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CRITICAL EVALUATION OF A CONTENT-BASED IPAD/IPOD APP

©2011-2015 Kathleen Schrock (kathy@kathyschrock.net)iPads for Teaching site: <http://ipads4teaching.net>What is the title of the app? Theta Music Trainer Cost: Free Size of app (MB) 55.3 MBCreator of the app Theta Music Technologies, Inc. iTunes URL: <https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/theta-music-trainer/id791698217?mt=8>Content area(s): Music Education Grade level(s): All

CONTENT AND COMPONENTS OF THE APP	YES	NO	N/A
Curriculum connection: Are the skills reinforced connected to targeted skill/concept?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Authenticity: Are skills practiced in an authentic format/problem-based environment?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Feedback: Is feedback specific and result in improved student performance?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Differentiation: Does the app offers flexibility to alter settings to meet student needs?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
User friendliness: Can students launch and navigate within the app independently?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Student motivation: Are students motivated to use the app and select it to use often?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reporting: Is assessment/summary data available electronically to the student/teacher?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sound: Does the music/sound in the app add to the educational aspects of the content?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Instructions: Are the instructions included helpful and the correct reading level for the student?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Support page: Does the app's supporting Web page provide additional useful information?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Navigation: Does the app use the touchscreen effectively throughout its use?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Modalities: Are multiple versions of instructions such as text video, and audio, included?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Level(s) of Bloom's Taxonomy addressed with this app (check all that apply)

☒ Remembering
 ☒ Understanding
 ☒ Applying
 ☒ Analyzing
 ☒ Evaluating
 ☐ Creating

What CCSS or state/local standard(s) can this app address?

Oklahoma PASS 1 and 3

NAfME 2014 Standards

Summary of the app

Using the data you have collected above, explain why you would or would not recommend this application for use in the classroom. Include any specific ideas you have for its use.

This is an excellent ear training app. The activities are levelled, gamified, and easily understood. Much can be accomplished with the free version. Subscription purchases are available for individuals, studio teachers, and classroom educators (\$50-\$199, depending on the number of students). With subscription purchase, teachers can establish a classroom and receive feedback on student performance. A corresponding site is available online, and the app is available for iOS devices, making it an excellent resource for use in classrooms in which a variety of devices are available. Headphones will be necessary if students are working independently in close proximity to each other. It was updated August, 2016. It has not received enough ratings on the app store to display an average for the current version.

iTunes Application Ratings

(click on ratings while in the App Store to learn more)

4+

☒

9+

☐

12+

☐

17+

☐