

This page stays with the guardian

Dear guardians,

Ekapeli is a digital “edutainment” game for training basic skills of reading. Ekapeli-Matikka is a similar game but it trains basic numeracy skills. The games have been developed in collaboration with the University of Jyväskylä and Niilo Mäki Institution. The games have been designed to be used primarily by children who find learning reading and maths skills challenging at preschool or at the elementary stages of school.

Playing with Ekapeli, trains children in the important basic skills for reading acquisition. Ekapeli includes abundant training in connecting letters to corresponding sounds as well as recognition of larger units such as syllables, rhymes and words. Ekapeli-Matikka trains basic skills for mathematics including comparisons, order, numbers, amounts as well as arithmetic. Both games are free for the players.

In order to start using Ekapeli we require the following information: written consent to use the game from the player's guardian, the name of your child, the date of birth of your child as well as the place of birth. This information is used in order to connect the player name to the correct supervisors as well as enabling use of the game with several different supervisors in different locations (e.g., at school and at home).

The players who use Ekapeli will take part in research in which the efficacy of the training will be investigated. The information about playing is used in order to do research as well as for developing the games further. When the player plays the games, the information about playing will be stored automatically on our secure server via the internet. In addition, the guardians will be asked to complete a research form that will provide background information on the player. This information from the form will be stored in connection with the player's training data. If you wish not to provide your full contact information for the use of researchers, you do not have to fill in all the information or you may forbid us to use your contact information altogether. The personal and research data will be treated as confidential information and are kept in our register. You can terminate the use of the Ekapeli and participating in our research at any time by notifying us of the termination in writing at the following address: ekapeli@lists.jyu.fi .

Once you have returned the filled consent form to the player's supervisor (teacher, special education teacher, speech therapist or similar), the supervisor will use the provided information to transfer it to the game. You will be sent a research form after your child has played the game several times. In order to investigate and interpret the data gained from playing Ekapeli, it is important that you fill complete the research form and thereby provide us with background information of the player. The Ekapeli providers ensure that all personal information will be stored independently of the data. In addition, all the registered players will be assigned a coded number and no other form of identification will be used in the analyses or in the publications of the research results. Access to the Ekapeli research material is restricted to the service providers and their research collaborators.

If you would like your child to play Ekapeli, please return the enclosed consent form to the person who supervises your child's playing. You may also use the games at home by registering as a user in the following address: <https://ekapeli.lukimat.fi/>

Please do not hesitate to contact us in case you would like more information about our games and the research associated with the games.

Sincerely,

For further information on Ekapeli: <https://ekapeli.lukimat.fi/>

This page should be returned to the person who supervises your child's playing

This is a consent form in which you will give permission for your child to play Ekapeli away from home. This form is not used for accessing the game from home.

Instructions for completing this form:

1. The supervisor of the playing will provide the information sheet as well as this consent form to the guardian either by email or on paper.
2. The guardian completes the consent form and returns it to the supervisor. The information sheet stays with the guardian.
3. The supervisor transfers the information from the consent form to Ekapeli and archives the consent form him/herself.

Consent form

My child can play Ekapeli and the information about the gaming can be used for research purposes .

yes no

* permission can be withdrawn at any time by informing about it by email: ekapeli@lists.jyu.fi

Child's name: _____

Child's date of birth (day, month, and year): _____

Child's place of birth (town, country): _____

The supervisor of the game may give my contact information to the researchers of Ekapeli, so that I can be asked for more information about my child in order to develop the game further using the research material from the game. *

yes no

* permission can be withdrawn at any time by informing about it by email: ekapeli@lists.jyu.fi

The information is not used for any other purpose. You may also leave out information you do not wish to provide.

Your name: _____

Your email address: _____

Your home address: _____

Your phone number: _____

Place and date: _____ Signature: _____