Empowering Individuals With Vision Loss to Gain and Retain Confidence, Independence, and Employability

Arizona Rehabilitation Services Administration
Independent Living For the Blind
Alexa Skill Blueprints: Creating Games to Enhance Learning for Children and Adults

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Learning Objectives

- Be able to name the website address for the Alexa Skill Blueprints
- Be able to name at least three of the most popular templates available to create accessible games for their target population
- Be able to name the steps required to create, complete, and share game
How To Create Alexa Skills
Step 1:

- Go to the website
  ...Blueprints.Amazon.com
Step 2:

- Select a skill template such as:
  - Trivia
  - Flashcards
  - Facts
  - Question and Answer
Step 3:

- Click or push “Enter” on the button “Make Your Own”
Trivia Game

- Customize questions and answers
- Each turn, Alexa asks one player a random question from the list. When they answer, Alexa judges and keeps score
- Write your questions, come up with 2-4 answers each and check the correct choice
- OPTIONAL: Follow-up facts
• Question: Who won the academy award for best actress in the year 2010?
• Possible Answers:
  • () Meryl Streep
  • (x) Sandra Bullock
  • () Penelope Cruz
  • () Add answer
• Follow-up fact: She won best actress for her role in the movie *The Blind Side*, Which told the story of the football player Michael Oher
• Customize:
  • Who is the current governor of Arizona?
    • () Donald Trump
    • (x) Doug Ducey
    • () Joe Arpaio
    • () Michael Jackson
• Study, test yourself, and master any subject by voice
• In ‘review mode’ Alexa says all terms and definitions
• In ‘test mode’ Alexa says the term, you say the definition, then Alexa confirms
• Customize cards by adding terms and definitions
• OPTIONAL: Hint
• Topic Name: Capitals
• Term: Alabama
• Definition: Montgomery
• Hint!: This second-largest city in Alabama is located on the Alabama River, in the Gulf Coastal Plain
Replacing Question and Answer

Examples

• Example 1.
  • Topic: Math
  • Term: Eight times eight
  • Definition: Sixty-four

• Example 2.
  • Topic: Geography
  • Term: Largest and most dangerous volcano in United States
  • Definition: Yellow Stone

• Example 3.
  • Topic: History
  • Term: First president of the United States of America
  • Definition: George Washington
Facts

- Each time you open the skill, Alexa picks two random facts from your list.
- Add and replace facts
  - “The temperature on Venus is at least 462 degrees Celsius, which is about 864 degrees Fahrenheit”
  - “Chameleon tongues can be as long as 28 inches”
  - “The world’s largest fastest land animal is Sarah, a cheetah that ran 100 meters in 5.95 seconds”
  - “It is estimated that over 100 billion people have lived on the earth so far”
Title: Braille Facts

- Braille is a system of raised dots that can be read with the fingers.
- Braille is not a language. Rather, it is a code by which many languages—such as English, Spanish, Arabic, Chinese, and dozens of others—may be written and read.
- A full braille cell consists of six raised dots arranged in two parallel columns each having three dots.
- The dot positions are identified by numbers from one through six.
- Sixty-four combinations are possible using one or more of these six dots.
Custom Q&A

- Customize Alexa’s response to your questions.
- Write the questions you want to ask and the answers you want Alexa to say.
- When you’re ready, ask Alexa your questions exactly as you wrote them.
When you say “Alexa, shortcut to save a document”
• Required: Ctrl+S
• Add another way to ask this question: “How do you save a document in word?”
• Alexa will say “Control plus S”
Saving Your Skill

- Once you have finished editing the given examples and/or adding your own questions, the next step is to save the skill.
  - To finish, click/push enter on “Next”
  - The System will ask for a name
  - Follow directions regarding the name you select and push enter
  - Test the skill

- Now is time to get your echo device or open your app on the smartphone.
- Ask Alexa to open the skill you created.
- “Alexa, open Geography Flashcards”
Make It Public

- Once you are satisfied with your skill share it with your students.

- Students need to have the Alexa app or an echo device.
Summary

1. Go to the following website: BluePrints.Amazon.com
2. Select a skill template.
3. Edit the given examples.
4. Add your own questions
5. Save and finish
6. Test the skill
7. Make it public