

# iPads for Struggling Readers and Writers



**Educational Technology Conference**

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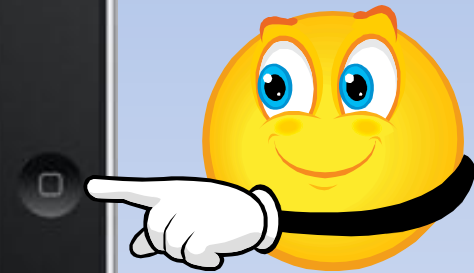
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## Session Objectives

1. Participants will gain a conceptual and practical understanding of the effective use of an iPad in teaching children reading and writing.
2. Participants will learn the basics of the iPad and its resources to assist struggling readers and writers.



# Struggling Readers and Writers

- **Who are they?**
- **Literacy needs of struggling readers**
- **Literacy skills**

# What knowledge about reading is important?

- **Local knowledge**: phonological awareness, sight word recognition, knowledge of sound-symbol relationship, orthographic patterns, word identification strategies, word meanings
- **Global knowledge**: understanding, interpretation, and response to reading, comprehension strategies
- **Affective knowledge** (love of reading): feelings, positive attitude, motivation, the desire to read

(Fitzgerald, 1999)

# Key Elements of Successful Literacy Instruction

- Love of reading
- Exposure to print (including e-text)
- Frequent interactions with various types of text material
- Meaningful engagement
- Independent reading (great amount of practice)
- Fluency (word & sentence levels)
- Reading comprehension

# Literacy for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century

- Effectiveness of multi-sensory approaches
- Multiple intelligences
- Multi-sensory learning
- Multi-modal literacies
- Changes in technology of literacy
- movie



# Can Technology Make A Difference?



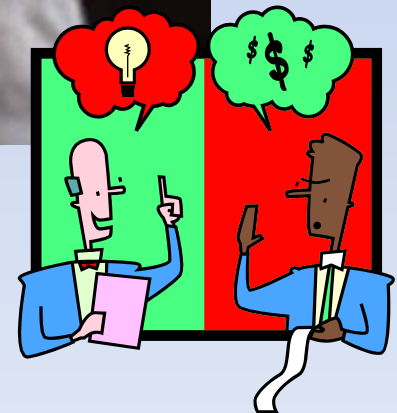
- Digital natives are engaged by the Internet and multimedia technology (everyday, even from birth).
- Today's students think and process information differently because different kinds of experiences lead to different practice.



movies



# Reading on iPad



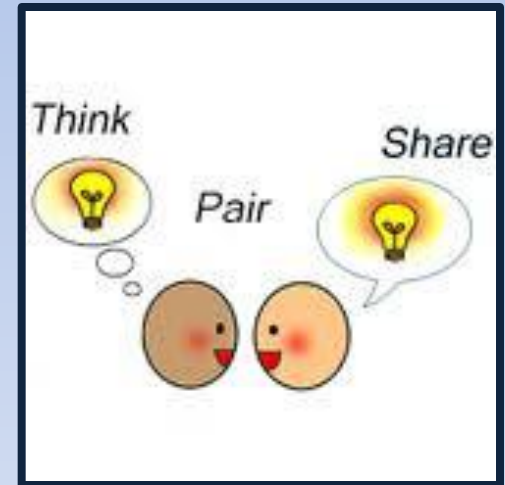


# iPads in Teaching Literacy

- **Current trends:** Not primary for literacy instruction, but as a reinforcement tool
- **Examples:** center activity, independent work or with minimum teacher support
- **Potentials:** Multisensory & manipulative nature of the ipad device, demands for multimedia, multimodal literacy instruction
- **Concerns**
  - Effective implementation
  - Demands for specific kinds of literacy apps for struggling readers and writers
  - Teacher training & professional development

# Activity Think-Pair-Share

- Think about any literacy (reading/writing) apps that are most helpful or would be useful for your students.
- Pair up as instructed.
- Share your thoughts:
  - What apps are most useful?
  - How do you utilize them?
  - What would make the iPad more efficient to use?
  - What kinds of apps do you wish to have?



# Exploring apps

- Go to App Store, looking for
- Type the title of an app
- Or search by choosing a category
- Read the description and customer reviews
- Then, make a decision



# Literacy apps

- **Alphabet/Phonics skills (Center 1)**
- **Word skills-Sight Words (Center 2)**
- **Word skills (Center 3)**
- **Learn to read (Center 4)**
- **Spelling & Vocabulary (Center 5)**
- **Comprehension (Center 6)**
- **Writing/Grammar skills (Center 7)**
- **Apps for adolescent literacy (Center 8)**
- **Exploring literacy apps (Center 9)**

# Center 1: Alphabet/Phonics Skills

1. **Starfall ABCs**
2. ABC Magic Phonics 1
3. ABC Magic Phonics 2
4. (Interactive) Alphabet ABCs
5. ABC Expedition (animals)
6. Alphabytes
7. Pocket Phonic
8. iSpy Phonics
9. Rhyming Words

# Center 2: Word Skills (Sight Words)

1. Dolch words
2. Sight Words... Touch
3. Sight Cards
4. Sight Words 2
5. Sight Words
6. Sight Word Sizzle
7. K-3 Sight Words

# Center 3: Word Skills

1. **Word Bingo**
2. **Word Magic**
3. **Word Wagon**
4. **Little Reader (Three words)**
5. **Little Reader (Four words)**
6. **Montessori Crosswords**
7. **Wurdle**

# Center 4: Learn to Read

## 1. Read Me Stories

2. Bob Books #1

3. Bob Books #2

4. Starfall Learn to Read

5. (Magic) Reading Skill 1

6. (Magic) Reading Skill 2

7. (Magic) Reading Skill 3

8. Sentence Reading



# Center 5: Spelling & Vocabulary

- 1. Spell Sight Words**
- 2. Word Wizard**
- 3. Alpha Writer**
- 4. Pogg**
- 5. Licking Letters**
- 6. Spelling Test**
- 7. Skill Builder Spelling**
- 8. Chicktionary**

# Center 6: Comprehension

1. **Brain Pop**
2. **Brain Quest**
3. **Painless Reading Comprehension**
4. **Question Builder**
5. **Speech with Milo: Sequencing**
6. **SimpleMind: Mind Mapping**

# Center 7: Writing/Grammar Skills

1. **Notability**
2. **iWriteWords (HandWRiting)**
3. **Speech with Milo: Verbs**
4. **Speech with Milo: Prepositions**
5. **Sentence Builder**
6. **Story Builder**

# Center 8

1. **Brain Pop Jr.**
2. Timed Reading
3. Sentence Builder for Teens
4. CompareNContrast
5. ReadNRespond
6. Tools4Students
7. SAT Vocabulary
8. Flud News
9. Popplet
10. Kobo
11. Google Currents

# Center 9

- Use App Store and explore apps suggested by Reading Rockets
- Read the description and customer comments.

# Center Activity

- Review apps on the list and fill out the evaluation rubric for 1-2 apps.
- Collaborate with your partner(s) to determine the scores.

# Resources (Hand-outs)

1. **Reading Rockets: List of the suggested apps by literacy skills**
2. **50 Best iPad Apps for Reading Disabilities**
3. **Extra copies of the rubric**

# Ticket Outs

- Write down your ideas of new apps helpful for struggling readers and writers on a post it.
- For examples, an app for hi-low books, an app to build their fluency, an app for their read-aloud