

TechNotes

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Ideas for Tablets and

Smart phones in the Classroom:

Use the Notes App to type vocabulary words. Teach students to tap each word and select "define" to read the definition.

Read a story together. Choose a free eBook.

Use the Maps App to find specific locations.

Download free books to share in small groups.

Practice test questions for upcoming exams.

Use the Skype App to interact with another classroom.

Use the PhotoBooth App to take pictures of each other. Create a wall display of the pictures. Create a QR code to place beside each photo.

Record a classroom science experiment.

Work with a partner and use Safari to collect facts about a famous American, develop a presentation, and share it.

Write in a journal each day.

Specialized skill instruction – especially in math. Students can work at their own pace.

View a classroom podcast. (Create your own or download a podcast from iTunes)

Use the Maps App to figure distances from one city or state to another. Figure distance and a route for an upcoming field trip.

Use a notes App to practice typing spelling words, adjectives, nouns, etc.

Do small group lessons on bullying. Download several bullying apps or create your own podcasts.

Allow students to listen to books read aloud to them.

Use presentation app to create a "Careers" presentation. Use Skype to conduct a live interview with specialist in various careers.

Work with a partner to locate recipes and nutrition information.

Use data to create a five minute classroom presentation.

Record a performance of specific skills in P.E. or Fine Arts class.

Use weather apps to locate weather information and record data in a spreadsheet.

Record short plays. Upload videos to class website.

Music Class: Video tape a student performance. View the taping with the student and analyze/grade the performance.

Use the Camera App to snap photos of a formation, experiment, example, etc.

Create classroom posters for Open House, classroom door, or advertise an upcoming school event.

Think Time Lapse Photography - i.e. Plant seeds in paper cups and record daily growth by taking a photo each day. Place each photo on a bulletin board.

Record any classroom events and post on school or classroom website. Use the Camera App to snap photos of classroom activities and post on website.

Use the Skype App to share a classroom event with a student who is unable to attend an event.

Take several iPads when going on a class field trip. Use the Camera App to snap photos during the trip. Use the Map App to show the route you will be traveling. Use the Video App to record an event. Download apps before the trip that pertain to what you will be exploring on the trip.

Create your own QR classroom codes and have students use iPads to read the codes.

Flipped SAM-R Model Lesson:

I created a lesson on sophia.org about SAM-R, a model for technology integration. It shows the levels of integration - where to start as well as where we all want to get to which is the Redefinition level. It is important especially with the technology portion of the PDAS evaluation format. It is something I will be concentrating on next year for the school as a whole as a way to help with the Understanding by Design unit writing curriculum is using. It also helps teachers plan for learning with technology as a tool rather than planning to use technology.

Free Lumosity Accounts:

Some of you might have seen their TV commercials, but Lumosity - a "brain training" website - is offering free accounts for teachers if they will report back certain information. Check out the article in the resources if you are interested.

Content Curation Tools:

Many students don't see the need for the use of three ring binders where they can store information for classes. Many want online features so they have an "anywhere" place for the information they need. Think about students and their cell phones. They have them with them all the time - why not gather data in a place they can access it from there. The most well-known curation tool - Pinterest - one of my friends moved into a new house and every girl he works with wanted to decorate his new house, so I turned him onto Pinterest. Slightly offended at first, he thought it was great that they could see images of his style so he didn't end up with lace curtains and doillies. Students like these images too - if they see it and hear it, they have a better chance of remembering, so check out the link for the curation tools in the resources.