



Tech Info Library

Early Childhood Connections: Description (10/96)

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TOPIC -----

This article contains a description of the Early Childhood Connections Bundle.

DISCUSSION -----

Early Childhood Connections is a developmentally appropriate, computer-based learning program designed to introduce early number and language concepts, problem solving, music, and creative arts to children ages three through five. The program combines hardware, software, books, and interactive CD-ROMs to create a multisensory learning environment for young children.

Powerful, easy-to-use computer

The Apple Macintosh computer is so easy to use that teachers and students are free to concentrate on learning concepts--not computer skills. And Apple's At Ease interface, through graphics and sound, allows very young children access to their own work, while offering protection for teacher files and programs. Yet for all this ease of use, the Macintosh is a powerful machine that can be upgraded as your computing needs grow.

Resources for students

The library of innovative software for the very young is designed to promote learning through exploration that involves animation and sound. A selection of children's literature is provided to expand the learning possibilities inherent in the software.

Resources for the teacher

Software is provided to help teachers create high-quality newsletters and classroom materials. And to facilitate teachers' instructional efforts, the Teacher Resource Guide offers ideas on how to integrate technology into your classroom. In addition, toll-free technical support is provided for the lifetime

of your product.

Open-ended design

Best of all, Early Childhood Connections is flexible, and its open-ended design allows teachers to create dynamic learning environments and easily integrate the program into existing classroom practices.

Purchase Options

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Choose the featured solution--a convenient way to order a Power Macintosh 5260/120 computer and the Early Childhood Connections Kit with just one part number.

or

Choose one of the other computers listed below and order the computer and kit separately. Both items must appear on the same purchase order.

Computer Options

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Power Macintosh 5260/120 (featured computer)

Equipped with 16 MB of RAM, built-in 14-inch color display, 1.2 GB hard disk drive, 8x-speed CD-ROM drive, stereo speakers and microphone, AppleDesign Keyboard, and mouse.

Power Macintosh 5400/180

Equipped with 16 MB of RAM, built-in tilt-and-swivel 15-inch color multiple-scan display, 1.2 GB hard disk drive, 8x-speed CD-ROM drive, Ethernet networking, video-input/output, stereo speakers and microphone, AppleDesign Keyboard, and mouse; includes a PCI expansion slot.

Power Macintosh 6400/200

Equipped with 16 MB of RAM, 256K level 2 cache, 2.4 GB hard disk drive, 8x-speed CD-ROM drive, Ethernet networking, microphone, AppleDesign Keyboard, and mouse; includes two 7-inch PCI expansion slots; supports 16-bit color for display of up to 32,768 colors on a variety of monitors. (Monitor is sold separately.)

Early Childhood Connections Kit

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The kit includes:

Two-Volume Binder Set

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- * Volume 1, Teacher Resource Guide: A manual that provides a thematic approach to curriculum integration.
 - * Volume 2, Student Software: User documentation for all software included in the software library.

Early Childhood Connections Installation CD

Contains the software applications. See descriptions that follow.

* Four Books on CD-ROM

- Just Grandma and Me from Living Books, a Random House/Brøderbund Company
- A Silly Noisy House from The Voyager Company
- My Silly CD of Colors from Discis Knowledge Research, Inc.
- My Silly CD of Counting from Discis Knowledge Research, Inc.

* Two Children's Books

- We Are All Alike ... We Are All Different from Scholastic Inc.
- Sing a Song of Popcorn from Scholastic Inc.

* At Ease from Apple Computer, Inc.

An easy-to-use alternative to the standard Macintosh user interface that has been specially designed for young children.

* Bailey's Book House from Edmark Corporation

Five activities designed to provide early literacy experiences for children, including learning letter names and sounds, playing with rhymes, and composing a story.

* Davidson's Kid Works 2 from Davidson & Associates, Inc.

A word processing program specifically geared to the needs of the very young, with a built-in text-to-speech feature that lets children create and then hear their own illustrated stories.

* Easy Street from Mindplay

A child's classification program that uses a shopping metaphor to introduce such concepts as memory, problem solving, and matching.

* Kid Pix 2 from Broderbund Software, Inc.

A multimedia paint program and supplemental software designed especially to help young artists get started, with helpful features such as a talking alphabet and a number of "rubber-stamp" images.

* Millie's Math House from Edmark Corporation

Six activities that lead young learners through an exploration of basic mathematical concepts, such as numbers, counting, and patterns.

* The Writing Center from The Learning Company

An easy-to-use word processing and page-layout program that makes it a snap for teachers to create high-quality, visually appealing documents such as parent handouts and newsletters.

Additional Product Information

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Setup and Consultation

Setup of your Early Childhood Connections computer is optional. An authorized Apple representative will come out to your location, set up your system, and answer any questions you have about getting started with your new equipment.

Technical Support

With your Early Childhood Connections purchase, you are entitled to toll-free telephone support for the lifetime of your product. Support service is available from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. Pacific time, Monday through Friday, excluding holidays. If you have any questions, just call 1-800-800-APPL (2775).

Apple Education Finance Program

For information on the advantages of leasing Early Childhood Connections, please contact the Apple Education Finance Program at 1-800-255-2652.

Ordering Information

Early Childhood Connections Bundle

Includes Power Macintosh 5260/120 and Early Childhood Connections Kit.
Without setup: B2867LL/C
With setup: B2827LL/C

Early Childhood Connections Kit

Without setup: T0609LL/G
With setup: B2826LL/B
May be purchased only with a computer.

Power Macintosh 5400/180

Order No.: M5162LL/A

Power Macintosh 6400/200

Order No.: M5427LL/A
Monitor is sold separately.

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