome to Speech Trainer 3D. My name is Valerie and I will guide you to practice the sounds in the English language".

Skipping Intro: It is possible to skip intro by taping on the screen while Valerie introduces herself.



Speech Trainer for iPad

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Consonant and Vowels options

Speech Trainer includes 30 sounds: 23 consonants and 7 vowels. In order to access each set simply choose from the main menu options (see below)



The consonants

Speech Trainer includes 32 phonemes. These phonemes are represented by the International Phonetic Alphabet Symbols (IPA).

/p//b//m//w//f//v//θ/ /ð//t//d//s//z//n//l//tʃ//dʒ//ŋ//r//j/ /k//g//ʒ//h//ʃ/

Speech Trainer for iPad

In order to access all the consonants or vowels on Speech Trainer, just slide finger to the left on the screen (See representation below).



Speech Trainer for iPad

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Switching between the three views: Side, front, examples

Speech Trainer includes three modes:

Front view: Animation of a little boy from the front view will demonstrate how to pronounce selected phoneme.

Side view : Side view of the anatomy of the mouth will demonstrate how to pronounce selected phoneme.

Examples of each sound/phoneme: On top of this page, a vowel or consonant menu will appear depending on the phoneme menu you are using. In the middle of the page, Valerie, a speech bubble and the play button will appear. The play button will playback what is in the speech bubble.

In order to switch between these views just access the menu located on the bottom of the screen:



Front view

Side View

Examples

Playing the animations

In order to play the animations, click on the "play" button located on each screen:



Front view

Side View

Examples

Step by step guide for each sound

Speech trainer includes a step by step guide on the production of each sound/phoneme. The step by step guides are located on the side view screens for each phoneme.



In order to access the steps, click on the "steps button"



When the "steps button" is pressed the steps are announced by Valerie, in order to go to the next step tap the button again. When the steps are announced, the areas are highlighted providing an additional visual information.





Speech Trainer for iPad

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Using the iPad 2/iPhone 4 front camera for visual feedback

In order to activate the iPad 2 or iPhone 4 front camera, users must rotate the iPad to landscape mode. See example below:



Using the front camera on the device can help children compare their production with the avatar's production. Visual feedback have shown to help children improve their speech development.

About the developer

Smarty Ears was founded in December of 2009 by Barbara Fernandes, a practicing Speech-Language Pathologist certified by the American Speech and Hearing Association. Smarty Ears was the first company to create apps geared towards speech therapy for mobile devices such as the iPad. Smarty Ears' first application, called Mobile Articulation Probes(name changed to Smarty Speech in 2011) was released in January of 2010 and it has helped many speech therapists to make sessions more dynamic and engaging.

Fourteen month later, Smarty Ears has created over 40 applications for children with speech and language delays and disorders such as Stuttering, articulation delays, autism, down syndrome, and language disorders. Our goal is to provide the best tools that engage every children to learn, develop appropriate communication skills and become better communicators.

The Smarty Ears team believes technology can help parents and speech therapists improve the communication skills of children with speech and language difficulties. Smarty Ears brought to the world a whole new concept of how children will practice their skills. Speech Therapists many times use materials that are not current with what children experience at home. Technology is everywhere, how can we expect children to engage in worksheets and paper flashcards.

The new technology enabled us to deliver fun apps that can be used by parents, teacher and therapists all with one goal: help to meet the needs of every student with special needs. Several of our applications bring solutions that are not only much more affordable to parents, teachers and school districts but are also very intuitive and easy to customize. This way we know everyone will be able to use it.

We are constantly working on various applications that will benefit speech therapists, parents of children with communication disorders, as well as those with a communication difficulty themselves, in a variety of languages.



All the apps you will ever need in one place.

Over 27 apps for Special Education, Speech Pathologists & Teachers.



Articulate it! Speech Trainer Fluency Tracker Caseload Tracker SLP Goal Bank Preposition Remix Expressive R intensive SLP and more... App Store www.smartyearsapps.com