

App Ed Review is a searchable database of educational app reviews designed to support classroom teachers in finding and using apps with their students. For each app reviewed and indexed in its database, App Ed Review provides:

- ★ An original app description written by teachers, not app developers;
- ★ A comprehensive evaluation of the app using a 24-point rubric;
- ★ 3-5 instructional ideas for how teachers can use the app in their classroom;
- ★ Screenshots of the app that make previewing it easy; and,
- ★ Recommendations for additional apps that may interest teachers.

By providing original app descriptions, teachers will know what they can expect when they use the app in their classroom. Unlike the App Store or Google Play that use app descriptions to “sell” apps, App Ed Review’s descriptions are intended to be informative and explanatory. Unlike the five-star rating systems that are limited in differentiating why an app earned three stars opposed to two or four stars, App Ed Review’s comprehensive rubric pinpoints an app’s strengths and shortcomings. This information supports teachers in deciding if they want to invest their time in the app or find a different one. The instructional ideas included in each review provide teachers with strategies and methods for how they can use the app immediately in their classroom and integrate the app into their already developed lessons. Screenshots are visual representations of the app that teachers can preview to envision what the app will look like before spending time downloading and testing it. These screenshots let teachers see how the app is organized and if it could be useful to them. Finally, the app recommendations allow teachers to quickly scan for other apps that are similar to the ones they sought when they first conducted their search. Providing teachers with this information supports the integration of apps into their already existing teaching practices.



Why App Ed Review

Currently, a small number of similar databases exist; however, App Ed Review provides a significantly higher level of information. The rubric used by App Ed Review has been vetted by the Journal of Instructional Technology Education and will be published this year. Plus, the framework App Ed Review uses to organize its app has been published by the Contemporary Issues in Teaching and Technology Education journal, and App Ed Review has appeared in the Technology Horizons Education magazine. No other educational app resource has produced research in the field. Additionally, App Ed Review is guided by its Board of Advisors, which is comprised of leaders in the field of instructional technology from across the nation. These credentials help certify App Ed Review as the leading resource for using educational apps.

To access App Ed Review, individuals must subscribe for a \$5 monthly fee, which can be cancelled anytime, and schools can subscribe for a \$500 annual fee. By subscribing, individuals will be able to use App Ed Review’s services that include:

- An organizational framework for indexing apps that is teacher-friendly;
- Original app descriptions written by teachers, not app developers;
- A comprehensive 24-point rubric for evaluating apps for instruction;
- 3-5 instructional ideas for using each app that was reviewed;
- A cross-platform interface that allows access to App Ed Review’s content from its website or app; and,
- A quarterly e-publication titled The App Teacher that features research, commentary, and innovative uses for educational apps.

Additionally, new app reviews are posted weekly and app developers are never able to influence its app review.