



## Rachel's Random Ramblings Review of Footsteps2Brilliance®, Inc.

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I am very excited to present my review of Footsteps2Brilliance™, including a giveaway for your chance to win access to this outstanding educational app! I initially thought that Footsteps2Brilliance™ would be perfect for Girlie because she is in Kindergarten and her reading is coming along great. I thought the app might motivate her to practice and become more fluent. I knew she'd jump at any chance to play on my iPad (which I generally use for work only) and I knew she's love the games and quizzes after every story. What did surprise me was that Little Dude, who is nearly 3 and a half, loved the app more than anyone!

Girlie loved the way the story could be read by the narrator or read on her own, with the option to touch any words she needed help reading. This encouraged her to try most words and touch to hear a word read to her, when needed. The books are a bit long (especially if you're discovering the special features on each page), so by the end, she usually had the narrator reading to her. She liked the more advanced reading comprehension questions in book buddies, and even some of the "easy" spelling words in the Word Wall game were challenging for her. It was fun to watch her master use of the app and improve her reading skills at the same time!

Little Dude loved the stories with all of the special features on the pages. Usually at least 2 elements on each page move and play music or a sound effect. He would look at the stories and giggle and go from one element to the other. It was so fun to watch! I do think the movement on the pages distracted from the story a little bit. He was far more interested in the pictures than the words. Once I got him in the habit of waiting until I was done reading the page to him, before tapping the elements, it became a lot more meaningful! Little Dude has a speech delay and it is hard to discuss a book, aside from labeling things on the pages and saying a word or two about what a character is doing. He can say "He's sleeping in bed," but he doesn't generally talk about the story line and it can be hard to gauge his understanding. With the Book Buddies reading comprehension, he can hear a question about the story and touch an image to answer. It was amazing to see how much he really was taking in about the plot! It was fun to watch him work! He also was especially fond of the Mighty Matches game and quickly became a pro. He could play all day and was learning new words as he went! I took this video of him playing the game all by himself while I packed lunches this morning:



Dude also played Word Wall and Picture Perfect. Word Wall was good for helping him identify letters, with my coaching on where they belong. Picture Perfect helps learners identify a word and its corresponding picture. He could touch the word to hear it spoken aloud, touch the image it matched, and press go to confirm his answer. He loved the “Wow! Great Job!” reward sound and he also seemed very motivated to uncover the puzzle pieces after each question.



I loved watching each kid play on their own and it was fun to watch them play together as well. Girlie loves to teach things to Little Dude and she was a great coach to help him get started so he could play on his own. I snapped this cute picture of them snuggled up and reading together:

We enjoyed this application (which works on any computer or smart device) and I am sure your kid will too! You can [click here](#) to learn more and to buy the application at a reduced rate of \$99. This special promotion includes access to the full library of 18 books, 200 book-related games, and the parent reporting suite. This is a great app for use at home or out and about. We are going on vacation soon and it will be very nice to take these 18 books on one iPad for use on the airplane and other places where we may be forced to wait.