## **News Release**

株式会社タカラトミー

For Immediate Release





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Develop the ability to use a PC! Fulfill children's desire "to give it a try" through full-fledged learning while having fun on a PC for kids!

Installed with <u>**Ryogo Matsumaru**</u>'s "Nazotoki" Riddle Solving app  $\times$ 

English pronunciation practice app <u>supervised by ECC</u> ×

PC skills development app supervised by Microsoft

# "Skill-honing Tablet PC Spica note"

To be launched Thursday, October 1, 2020

All-in-one unit designed to foster the skills required in the new era of the educational environment becoming IT-savvy, including the ability to think for oneself, English skills, PC skills and programming skills.

## TOMY Company, Ltd.

TOMY Company, Ltd. (Representative Director, President & COO: Kazuhiro Kojima, headquarters: Katsushikaku, Tokyo) is releasing a PC for kids, "Skill-honing tablet PC Spica note" (hereinafter Spica note), designed to help children acquire basic PC skills and the ability to think for themselves about their future while having fun (SRP: JPY 18,000/tax not included), scheduled to go on sale Thursday, October 1, 2020 at toy stores, toy sections of department stores and mass retailers nationwide, online shops, selected book stores and TOMY Company's official online store "Takara Tomy Mall" (takaratomymall.jp), etc.

This product is equipped with <u>70 apps and a rich assortment of 145 menus</u>, including "Matsumaru-style from University of Tokyo, Riddle Solving Adventure" supervised by Ryogo Matsumaru known as a popular riddle maker, English learning app supervised by ECC, and PC skill-honing app supervised by Microsoft, which offers representative experiences for Word, Excel and PowerPoint, respectively. This product helps children acquire the ability to think for themselves while piquing their interests and curiosity. The top attractive point of this product is learning while having fun.



As a result of the educational environment becoming IT-savvy with online learning etc., children are having increased opportunities to use PCs and tablets, which requires PC skills. And recently, with the rise in teleworking and working at home, as a result of watching first-hand parents and other family members using PCs, the number of children having an interest in typing and PCs themselves is steadily increasing. Since "Spica note" can be used both as a PC as well as a tablet, children can understand the functionality and acquire basic skills of a PC, and also feel familiar with its specifications because they often have many occasions to use tablets.

\*This product is installed with application software developed by TOMY Company, Ltd., and does not offer Microsoft products or experiences. Microsoft, Word, Excel, and PowerPoint are registered trademarks or trademarks in the U.S. and other countries of Microsoft Corporation of the U.S.

## <70 apps with 145 menus: full-fledged specification, professionally supervised apps!>

■ Ability to think for oneself and make decisions required for the new era: <u>"Matsumaru-style from</u> <u>University of Tokyo, Riddle Solving Adventure"</u> (total of six types and 50 questions)

"Matsumaru-style from University of Tokyo, Riddle Solving" supervised by Ryogo Matsumaru is installed as an app. Through Riddle Solving, children can acquire the five powers of thinking including: **Switch, Program, Energy, Create and Communicate**. In the app, five mysterious maps appear, and as you progress, a new secret app appears as another feature. In the Riddle Solving app, since creation is the key to solving the riddle, not only children but adults can also enjoy the content.



#### [Profile of Ryogo Matsumaru]



Born in 1995 (age 24). After entering the University of Tokyo, Ryogo Matsumaru served as the head of the riddle production club, and is the trendsetter of 'Nazotoki\*' which has led to a boom in various fields. A total of over 1.6 million copies of books supervised by him have been sold.

Currently, with the goal of "conveying the joy of thinking to everyone," he established the riddle solving creator group RIDDLER Co., Ltd. from the University of Tokyo, and together with colleagues is offering riddle solving experiences through a variety of media. \* Riddle Solving

## ■ First speaking learning app for kids' PC: English study apps supervised by ECC (total of 15 types)

The English study apps supervised by ECC Co., Ltd., which is engaged in various educational activities including operating language schools, allow users to **practice speaking English with its voice recognition functionality**. You can enjoy learning to improve your skills, such as practicing pronunciation by imitating the voice of the

example, and playing games that progress through pronouncing. You can also learn phonics in the game, which form the rules for sound and spelling, and full-fledged learning is made possible like never before.



#### ■ Learn the basics of PC skills: <u>PC skills apps supervised by Microsoft</u> (17 types)

You can learn the basics of text input, spreadsheet calculation and presentations, which are the respective features of Word, Excel and PowerPoint. It is also possible to insert original photos taken on the main unit into presentations. By learning about these respective features, children can acquire a foundation of skills toward full-fledged use in the future. Also, being able to have a similar experience to that of one's family members teleworking or working at home is another attractive point.

#### [Functions and menus]

<u>Text input</u> Greeting cards Diary Crane typing game Spreadsheet calculation Graph game Timetable Allowance ledger **<u>Presentations</u>** Business/name cards Field journal Profile Personal presentation



\*Created data can be saved as a JPEG file, and stored in a folder. You can also save the data to an SD card (sold separately)

## ■ Equipped with an in/out camera: <u>"Game Art Camera"</u> (total of 24 types)

In addition offering experience an admired profession in the game, it is equipped with a free drawing function. Also, there are both an in-camera for selfies and an outward facing camera installed. The cameras can shoot both movies and still photos.



## You can move around illustration designs created by yourself: "Game Programming" (total of eight types)

You can design your own original game by setting character illustrations (players and enemies), the speed of their movements, and game scores, rather than just moving existing characters as instructed.



Catch game



## ■ Checking the occupation illustrated reference: <u>"My room"</u>

By progressing through Riddle Solving, English study, PC skills and game programming, you can acquire occupations in the occupation illustrated reference, and learn about various occupations. In "My room," you can see a progress map where you can check the progress of each app and menu, and the occupation illustrated reference where you can check the occupation avatars acquired.



Acquired occupations

#### Other functions

Rechargeable type was adopted, which was frequently requested in consumer surveys. It can be used continuously for about 3 hours, and it can be recharged with the USB cable included or AC adapter sold separately. Also, the display is an easy to view 5-inch LCD screen. The main unit can store 30 photos, three roughly 30-second video files and six roughly 5-second video files. (Storage capacity can be expanded by using a microSD card sold separately.)

## <Product Outline>

SRP: JPY 18,000 (tax not included) Launch date in Japan: Thursday, October 1, 2020 Recommended Age: 6 years and up Package Contents: Main unit (with built-in lithium-ion battery), touch pen, USB cable (type A — type miniB), instruction manual, warranty card (in the instruction manual)

Others: Compatible with SD card (sold separately), rechargeable, compatible with TYPE 5U AC adapter dedicated to Takara Tomy toys (sold separately), no communication functions such as the Internet or Wi-Fi

Dimensions: Approx. W 220 mm  $\times$  H 162 mm  $\times$  D 34 mm (Screen size: 5 inches) Sales Target: 100,000 units (First year)

Sales Channels: Toy stores, toy sections of department stores/mass retailers throughout Japan, online stores, selected bookstores, TOMY Company's official online store "Takara Tomy Mall" (takaratomymall.jp), etc.

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For press inquiries, please contact: Public Relations Division, TOMY Company, Ltd. Tel: 03-5654-1280 Fax: 03-5654-1380 For product inquiries from consumers, please contact: TOMY Customer Service (Japanese only) Tel: 0570-041031 (Navi-Dial)