iPads – Apps, Tips and Inspiration

Thousands of digital photographs have been taken in schools over the past decade or so, but how many of them were taken by the children? Tablet technology now allows children instant access to a camera and to subsequent images that they can then instantly make part of their work. Simple, yet powerful apps enable you to manipulate images and to use them in a wide variety of creative ways and for pupils to demonstrate their knowledge and understanding of a topic. If you're going on an educational visit, make sure that you take the tablets so that pupils can take photographs and instantly create content. We live in a world of instant images through Facebook etc and we've got to make education that way too. It is pointless children going on a visit and then a week later looking on Google for an image!!! Apps can be used to edit images, to create collages and to add text, labels and special effects.

Digital Photography

- *Moldiv* – Collage Photo Editor (FREE) – FREE on GooglePlay
- *Skitch* by Evernote (FREE) – FREE on GooglePlay

Taking video footage and making movies is now also easy on tablet devices and we should allow children the opportunity to regularly utilise these skills. A wide range of apps make the movie making experience a whole lot more creative than simply point, record and play! Apps enable the video footage to reflect the period in history, to look like a news report, have text and special effects added and be made to look like professionally created movies. Video features such as 'time lapse' also offer powerful features for use within education.

Movie Making

- *8mm for iPad* by Nexvio Inc (£1.49 / £0.74 VPP) – NOT on GooglePlay
- *News Booth* by Rodskagg (FREE) – NOT on GooglePlay
- *Coach's Eye – Instant Video Analysis* by TechSmith Corporation (£3.99 / £1.99 VPP) – FREE (with in app purchase) on GooglePlay

Augmented reality is a fantastic new feature within apps that really has the wow factor for children. They gaze in wonder as things appear to pop out from the page before their very eyes! Augmentation is the process of adding another layer on top of reality. The tool was created by the business sector to showcase new cars, houses, shoes etc and until recently it had taken teacher's imaginations to see how this amazing technology could enhance teaching and learning. We are now though starting to see augmented reality apps created especially for the educational sector and children's books which include use of augmented reality. It is exciting to think where this technology can lead from an educational point of view in the next few years.

Augmented Reality

- *ZooKazam* by Atlanta AR Design (£0.79 / £0.39 VPP) – FREE on GooglePlay
- *Arloon Apps: Geometry* (£2.29 / £1.14 VPP) - £2.29 on GooglePlay
- *Aurasma* by Aurasma (FREE) – FREE on GooglePlay

Augmented Reality Books *(books cost approximately £6.99 - £9.99 each)*

- *iDinosaur AR* by Red Frog Digital Limited (FREE, but need to purchase books) – FREE on GooglePlay
- *Two Left Feet* by Resin Pty Ltd (FREE, but need to purchase book)
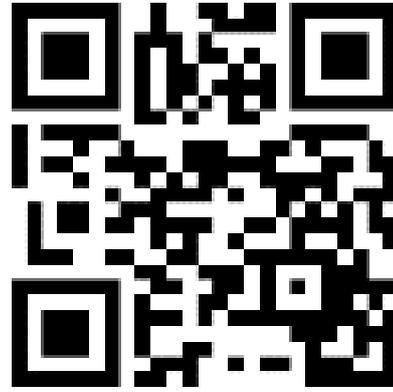
QR codes are becoming very common within society, so again is something very fresh and current for pupils. Whilst I haven't found myself yet scanning one yet at a bus shelter, I do find them incredibly useful within the classroom. Pupils can quickly and easily access websites, have links within their books and on desks to displays and amazing interactive displays can be created.

Interactives Lessons, Displays & Resources

- *QR Reader* for iPad by TapMedia Ltd (FREE) – FREE on GooglePlay
- *Qrafter Pro* – QR Code Generator by Kerem Erkan (£1.49) – NOT on GooglePlay
- *Kahoot* – FREE on all platforms (web-based app) https://kahoot.it

Visit the Animate 2 Educate website!

What was life like for an evacuee?

There are a range of great Digital Literacy apps that take the use of text and images away from the traditional word processing experiences involving Microsoft Word. These apps are much more intuitive and Primary friendly and incorporate features such as the camera that tablets easily offer.

Digital Literacy

- ***Book Creator for iPad*** by Red Jumper Limited (£3.99 / £1.99 VPP) - £1.50 on GooglePlay
- ***Comic Life 3*** by plasq LLC (£3.99 / £1.99 VPP) – NOT on GooglePlay
- ***Popplet*** by Notion (£3.99 / £1.99 VPP) – NOT on GooglePlay

Whilst PowerPoint is a wonderful resource it does get boring when used repeatedly and particularly with younger pupils it is not always the most accessible tool. There are now a wide range of multimedia apps that make presentation software easier, more engaging and more accessible to all.

Multimedia Presentations

- ***Doodlecast Pro Whiteboard*** by Zinc Rae (£3.99 / £1.99 VPP) – NOT on GooglePlay
- ***Explain Everything*** by Explain Everything (£2.49 / £1.49 VPP) - £3.07 on GooglePlay

Animation is a great way to bring any topic or character to life and can be accessed by children of all ages. Simple apps allow images to be given a voice and for animated characters to be included in known locations. As pupils' skills in animation develop, they can progress to creating stop-motion animations, using plasticine and other movable objects.

Animation

- ***ChatterPix Kids*** by Duck Duck Moose (FREE) – NOT on GooglePlay
- ***ABCYa Animate*** by ABCYa.com (£1.49 / £0.74 VPP) – NOT on GooglePlay

Green screen is now very easy and accessible for pupils of all ages. There is no need for expensive software or purpose built studios. Combine with other apps for some great 'app smashing' results. Pop-up green screens or ones on a metal frame are available for under £50 (Amazon). A green sheet or green backing paper will work equally well though. Consider having a green screen display board, green door, wall or green blinds in your classroom. The painted inside of a pizza or cereal box is also great. Combine with Lego, or Playmobil characters etc for some great results. Cut out laminated characters on the end of green drinking straws also works great and a simple bit of green thread can help achieve some great flying results. If you want a human to fly drape a green sheet over a table and then get the child to lie upon it!

Green Screen

- ***Green Screen by Do Ink*** by DK Pictures Inc. (£2.29 / £1.14 VPP) – NOT on GooglePlay
- ***Halftone*** – Turn Photos into Comics by Juicy Bits (£0.79 / £0.39 VPP) – NOT on GooglePlay

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