

3rd Grade & Up

Counting Kingdom

iOS, PC, Mac

Counting Kingdom is a wonderful mix of education and fun—and it succeeds on both fronts. As a young wizard, you cast spells on monsters by adding, subtracting, and later multiplying numbers. The Counting Kingdom lets kids explore mathematical concepts without rushing them, and with the added bonus of super cute monsters.

Captain Toad: Treasure Tracker **wii u**

Captain Toad: Treasure Tracker is a clever, cute, and immensely satisfying puzzle game. It stars Captain Toad and Toadette, two enterprising mushroom people from the universe of the Super Mario games. In order to complete each level, players must change their perspective to solve puzzles and traverse obstacle courses.

Just Dance 2015

**PlayStation 4, Wii U, Wii,
Xbox One, PlayStation 3,
Xbox 360**

Just Dance 2015 has brightly colored dance coaches guiding you through flamboyant dance routines. Most of the songs are pop hits from this year, but there are some classics thrown in, too. It's a good way to get kids up and moving in front of the screen.

Cannon Brawl

Linux, PC, Mac

Cannon Brawl is a family-friendly real-time 2D strategy game with a fast pace, a smart design, and a good sense of humor. Its gameplay makes multitasking not only teachable, but also incredibly fun.

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Child of Light

PlayStation 4, PlayStation Vita, PlayStation 3, Xbox One, Wii U, Microsoft Windows, Xbox 360

Child of Light is a great game for playing co-op with a young one since there are two main characters, one a princess and the other her firefly companion. The firefly can help her by collecting shiny stuff and slowing down time so she can fight monsters. The watercolor-esque graphics and eerie storybook atmosphere could make for some great after-game craft projects, too!

Disney Fantasia: Music Evolved

Xbox 360, Xbox One

Disney Fantasia: Music Evolved is a motion game in which you play as the conductor to various popular songs and classical pieces. The game features totally unique gameplay that illustrates the potential for more gameplay innovations in the future.

Ori and the Blind Forest

Xbox 360, Xbox One, PC

Ori and the Blind Forest is a platform game in which you play as a forest spirit trying to make his way back to the spirit tree. The game includes beautiful art that's worth experiencing even though the gameplay can be really challenging.

Dragon Box

iOS, Android, PC, Mac

Dragon Box games teach algebra (or geometry) in a way that doesn't seem like algebra or geometry. And there's data to show that kids do better on real math problems when they're tested after playing the games. The games are colorful and available on lots of mobile platforms, so they make for good road-trip gaming material.