

Free Auditory Training Apps for Children with Hearing Loss

This compendium provides information about many free auditory training apps appropriate for use with children with hearing loss. The child's auditory training goals and skill levels **must** be considered prior to recommending an app. See page 3 for a complete table detailing all reviewed apps and their categorical rankings.

Overall Highest Ranked Apps

These apps received the highest overall rankings.

Games 4 Hearoes

Comprehensive training app with five modules consisting of different stimuli/complexity, from environmental sounds to phonemes



Bitsboard

Downloadable flashcards with different themes, allowing for different games to be played, including matching and rhyming



ABC Magic Phonics 5

Listen to a sound and then drag it to the matching picture, with or without visual cues



Category Therapy Lite

Listen to the name of a category and touch the picture of an item in that category, or vice versa, or choose one that does not belong



Meludia Melody

Listen to sounds from a chosen musical instrument and play the pattern back



Phonics Awareness

Set of phonics exercises including segmenting words, choosing what you hear between two words, etc.



Best Apps for Varying Difficulty

These apps are able to have difficulty varied on more than one dimension.

Bitsboard

Downloadable flashcards with different themes, allowing for different games to be played, including matching and rhyming



Games 4 Hearoes

Comprehensive training app with five modules consisting of different stimuli/complexity, from environmental sounds to phonemes



Melodic Contour Identification

Listen to a melody and choose the representative piano notes



Meludia Melody

Listen to sounds from a chosen musical instrument and play the pattern back



Apps to Train 3+ Skills

These apps train 3–4 auditory skills.

BabyBeats

Early intervention resource that requires a lot of parent involvement to train a variety of skills



Bitsboard

Downloadable flashcards with different themes, allowing for different games to be played, including matching and rhyming



Games 4 Hearoes

Comprehensive training app with five modules consisting of different stimuli/complexity, from environmental sounds to phonemes



Apps with Clear Instructions

These apps have clearly stated, understandable instructions.

ABC Magic Phonics 5

Listen to a sound and then drag it to the matching picture, with or without visual cues



BabyBeats

Early intervention resource that requires a lot of parent involvement to train a variety of skills



Category Therapy Lite

Listen to the name of a category and touch the picture of an item in that category, or vice versa, or choose one that does not belong



Games 4 Hearoes

Comprehensive training app with five modules consisting of different stimuli/complexity, from environmental sounds to phonemes



Hear Coach

Games with activities such as putting sounds together, identifying words, and typing a string of numbers



Meludia Melody

Listen to sounds from a chosen musical instrument and play the pattern back



Phonics Awareness

Set of phonics exercises including segmenting words, choosing what you hear between two words, etc.



Frequently Asked Questions

How were the apps found?

A list of apps used for auditory training that are available for iPhone was obtained from the "Listening Therapy" section of a spreadsheet created by Childress (2020). A search of the Apple app store was also performed to find all free auditory training apps listed by major device manufacturers.

How many apps were included?

Ultimately, 17 apps met the inclusion criteria of being free and available for iPhone.

Why were only free apps included?

By ensuring that all apps reviewed are free, healthcare inequities related to cost are limited. Apps are therefore more accessible and more likely to be used.

How was the rubric created?

The rubric was created to review and categorize apps with respect to important features. adapted from the work of Olson (2015) who reviewed auditory training apps for adults. Of the five categories, two were adapted from the work of Olson (2015) and three were adapted from Tye-Murray (2015) to ensure that apps incorporated relevant evidence-based principles of auditory training (AT).

What were the rubric categories?

Apps were ranked on a scale of 1–3 in five categories:

Clarity of Visual Layout

The highest ranked apps had legible fonts, were well organized, and were visually appealing. Most reviewed apps ranked highest in this category, so it is not included on the previous page.

Need for Instruction to Operate App

The highest ranked apps do not require any training to be operated. Most reviewed apps ranked highest in this category, so it is not included on the previous page.

Clarity of Instructions

The highest ranked apps had overall directions provided that were clearly stated and understandable.


















Incorporation of Relevant Evidence-Based AT Principles: Skills

The highest ranked apps train 3–4 different auditory training skills.

Incorporation of Relevant Evidence-Based AT Principles: Difficulty

The highest ranked apps are able to have difficulty varied on more than one dimension within the app.

Full Table of Apps and Rankings

App Name	Clarity of Visual Layout	Clarity of Instructions	Need for Instruction	Skills	Difficulty	Overall Score	QR Code
A+ Spelling Test	3	1	3	1	1	9	
ABC MAGIC PHONICS 5	3	3	3	2	2	13	
BabyBeats	3	3	1	3	1	11	
BitsBoard	3	2	3	3	3	14	
Category Therapy Lite	3	3	3	2	2	13	
Farm Animals	3	2	3	1	2	11	
Games 4 Hearoes	3	3	3	3	3	15	
Hear Coach	3	3	3	1	2	12	
i-Angel Sound	2	1	3	1	1	8	
Learn English with Lingo Arcade	3	1	3	1	2	10	
Little Finder	3	1	3	1	2	10	
Little Matchups ABC	3	1	3	2	2	11	
Melodic Contour Identification	2	2	3	1	3	11	
Meludia Melody	3	3	3	1	3	13	
Phonics Awareness	3	3	3	2	2	13	
Sight Words by Photo Touch	3	1	3	1	2	10	
Touch and Learn-ABC Alphabet and 123 Numbers	3	1	3	1	1	9	

Questions? Contact Samantha Schneider at samantha_m_schneider@rush.edu