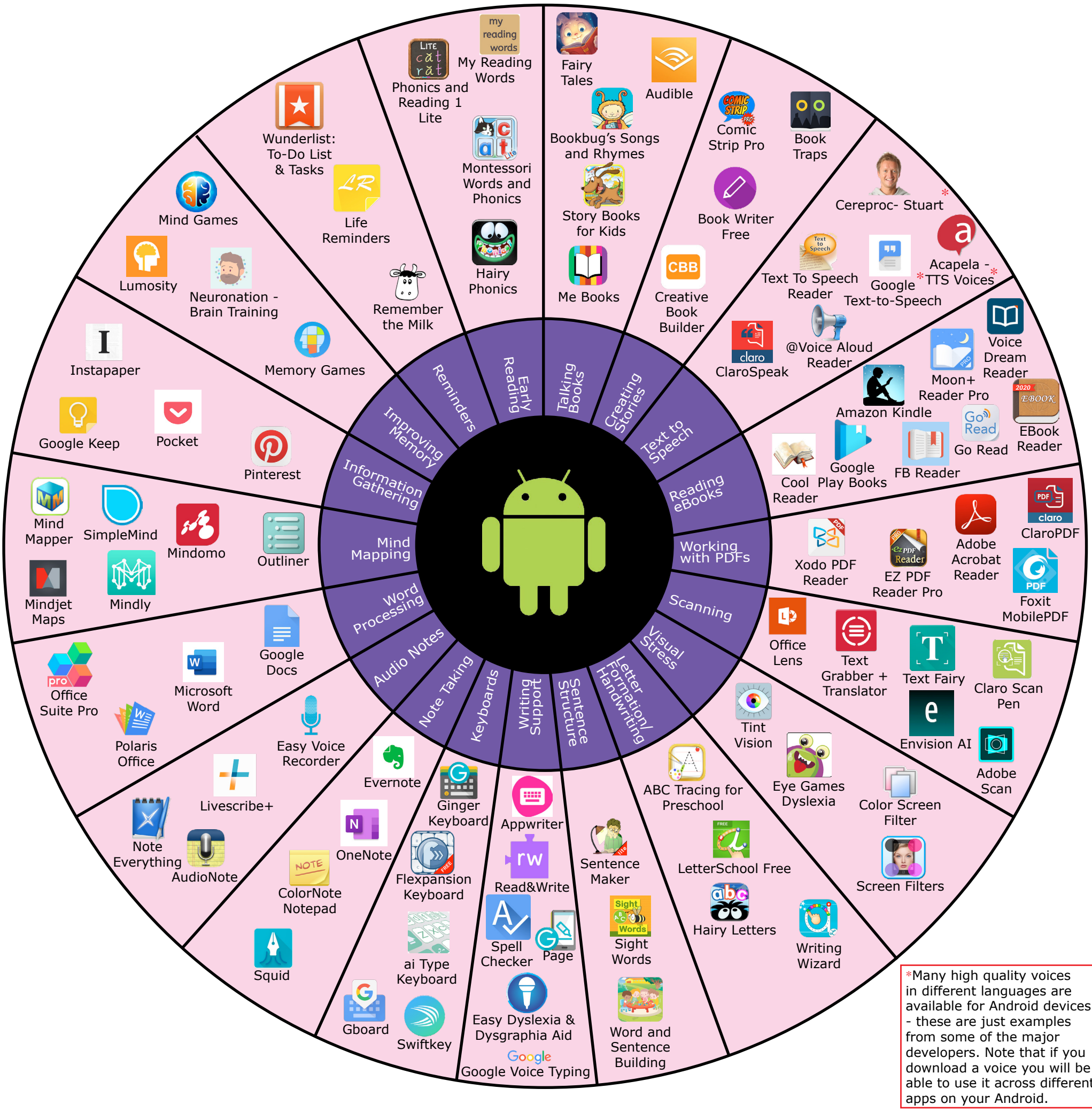
Android Apps for Learners with Dyslexia/ Reading and Writing Difficulties



*Many high quality voices in different languages are available for Android devices - these are just examples from some of the major developers. Note that if you download a voice you will be able to use it across different apps on your Android.

This is one of a series of 'App Wheels' produced by CALL Scotland, available from the address below. It focuses on Android Apps to support reading and writing. Note that some apps address a range of difficulties. To save space, we have not placed individual apps into multiple categories. Links on the electronic version are 'clickable', taking you to the Google Play Store.

This is not a comprehensive list, but an attempt to identify relevant, useful apps and to categorise them according to difficulties faced by people with dyslexia. Unlike the iPad, there is little consensus on the 'best' Android apps for education, so we would be happy to receive suggestions for inclusion in future versions. Email suggestions to call.scotland@ed.ac.uk.

iPad versus Android

The iPad is well established as an educational tool, but Android tablets (and smartphones) are becoming increasingly popular.

- Android tablets are generally less expensive than iPads.
- There are more educational apps available for iPads, than for Android devices.
- There is less 'quality control' over Android apps so some don't work properly, or perform in unexpected ways.
- Many Android devices cannot be upgraded to the latest version of the operating system so some apps won't work on them.
- The Android operating system is less tightly controlled than the Apple iOS, so some apps, e.g. voices, can work across most apps in an Android device, unlike the iPad where voices other than the iOS system ones have to be downloaded separately for each app.

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A PDF version of this app wheel (and other posters) can be downloaded from http://www.callscotland.org.uk/downloads/posters-and-leaflets

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