

# More Apps You Can Use with School

In this online extra, I've included an expanded list, still broken down by approximate grade level, of terrific apps that are great for learning some of the same concepts you'll need to master in school.

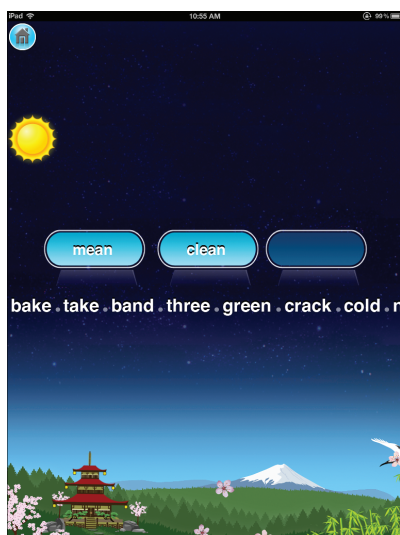
## Using Your iPad in Fourth Grade

### Expand Your Vocabulary with Bluster

**Cost:** Free

A big part of most fourth-grade English classes is expanding your vocabulary—the words you use to communicate with people. With a bigger vocabulary, you'll be able to speak and write better. You're at an age where you'll really start to see your ability to use language expand.

Bluster makes learning new vocabulary words fun and helps you discover what words that don't look anything alike are pronounced the same way (such as *filet* and *delay*). It's a game that you can play by yourself or with your friends (or against them), where you have to match words, prefixes, suffixes, adjectives, synonyms, and other kinds of words. It includes over 800 words to help you master the language.



## Find Hidden Words in WordSearch

**Cost:** \$0.99

Improving in English doesn't have to be all hard work; it can be a lot of fun, too. One of the ways is to build your vocabulary and familiarity with language through games.

If you like word games, then WordSearch could be just the game for you. It's the iPad version of those little books of word-finder puzzles, where you have a list of words to find inside a jumble of letters. In this app, you can play against the clock, add your own words to puzzles, and much more.



## Race to Space in KosmicMath 4th Grade HD

**Cost:** \$2.99

Do you love space, planets, and galaxies? Then you know you need math if you want to study them—or maybe even visit them one day!

Kosmic Math 4th Grade HD helps you learn math and dream about space at the same time. It puts math quizzes designed for fourth graders over a background of pictures taken by NASA so you can learn math while keeping the stars in mind. You can get stats and graphs of your scores to help you track your improvement.



## Make Math Fun with Match-Up Math

**Cost:** \$2.99

One of the interesting things about math is that it gives you many ways to arrive at the same solution. For instance,  $3+4=7$ , but so does  $12-5$ . Learning to recognize that there are many ways to get to the same outcome is important to moving on to more complicated problems.

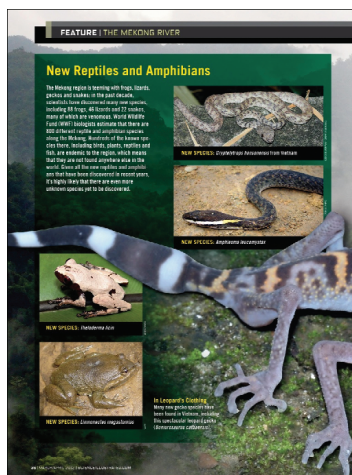
Match-Up Math combines a fun puzzle game with helping you learn math. Each screen shows you a group of tiles with math problems on them. When you find two that equal the same result (even if the problems are different), match them. When you match all the problems, you're on your way to the next level!

## Find the Cutting Edge in Science Illustrated Magazine

**Cost:** Free (issues and subscriptions are \$3.99-\$14.99)

One of the most exciting things about science is that it never stands still. Scientists regularly announce new discoveries and increase our knowledge about how all kinds of things work. If you want to keep up to date on the latest breakthroughs, you need to read.

This app is for the magazine *Science Illustrated* and is a great source for the latest science (if you don't know how to get magazines from your iPad, check out "Buying Magazines or Newspapers with Newsstand" in Chapter 9, "Hitting the Books: eBooks and iBooks"). With it, you can read the latest issue of this magazine, which covers science from technology to nature to the environment.



## Math and Science Meet in Soundrop

**Cost:** Free (\$1.99 upgrade to Pro version)

Music and science may be different classes at school, but they're actually not such different topics. To understand how music works, you need math. To understand how sound works, you need science. Knowing about one can help you learn more about another.

Soundrop combines geometry with sound to let you create music by drawing simple lines. The lines you create—each colored line makes the noise of a different instrument—are influenced by gravity, friction, and so on. This way, you'll learn about how different scientific principles work while making beautiful music.

## Test Your Knowledge with Order Up U.S. History

**Cost:** \$0.99

Learning any topic, including history, isn't just about reading books, looking at photos and paintings, or memorizing dates. Sometimes it's about testing your knowledge to see what you do and don't know. And there's nothing wrong with not knowing; I often learn the most by getting things wrong.

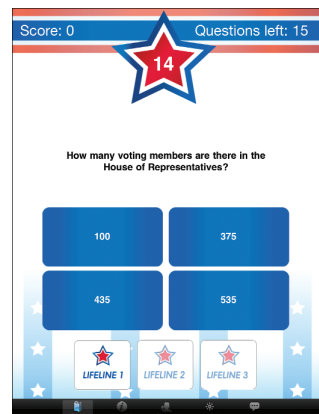
A lot like American History Time Line, this quiz game helps you study specific periods in American history, such as the Civil War and World War II, by asking you to arrange important events into the correct order. Start with just a couple of events and work your way up to lists of ten—and see how fast you can get the right answers!

## Hard History Questions in Pocket Trivia: U.S. History

**Cost:** \$0.99

The more you challenge yourself, the more you'll learn. At school getting questions wrong on tests can mean bad grades, but if you play hard games, you won't get bad grades, you'll learn more. And when you know more, you can do better on tests.

Pocket Trivia: U.S. History offers 250 questions about U.S. history and lets you compare your scores with your friends' using a built-in world-wide score tracker. These questions are pretty tough, but stick with it and you'll learn a ton.



## Discover New Instruments in ABC Music

**Cost:** \$2.99

There are many, many more instruments in the world than guitar, piano, drums, horns, or violin. Knowing what they are is an important step in both learning about music and deciding what instruments, if any, you're interested in learning how to play.



Dive into the world of music by learning the names of over 50 musical instruments in ABC Music. But the learning doesn't stop there. Videos show many instruments being played and lots of related fun facts to help you learn more about all kinds of music.

## Violin

**Cost:** \$0.99

Practice makes perfect when it comes to learning a musical instrument. The more you practice, the better you'll be. But, thanks to apps, practice doesn't always mean using the instrument itself.

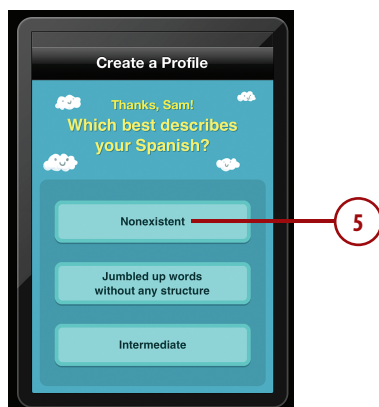
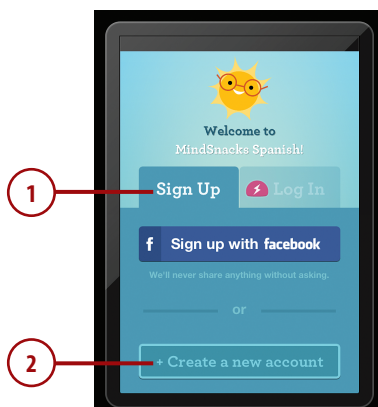
If you're already learning how to play the violin, you may want to make this app a part of your regular practice plan. With it, you can tap the onscreen version of the violin's strings to practice your fingering and hear what sounds different fingerings make. You can also practice along with onscreen animated versions of classic songs like "Mary Had a Little Lamb" and "Jingle Bells."

## >>>step-by-step

### Create a MindSnacks Account

To use MindSnacks to begin learning another language, you need an account. To get one, tap the app to open it, then follow these steps:

1. Tap Sign Up.
2. Tap Create a New Account.
3. Fill out the new account form. Since you have to enter your email address and create a password, get your parents' permission before you do this step.
4. Tap Done.
5. Choose the option that best matches how much you know of the language you want to study. And with that, it's time to start learning!



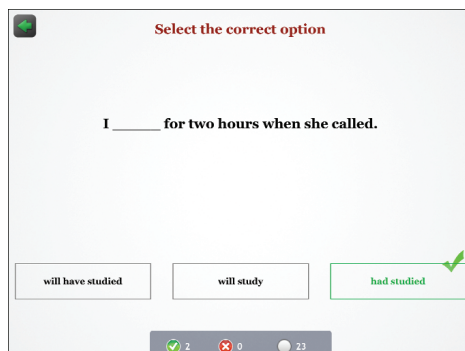
## Using Your iPad in Fifth Grade

### Master the Parts of Speech in Grammar App HD

**Cost:** \$1.99

You may have thought you escaped grammar when you left fourth grade; no such luck! Grammar is going to be with you the rest of your life; it's that important. Luckily, with apps like this one and the next few, you'll master it.

Grammar App HD acts like an electronic schoolbook and helps you learn grammar in over 200 tutorials and then quizzes you on it to test how much you've learned. Topics include the use of punctuation, parts of speech, verb tenses, and writing proper sentences.



### Choose the Best Word Using Roget's II: New Thesaurus

**Cost:** \$7.99

Reference tools can be among the most valuable things you use in school. They can help you solve problems and find crucial information. Learning what different reference tools do, and getting good at using them, is key to success in school.

You can think of this app as the brother or sister of the Dictionary.com app I recommended in Chapter 10, "Using Your iPad in Fourth Grade." A thesaurus is kind of like a dictionary, but instead of giving the definitions of words, it offers lists of synonyms (different words that mean the same thing) and antonyms (opposites). When you're writing and looking for just the right word, a trip to the thesaurus could solve your problem—I mean, could elucidate your conundrum. Dictionary.com is free; Roget's costs more because it's the app version of a printed book from one of the most well-respected and long-established makers of reference tools.

## A Trio of Math Apps: MathEdge HD Lite

**Cost:** Free

An app that concentrates on a single topic can give you a lot of benefits because it allows you to really focus and learn deeply. But what's better than a one-topic app? A set of three single-topic apps that all relate to each other! This collection of three math apps helps you learn all kinds of different math-related topics. Use the flash cards and audio instructions to learn about multiplication, division, or addition and subtraction. Each of the three different apps has a free version with a limited set of lessons. Get the full set of questions by upgrading the apps for \$2.99 each.

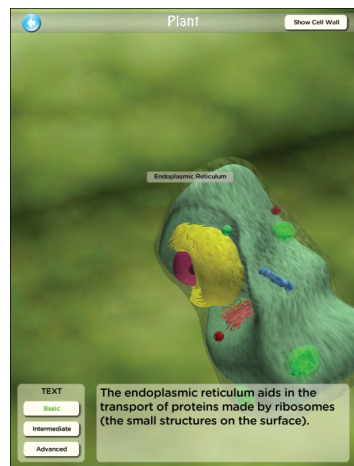
## Get Up Close and Personal with 3D Cell Models in HudsonAlpha iCell

**Cost:** Free

When you're studying something as small as a cell, you can't just look at one to observe it. You need microscopes to even see cells, and very high-powered ones to see a lot of detail. If you don't have one of those powerful, expensive microscopes, 3D computer models are a great alternative.

Cells make up all living things, but they're so small that you can't see them without the help of microscopes. Every kind of cell in animals and people and plants is different.

HudsonAlpha iCell shows you 3D models of all kinds of different cells and lets you zoom in on them to get a closer and more detailed view.



## First-Hand Accounts of the War in Civil War: America's Epic Struggle

**Cost:** \$4.99

Even more than the Revolutionary War, the war that helped create the United States, this country's most important war, was the Civil War. It put the very idea of the United States as a single country in question and pitted one group of states against another, sometimes even different members of the same family against each other. To understand important parts of the last 150 years of America history, you need to understand the Civil War.

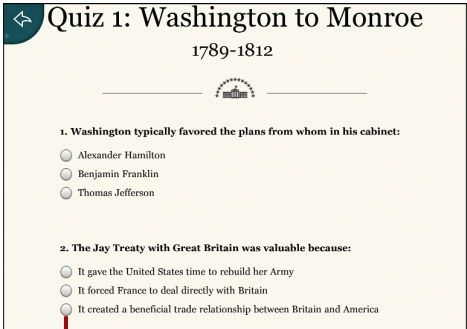
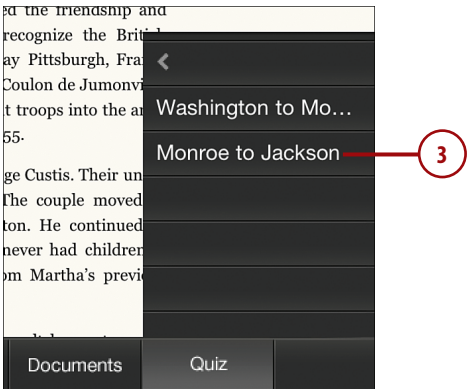
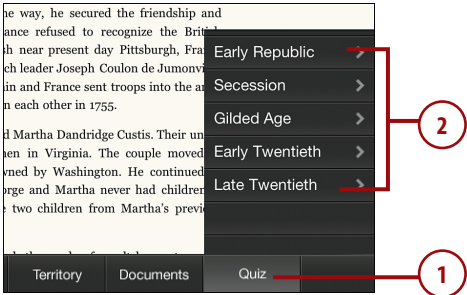
Learn about it in Civil War: America’s Epic Struggle, with an app packed full of photos, videos, maps, timelines, and articles on dozens of aspects of the war. Even hear songs of the era and share pictures or articles by email.

>>>step-by-step

Testing Your Knowledge

After you’ve read about the presidents in American Presidents for iPad, take quizzes to find out how much you’ve learned. To do that:

- 1. Tap the Quiz button.
- 2. In the pop-up menu, there are five categories that cover different periods in American history, from the country’s founding to today. Tap your choice.
- 3. Each category has sections that focus on parts of the time period you selected. Tap the one you’re interested in.
- 4. In the quiz that appears, read each question and tap the button next to the answer you think is correct. When you finish all the questions, you’ll see which of your answers were right, which were wrong, and explanations for both.



## Create Art and Play Games in Draw for iPad

**Cost:** Free

Art can be fun for lots of reasons. It doesn't just have to be fun because you're creating, though.

This neat little drawing app does more than just let you create sketches and doodles (although, of course, it's good at that too). One of the neat features it includes is the ability to play games (Tic-tac-toe, drawing, and word games) with your friends over Bluetooth or Wi-Fi. If you prefer to draw rather than play, you can post your art online or save it to your Photos app.

## Using Your iPad in the Sixth Grade

### Where Do Words Come From? Dictionary of Word Origins

**Cost:** \$5.99

Remember when I mentioned how important reference tools are to students and writers? Here's another tool that you may come to love. You can learn a lot about a word—and history—by finding out not what common and uncommon words mean, but where they came from and how they got to be the words they are today.

Many of the words we know and use in English didn't start out as English words. The U.S. is a nation of immigrants, and so is our language—it's full of words that come from languages from all over the world. This app helps you discover where our words come from, providing interesting stories about the languages that spawned them, what they originally meant, and how they came to mean what they do now.

## Learn by Playing in Middle School Math

**Cost:** \$2.99

Just because lots of apps teach you math using problems and quizzes doesn't mean that's the only way to learn. There are lots of apps that will make learning fun.

In Middle School Math (this version is made by Interactive Elementary, not to be confused with the version by Monkey in the Middle Apps which appears in the next chapter), you learn complex parts of math by playing games. In it, you'll control cavemen by using fractions and decimals, stretch rubber bands into different shapes to measure their area or perimeter, and plot coordinates using animals.

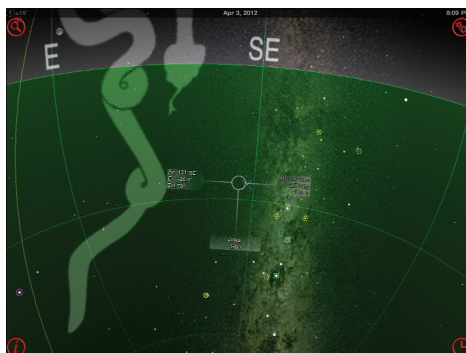


## Look Up and Learn Using GoSkyWatch Planetarium

**Cost:** \$3.99 or free limited version

Have you ever noticed that the same stars can be seen at different places in the sky at different times of year? That's because as the Earth rotates around the sun, our position in relation to those stars changes.

Besides helping you learn about planets, stars, and constellations, GoSkyWatch Planetarium includes time-lapse animations showing changes in the positions of stars in the sky, a moon phase calendar, and sunrise and sunset times. It's even got a bunch of features for use at night and outdoors, so you can literally use it beneath the stars to see what's above you.



## See What Astronauts See with NASA App HD

**Cost:** Free

To really learn about and study space, apps are just the first step. You need access to powerful telescopes, advanced computers, and all kinds of other high-tech tools. To really learn the most, you need to actually be able to travel to space—and in the U.S., there's just one agency that can do that.

Get the in-depth scoop about what's going on in space from the experts at NASA. That scoop comes in the form of live streaming video, thousands of photos, information on current missions, and the ability to track the International Space Station and man-made satellites. Plus, you can hear scientists, astronauts, and other NASA experts talk about their work and space on the included Third Rock Radio station.

# Learning Articles About Volcanoes

This app is packed full of educational articles, and that’s what you’ll see when you launch it. Here’s how to use the main screen.

Choose your article.

Check out videos and photos.

Swipe up and down to read article.

Articles

The Erupting Earth

Lava and Magma

Types of Volcano

Birth of an Island

Plate Tectonics

Eruptions

Lava and Magma

The hot liquid rock that lies below Earth's surface is known as magma. When magma is released from a volcano, it is known as lava. Fresh lava ranges from 1,300°F to 2,200°F (700°C to 1,200°C) in temperature. It glows red hot to white hot as it flows. All lavas contain a

Compound

Molecules made up of atoms of two or more chemical elements.

When lava comes out of a volcano, it is usually mixed with steam and gas. The gas may boil off very forcefully and expel large amounts of glowing ash and cinders. The particles of hot debris thrown out of a volcano are called pyroclastics. Sometimes the gas is released more slowly, or is even trapped as bubbles when the lava hardens. When the bubbles are tiny and closely packed, lightweight stone called pumice is formed.

Some volcanoes are more intense than others. In the least explosive kind of activity, lava cracks in the ground and spreads called the Icelandic type frequently in Iceland. In the flows from a gently sloping a type, there are

Spin the wheel to move between sections.

Tap the highlighted words to see their definitions.

## Compare Ancient Cultures in Wonders of Old Ancient Timeline

**Cost:** \$4.99

As mentioned above, some of the most important ancient civilizations—like Egypt, Rome, and China—all existed at the same time. But despite happening at the same time, the things that were going on in those places were very different. Understanding what those differences were can help you understand each civilization.

Many timeline apps can tell you what happened in one part of the world over time. This app, though, shows you what was happening at the same time all over the world, in Egypt and China, South America and Europe. It focuses on the ancient world and lets you learn more about important events with images and articles.

## Find Fun in the Past with World History Games

**Cost:** \$4.99

Some people think of history as a subject that's all about reading dust-covered books or faded old maps. That's part of it—and I say that's part of what makes it a great subject; I love seeing and using those old documents—but it's not all.

Learning about the ancient world is also a lot of fun with this app. It packs over 100 different games—from arcade games to word jumbles to puzzles—on topics throughout world history. Test your knowledge of ancient Rome, Africa, or Asia, or tackle modern topics such as World War II and learn more by reading the included articles.

## Lay Down a Rhythm Using Ratatap Drums

**Cost:** \$1.99 or free Lite version

Practice is very important when you're learning how to play any instrument, but finding time to practice can be more challenging with some instruments than others. If you play the drums, you probably have to practice when you know it won't bother other people too much. With this app, you have an option that lets you practice anytime.

More interested in pounding out a good beat than playing a delicate piano part? Then check out this virtual drum kit. It won't teach you drums, but if you already know how to play, you can choose from drum setups designed for hip hop, rock, and other styles of music. Just like in real life, the harder you hit these drums, the louder they get. Record your drumming or change modes and add a second drum kit to the screen so you can play together with a friend.

## Rule the World in Civilization Revolution for iPad

**Cost:** \$12.99

Looking back on history, it's easy to see the key decisions that helped shape civilizations as obvious or inevitable. But for the people who faced them at those times, they were anything but. Just like we can't see the future now, they couldn't then and so they had to make the decisions they thought were right.

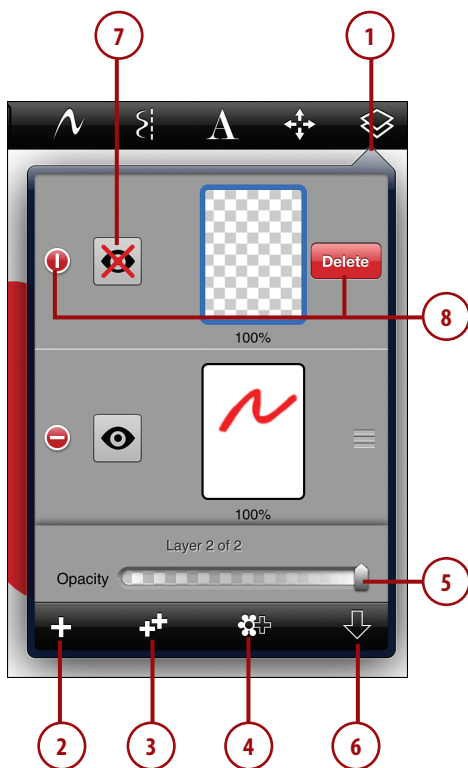
In this classic game, you can forget reading about all of these civilizations. Instead, you can lead them and make the decisions that help them grow (or cause them to fail). Choose from historic powers such as China, Japan, Germany, and modern ones like the U.S., and then build cities and industries, fight wars, and help ensure your citizens are happy. Although the game isn't historically accurate (it's possible, for example, for the Romans to build the great pyramids), it's a lot of fun and will help you understand first-hand how humanity developed from the dawn of civilization to the present day.

## >>>step-by-step

### Adding Layers

To make a really sophisticated piece of art in SketchBook Pro, you need to use layers. Layers let you put some parts of your drawing on top of or underneath other parts. You can control the opacity (that means how see-through something is) of layers to create cool blending effects. To add layers:

1. Tap the Layers button.
2. Tap + to add a layer.
3. Tap ++ to copy the layer that's currently selected (the one with the blue highlight around it).
4. Tap the + with the flower next to it to add a photo from your Photos app or to take a new one.
5. To change the opacity of a layer, tap it and then move the slider left and right.
6. Change the order of the layers by tapping the layer you want to move and then tapping the down arrow.
7. To hide a layer, but not delete it, tap the eye button.
8. To delete a layer, tap the red icon and then the Delete button.
9. When you're done adding or changing layers, tap your drawing to go back to it.



## Ana Lomba's French/Spanish for Kids: Cinderella

**Cost:** \$3.99

Improve your French or Spanish with this fun, illustrated edition of the classic story Cinderella. It includes the story in both languages and lets you hear it read to you by a native French (or Spanish, depending on the version of the app) speaker, so you can improve both your listening comprehension and pronunciation. This book comes in Spanish/English, French/English, Chinese/English, Spanish/French, and Spanish/Chinese versions.

There are a number of apps in this series, each one specific to a single language and with different stories in them, so make sure you choose the version in the language that you're studying.

## Using Your iPad in the Seventh Grade

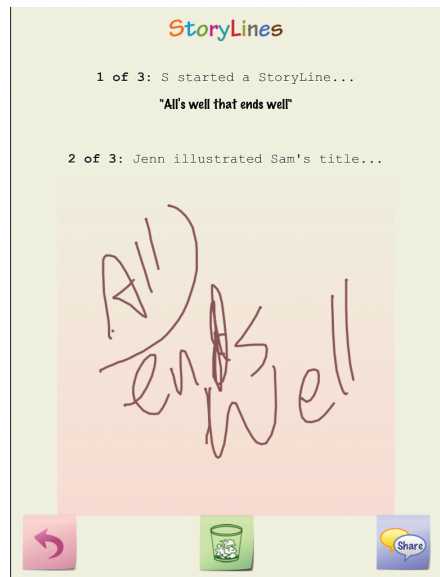
### Write Stories with Your Friends in StoryLines

**Cost:** Free

While some people prefer to do their writing alone, others like to collaborate with their friends. When you do that, you don't have full control of the story, but you also never know what will happen and your collaborator may give the story twists that you never would have thought of and that you love.

Challenge your friends to show how creative and funny they are when you play this story-building game with them. You begin with a common, well-known saying. Then you pass the iPad to a friend and they have to draw a picture that

describes that saying. They pass the iPad back to you, or to another friend, for more additions. Repeat the process over and over until you've created a ridiculous, fun story that you can share with your friends.

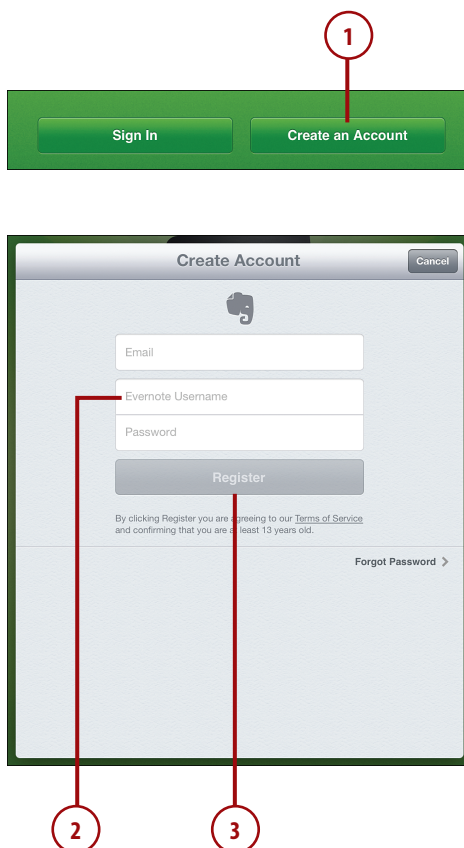


## >>>step-by-step

### Creating an Evernote Account

Like many other online services, you have to be at least 13 to use Evernote, so get your parents' permission before you set up your account. Once you've done that, connect to the Internet, tap the app on your home screen and then follow these steps:

1. Tap Create an Account.
2. Enter the email address you want to use with your Evernote account and then create a username and password (check out "Go Further: Good Passwords" in Chapter 2, "Getting Started: Set Up and Sync Your iPad," for a reminder of why good passwords are important).
3. Tap Register. When your account is set up, you'll be taken to the main Evernote screen so you can start making notes.



## Get to Know Your Insides with BodyParts – Human Body Part Names and Flash Cards

**Cost:** \$3.99

The human body is a truly fantastic organism. It may look simple from the outside, but inside it's composed of thousands, maybe millions, of tiny systems that perform some truly amazing feats. Understanding what those systems do is crucial to getting a deeper understanding of biology.

From your brain to your lungs to your ears, from your eyes to your bones to your muscles, this app will help you discover all the parts of the systems in your body, allow you to explore them with detailed illustrations, and test you about what you've learned with flash cards and quizzes.

## Experiments You Can Do: VideoScience

**Cost:** Free

Science isn't something that can only happen in your school's science classroom or lab or in high-tech research facilities stocked with the latest computers and instruments. For many experiments, science is something that you can practice right in your own home.

There's no better way to learn about different aspects of science than by getting hands on. This app helps you do that. It features over 80 videos, and some articles, explaining different experiments that you can try on your own. You can even watch videos when you're not connected to the Internet.

# Meet England's Royalty with Kings and Queens by David Starkey

**Cost:** \$2.99

If you thought learning about the 44 presidents of the United States was fascinating, wait until you dive into this app, covering hundreds of important—and not so important—rulers of England.

Even though England is like America in some ways, it has one major thing that America doesn't: kings and queens. If you want to learn all about the history of the men and women who have ruled England for over 2,000 years, you'll find it in this app. From timelines to family trees, from documents to videos, you'll learn all about the fascinating history of England's monarchs from a leading expert on the subject.

