SignWriting Symposium 2014

Presentation 21

ABSTRACT

**"SignWriting App:
A Useful Educational Tool"**

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The SignWriting App was designed as an educational tool to help students, teachers, parents, and therapists teach SignWriting. The app allows the ability for the user to test their knowledge of SignWriting through quizzes and practice flash cards. Currently, in the iTunes App store, there is one app that will help students learn the SignWriting language; however, it requires Wi-Fi for use making the area of use limited. This app allows the user complete access to the app once it has been initially downloaded, allowing it to be a fun game, which can be played in the car, on a train or on an airplane. Through this app, students will be able to perfect their skill for SignWriting.

The SignWriting App was a collaborative project with input from Adam Frost, Valerie Sutton, Stephen Slevinski, and Elena Eroshkin. There are thirteen categories for the user to choose from, they include: Alphabet, Animals, Bedtime, Clothes, Color, Family, Feelings, Food, Money, Numbers, Places, Time, and Weather. Within each of these categories, there are individual flash cards, which show an image of the word, the actual word written in SignWriting, and the equivalent English word for

the image. These flash cards are presented in the form of a carousel, so the user can easily flip through them and learn the SignWriting equivalent of the English word. There are over 180 individual flash cards available to the user, covering a basic set of words for communication.

Within the SignWriting App there is a quiz, which allows the user to test their knowledge of SignWriting, and can also be used as a learning tool for SignWriting. The quiz has a timer, which times the user on their speed of response. The quiz also acknowledges correct and incorrect answers by a color notation and animated movement of the word the user taps on: green and still for correct, red and movement for incorrect. After the user completes five responses, the user will receive their total score and be prompted to play again or quit the quiz.

The user can easily share the SignWriting App from the "More" screen as well as learn about the app, SignWriting, and the development team. Useful links to SignWriting.org, SignWriting List Forum, SignPuddle.com, SingBank.org, and MovementWriting.org are within the app.

The app has been downloaded by over 1000 users worldwide and continues to be downloaded on a daily basis. If you are interested in downloading this free app it is available at: SignWriting: https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/signwriting/id680908316?ls=1&mt=8 For more information about the app or the developer of the app please contact: Jake Chasan (http://jakechasan.com).