

ABC SPELLING MAGIC 1 Short Vowel Words for iOS by Preschool University

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Preschool University today introduces ABC SPELLING MAGIC 1 Short Vowel Words Deluxe for iOS, which provides practice in building and "spelling" 3-letter words. Designed to enhance phonological awareness, the app employs interactive sounds, pictures, and letters. Each letter and picture has its corresponding sound. In the Word Building mode kids are provided with only the required letters to build words, while in the Movable Alphabet mode, they must select from the entire alphabet to build words.

Minneapolis, Minnesota - Preschool University today is pleased to introduce ABC SPELLING MAGIC 1 Short Vowel Words Deluxe for iOS, which provides practice in reading 3-letter CVC (Consonant-Vowel-Consonant) words with over 200 examples. Designed to enhance the phonological awareness that is the key to reading mastery through learning games, the app employs interactive sounds, pictures, and letters. Kids drag letters into a line to correctly spell words. There are two modes of play: Word Building, where students are provided with only the required letters, and Movable Alphabet, where they must select letters from the entire alphabet. Ideal for helping young learners master the relationship between letter sounds, word sounds, and correct spelling.

ABC SPELLING MAGIC 1 opens with an operations window, where users can check Word Building mode or Movable Alphabet mode. There is also a setting icon which gives users a variety of options including; Letter Sounds On/Off, Letter Hints On/Off, Font Style, Font Color, Male/Female voice, Completion Sound choice, and the special Link Letter option for making the letters come together at the end. After selecting either the Word Building mode or Movable Alphabet mode, kids can choose from one of seven categories on one menu organized by vowels or scroll over to choose from one of 10 different categories of words: actions, animals, children, food, home, objects, outdoors, people, work, and a random mix.

In both modes of play, the color photo occupies the center of the screen that is in landscape orientation. At the bottom of the screen are three or four empty white windows shaped like playing cards. In the Word Building mode, the number of letters on movable, card-shaped placards is the same as the number of empty white windows. Players drag the floating tiles down below to their correct positions. In the Movable Alphabet mode, players must drag down letters from the alphabet. At any time, players can touch the photo, placard, or letter to hear its sound or word aloud. When the letter is placed correctly, it stays in the square, and when placed incorrectly, it is ejected. There are no points, timers, nor rewards. Upon completion of a word, the child is gently prompted to proceed to the next puzzle.

Though the title of the app mentions spelling, ABC SPELLING MAGIC 1 focuses more on segmenting. Segmenting is "spelling" words using the sounds of the letters rather than the names of the letters. Segmenting is one of the most important skills children need for successful spelling, reading and writing, "The best predictor of reading difficulty in kindergarten or first grade is the inability to segment words and syllables into constituent sound units (phonemic awareness)." (Lyon, 1995).

Feature Highlights:

- * Word Building Mode for beginning word building
- * Movable Alphabet Mode for more advanced word building
- * Touch a letter to hear its sound aloud
- * Touch a picture to hear it identified aloud
- * Choose from a male or female voice
- * Choose from two different letter coloring styles
- * Choose from three different font choices

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- * Choose the completion sound
- * Special Letter Linking option brings letters closer at the end

As with all the educational apps from Preschool University, ABC SPELLING MAGIC 1 is well conceived pedagogically, and equally well realized as an interactive, touch sensitive app. The touch activated features of the app make it easy for children to identify ambiguous pictures or unusual words. The pictures, when tapped, will always say the sound of the word that the app is asking the user to build. Developer Richard Colombini states that, "The purpose of this app is to provide many opportunities for practicing building CVC words. To make this happen, some words are used that are not common to everyday speaking. This can be an opportunity to build vocabulary."

A team of educators using accelerated learning techniques and Montessori principles developed this fun app, which your child will enjoy using as they learn," stated Richard Colombini of Preschool University. "It has been tested and successfully used with preschoolers. The free version of this app has had almost 200,000 downloads.

Device Requirements:

- * iPhone 3GS/4/4S/5, iPod touch (3rd/4th/5th generation), and iPad
- * Universal app optimized for display on all iOS devices
- * Requires iOS 5.0 or later
- * 118 MB

Pricing and Availability:

ABC SPELLING MAGIC 1 Short Vowel Words Deluxe 1.0 is \$0.99 (USD) and available worldwide

exclusively through the App Store in the Education category. Review copies are available on request. ABC SPELLING MAGIC 1 Short Vowel Words Sampler is available free.

ABC READING MAGIC 1 Short Vowel Words Deluxe 1.0 :

<http://preschoolu.com/iPhone-iPad-Apps.html>

Purchase and Download:

<https://itunes.apple.com/app/abc-spelling-magic-1-short/id598792571>

YouTube Video:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JgipKk8H9Os>

Screenshot 1:

<http://www.preschoolu.com/images/SM1-screenshot.png>

App Icon:

<http://www.preschoolu.com/images/SM1-175.png>

Based in Minneapolis, Minnesota, Preschool University's mission is to create and promote excellent reading materials and high quality learning tools for children. Established in 2010, Preschool University is an accumulation of over 20 years of experience and success in child reading development. It began as a promise by Montessori preschool owner and lead teacher, Richard Colombini, to prospective parents. The promise: "All Kindergartners Are Guaranteed To Read" The company currently offers 22 free educational apps in the iOS App Store and 6 free apps in the Mac Store. Copyright (C) 2010-2013 Preschool University All Rights Reserved. Apple, the Apple logo, iPhone, iPod and iPad are registered trademarks of Apple Inc. in the U.S. and/or other countries. Other

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