Reading Books on I Phone Jule Ann Lieberman EZ2C Foundation February 29, 2012 CSUN 2012

Introduction

- Portable Productivity on devices such as phones and tablets has grown in popularity dramatically over past several years.
- Our reading tasks can be included in this portable access as well.
- Focus on this session is on some of the most popular "Aps" used for reading on I devices.

Aps and Device Used

- The Aps discussed can be purchased and downloaded through the App Store on devices such as the iPad, iTouch and the iPhone.
- For purposes of discussion today I have focused on my iPhone 4 purchased last June. Now operating with the latest OS 5.
- I will discuss both narrated (human recorded) and text to speech books. Resources while using access of Voice Over speech on the iPhone.

Three Groups of Aps

- Three Groups of Aps:
 - -I will divide the Aps into two main groups:
 - Group A: Commercial Mainstream Apps/Resources
 - Group B: Disability Apps requiring membership and qualification
 - C. DAISY Only Apps

Group A: Commercial Aps

- Group A: Commercial/Mainstream Aps
- Narrated Books

Audible App from iTunes



Audible

- This app is very accessible with Voice Over
- Searching and purchasing has become more cumbersome with most recent app changes. I found it easier to search for titles using my computer, adding them to library and then downloading through App on the phone.
- Once you have made your purchase you have your book in the link "My Library" which is found within the App.
- You will need to set up the App to your audible account, with account name and password.

Downloading Audible to iPhone

- Opening the App, you can select from several tabs; one of which is your library. Here, you can choose from Downloaded or Not Downloaded. Recent and Longer ago.
- Audible books of large sizes come in parts and will require you to download multiple parts of books at times.
- Download process takes seconds with high speed WiFi connection for best results.

Reading with Audible

 Reading the book has very accessible controls, all spoken with Voice Over including sleep timer, chapter navigation, rewind, fast forward and book mark as well as others.

Audio Books



Audio Books

- This App allows you to browse and purchase recorded books.
- Titles did not seem as vast as the previously mentioned App.
- Download process was straight forward and seemed more like a music download.
- Playback is more reminiscent of the playback controls of the music player and does not have the same options as described above.

iBooks



iBooks

- The iBooks Ap is the text version of books you can purchase through the iBook Store (an iTunes Store App)
- These books are print only, but read with text to speech very well with Voice Over using the iBook App.
- Font changes and enhancements are also possible for low vision readers.

Searching for Books with iBooks

- Browsing and searching the iBook store is relatively simple on the iPhone itself, using the search field and scrolling through the search results.
- Purchasing and downloading requires you to enter your iTunes password, and after this the book will be downloaded into the library in the iBooks App

Reading the iBook

- The page navigation, chapter navigation, and book marks are possible but take some time to get used to with the gesture commands.
- Reading is continuous from page to page once Voice Over starts.

OverDrive



Overdrive

 Overdrive is a resource to borrow library books from regional libraries. They can be either e-books (electronic text) or audio books.

Browsing Titles with Overdrive

- Browsing the titles takes some practice, and has a few options for types of downloads:
 - Adobe (e text print)
 - Overdrive Mp3 (recorded)
 - Pub (e text)
- These various formats have limited titles in their collections available for download, and libraries have limited numbers of each title that they offer at one time.
- Browsing the lists I found many titles with Zero availability and many on waiting list in both Adobe and Overdrive MP3.
- This means either that the libraries are either not carrying enough of the books or they have a larger demand than they expect.

Checking Out an Overdrive Library Book

- Selecting and adding the books to the e-cart for checkout worked best using the keyboard to locate the cascading buttons to activate with the double tap.
- Adobe book required me to authorize its use by registering a user name with Adobe, which was an extra step that was annoying, but successful.

Reading the Overdrive Library Book

- Reading the Adobe book is similar to the iBook without some of the ease of the continuous reading. Navigation is possible but pages must be "turned" or moved to at end of each page which is more difficult compared to iBook.
- The Overdrive MP3 book was opened and began reading very easily in the music player much like previously described in the Audio books.

Google Books



Google Books

- Google Books is a repository of e-pub books which is an eprint text.
- Many classic titles are free for download
- Searching the Google Bookstore can while away many hours.
- Once you set up an account, you can access and download titles and retrieve them through the App on the iPhone.
- Much like described in audible, you will need to set up your user account settings in the Google Books App, but only once.
- As in audible, the collection and searching features are easier to perform on a computer and then adding them to your library.

Group B: Disability Aps with Memberships Qualifications

Learning Ally (Formerly Recording for The Blind and Dyslexic)

- launched its App this summer.
- It does not function as a browse and search the collection, rather as a playback of content transferred from computer to iPhone.
- You will need to set up your membership log-in ID information on the iPhone to allow the material to be opened, but only once.
- To transfer titles you have purchased from Learning Ally, you need to use the iTunes software on your computer.
- After connecting your iPhone to your computer and selecting the iPhone, you will need to choose file transfer.
- Here you will find the Apps that will allow file transfer which include Learning Ally.
- The transfer process takes a few tries to get the hang of it, but once transferred on the i phone the access and reading is very good.

Reading Learning Ally Books on iPhone

- The playback controls are very well marked and Voice Over reads them all. All the DAISY navigation features have been included making it comparable to digital talking book players.
- A user manual is available from Learning Ally and there is a help option within the App for support.

Read2Go Bookshare



Read2Go BookShare

- These books are DAISY text only books but include their own text to speech engine.
- This means that you can choose not to use Voice Over to read but instead have Bookshare voices read the text.
- Font enhancements, tracking and color displays are also included in this reading experience.

Searching for Books with Read2Go

 Searching the collection is an option, but I found it difficult to obtain the results as easily found at the website.

Searching, Download, and Transfer with Read2Go

- On the iPhone:
- You can search either from your iPhone and download directly.
- Or you can search the BookShare website and save the books to transfer from your computer.
- Transfer is similar to that of Learning Ally through the iTunes software File Manager.
- You will need to set up all your membership information to allow content transferred to iPhone to be opened, but only once.
- The Book Shelf on the iPhone is easily navigated.
- The on-board user manual and help is very complete.

GROUP C: DAISY Only Aps InDaisy

InDaisy \$19.99 :

- allows for reading of DAISY text content with included speech and font enhancements
- Add books allows direct browsing to BookShare content and download, other content needs to be transferred by file transfer through iTunes and your computer.
- Speech rate and font sizes easily changed
- Book shelf and book content easily navigated.
- Edit/remove titles from book shelf quite easy.
- List many DAISY formats including NFB newsline; have yet to research effectiveness and ease of various types.

InDaisy



Group C DAISY Only Aps Daisy Worm

DAISYWorm \$.99 :

- This ap provides all the navigation features of DAISY content sent to device through file transfer in iTunes.
- Found it very difficult to find content that would appear in book list. Tried several titles that transferred with other Apps but failed to transfer and appear in list.
- Further research is needed to evaluate reading and navigation.

DaisyWorm



SUMMARY

- 1. There are many resources both commercial, and proprietary that will allow access to books on an I Phone/ I pad.
- 2. Both audio (narrated) books and text to speech options are available.
- 3. Searching through Ap browser for content varies with Ap, some work best through a combination of searching and adding to virtual library for download through Ap.
- 4. Ease of transfer, book shelf and book navigation varies although each Ap had at least a minimal rewind/forward capability.
- 5. Some text to speech Aps provide speech synthesis others rely on voice Over. All had limited options of voices and pitch.
- 6. Aps that included font enhancements included tracking of spoken text and multiple options for font sizes and options for font styles. Background and foreground color was more flexible in BookShare than in other Aps.

Aps Reviewed

- 1. Audible
- 2. Audio books
- 3. DaisyWorm
- 4. Google Books
 - 5. iBooks
 - 6. InDaisy
 - 7. Learning Ally
 - 8. Overdrive
 - 9. Read2Go

THANK YOU

Thank you all for your attention! I Hope you Can find Even More Ways To Keep Reading! Jule Ann

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