

Digital Picks

From your Elementary Library
Media Specialists

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Please enjoy this month's educational, informational, and entertaining websites and apps—"digital picks"--selected by the Elementary Library Media Specialists for the families of the Grosse Pointe Public Schools. We hope you find our reviews helpful, and welcome your suggestions.



Let's Read allows you to create personalized picture book experiences for your kids by the people who love them the most! Let's Read provides a fun, easy way to record video & audio narrations for your kids. The app synchronizes your video/audio recordings with the illustrations from an award-winning collection of picture books. Let's Read was originally conceived by a media researcher to create healthy screen-time that children would love to play. Imagine your child with his/her own digital bookshelf filled with personalized stories recorded just for her by mom and dad, aunts, uncles, grandparents and even family friends too! Age 4+. Available for iPhone and iPad. Cost is FREE.



The Infinite Arcade by Tinybop. Make and play your own games! Share them with friends! Make platformer games, adventure games, pinball games, ball and paddle games, text puzzlers, and mazes. Create your own characters! Make games with zombie mobs, hot lava, disco bricks, crystal geysers, trampoline tiles, oil slicks, wandering stars, and more. So many parts to create your games with! Infinite Arcade is a game construction kit. It's the fourth app in Tinybop's Digital Toys series which includes the iPad App of the Year, The Robot Factory. Digital Toys apps are designed to let kids create anything they can imagine. Age 4+. Available for iPhone and iPad. Cost is \$2.99.



Hoopa City 2 starts out slowly, with green grass, a blue sky, and a short strip of road. As kids explore, tap, and build a few roads, other building tools are added, two at a time, until kids can build with love, money, energy, roads, bricks, water, and nature as well as remove what they build with a shovel. Each tool, used alone, builds something distinct -- bricks build houses; love builds hospitals -- but the tools can be combined to build a variety of buildings. Kids explore and discover just what can be built and create a whole world. For kids, simply creating their own little worlds is certainly entertaining and valuable play, but Hoopa City becomes mind-blowingly fun as kids figure out all the building possibilities. It's even better -- and more exciting for them -- that they get to discover it on their own. Age 5+. Available for iOS devices and Android. Cost \$3.99.

Elementary Library Media Specialists

- Danielle Gostomski
- Amy Hermon
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