

Computer Software Evaluation Form

Title: eReader Pro Evaluator's Name: Bradley A. Lavite

Date: 25 Oct 2005 Subject Area: Various Grade Level: 6th to 12th

1. Program Requirements (Memory, Operating System, CPU):

Palm OS® 3.0 (or later) Handheld with at least with at least 400KB free memory

2. Additional hardware or software required: Yes No

Additional memory is required for each book downloaded.

3. Publisher: Motricity Publisher Website: <http://www.ereader.com>

4. Vendor Name: Motricity Vendor Phone: education@motricity.com

5. Vendor Address:

Motricity Corporate Headquarters
2800 Meridian Parkway, Suite 150
Durham, NC 27713

Vendor Web site: <http://www.ereader.com/education>

6. Price of Program: Individual price \$9.95, site license or network price please contact

education@motricity.com)

7. Is a network demo available? Yes No

8. What funds will be used to purchase the program? N/A

9. Manuals and Support:

- | | | |
|---|------------|-----------|
| A. User's Manual is available/included. | <u>Yes</u> | No |
| B. User's Manual is easy to understand. | <u>Yes</u> | No |
| C. User's Help is accessible within program. | <u>Yes</u> | No |
| D. Technical support is available online. | <u>Yes</u> | No |
| E. Technical support by phone is available. | Yes | <u>No</u> |
| F. Yearly support or maintenance fee is required. | Yes | <u>No</u> |
| i. If yes, how much per year? | | |

10. Describe the program's objectives related to district curriculum, state & national standards:

eReader Pro for Palm OS software allows readers to view and read eBooks whenever they want and wherever they are. eReader Pro can be used to add bookmarks, navigate easily, and search eBooks. This program is objective is related to the district’s curriculum because it is used to improve and promote reading.

11. Describe how this software would improve your ability to complete specific job responsibilities and/or increase student learning:

eReader, would improve my ability to complete specific job responsibilities and/or increase student learning because in addition making the software that is used to read electronic books, it is the largest electronic book (eBook) publisher in the world and the first electronic book publisher to offer contemporary fiction and nonfiction titles, newspapers and magazines. With an expansive collection of over 13,000 titles to choose from, including the educational Classics Collection CD, eReader offers the most comprehensive selection of eBooks for teachers and students. This collection once purchased can be loaded on the school network and made available to anyone that is given user rights to that specific location.

Specific Classroom Applications: Allows for unlimited students to read similar titles.

1=Strongly Disagree 5=Strongly Agree

- | | | | | | |
|---|--------------------|---|----------|----------|----------|
| 12. Software supports existing curriculum. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | <u>5</u> |
| 13. Software adequately meets its objectives. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | <u>5</u> |
| 14. Software would make my job more effective. | 1 | 2 | <u>3</u> | 4 | 5 |
| 15. Software is usable without reference manual or user help. | 1 | 2 | 3 | <u>4</u> | 5 |
| 16. User can easily navigate between program screens. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | <u>5</u> |
| 17. Program allows user to correct errors. | (Did not evaluate) | | | | |
| 18. Instructions are available on-screen and clearly written. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | <u>5</u> |
| 19. Graphics, media elements, & content are clear and appealing. | 1 | 2 | 3 | <u>4</u> | 5 |
| 20. Incorrect use of keys/commands does not cause program to abort. | (Did not evaluate) | | | | |
| 21. Software is age-appropriate in content & language. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | <u>5</u> |
| 22. Menus and other features make the program user friendly. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | <u>5</u> |
| 23. Bug free; program runs properly. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | <u>5</u> |

24. Software performs management tasks satisfactorily. (Did not evaluate)

25. Program will be easily integrated into classroom curriculum. 1 2 3 4 5

26. Program uses real-life problems and/or authentic scenarios. (Did not evaluate)

27. Program requires students to use higher-level critical thinking. 1 2 3 4 5

28. Tools for student assessment are provided and adequate. (Did not evaluate)

29. Program is appropriate for: (Underline all that apply.)

A. Small group use around 1 computer C. Use in computer lab on each machine

B. Individual student on computer D. Use with 1 computer & lg. display for classroom

30. Use of this software would require which level of computer skill? (Underline one.)

Basic

Intermediate

Advanced

Your recommendation - Please check one.

- This would be a valuable software purchase. I recommend we adopt it.
- This is beneficial software, but I have some serious reservations. (Please describe problems & indicate if you want to look at other programs like this.)
- This software will not produce the results desired and should not be adopted.

Comments: Main problem for not adopting this software is because our school lacks handheld devices. See attached reflection for more information regarding this piece of software.

Software Reflection

Portability, interactivity, and versatility seem to be the three most benefits for this piece of software. Presentation is also a key ingredient in the successful implementation of eReader into a classroom or a learning environment. Digital books offer a glimpse into the future of reading and how we as humans will receive, process, and interact with the content. Portability would be a plus within the educational setting because no longer would students have to carry around book bags full of reading materials. Ereader frees them from these confines and allow them to carry hundreds if not thousands of books and other printed materials on small memory sticks or hard drives. Interactivity brings eBooks to life and draws students into learning by putting them in control. Students are in control using this software because they can change the font, color, size, and background to fit their likes. Other capabilities such as highlighting and pencil mark up takes learning to a higher level. Students no longer have to fear the famous saying “do not write or mark in books” matter of fact eReader actually encourages users to be creative and interact with books. Other capabilities such as text searches, hyperlinks, sound, and video assist in making connections to other content or using other modalities to make the connections. Versatility allows students using eReader to create a living document that can be ever changing. Through the use of Adobe PDF files, eReader allows students to expand and update their collections easily be content updaters, which automatically searches out and ensures that the most up-to-date content is available. Adobe PDF files also allows learners the ability to download other written content found across the internet. Packages are available for educational institutions to meet their basic curriculum needs while allowing for future expansion and upgradeability.

Overall eReader:

- Has expansive collection of over 13,000 electronic titles.
- Is a cost-effective way to distribute books to students.
- Can not be lost, stolen, or damaged.
- Licenses entitle schools to internally distribute as many copies of the eBooks as it wants, as many times as it wants.
- Browser has built-in search function that allows for quick retrieval.
- Convertible between operating systems.