

iPad as a Learning Center



Laura Caulin

Technology Professional Development Consultant

5 Tips for

Awesome iPad-Infused Centers

1. **Teach the app(s)** before using it in a center.
2. Provide structure using **clear written directions** on task cards.
3. **Provide content** with links to online information (QR codes) and content based apps.
4. Try a **“hybrid” center** where they use low tech resources in conjunction with the iPad
5. **Support Creativity!** Students show their thinking/learning with apps like SeeSaw, color pencil, skitch, etc.
6. Share their learning using your Edline page or a site such as Seesaw or Padlet.

Tip 1 – Teach the App(s)

- Make sure students know how to use the app(s) before assigning it in a center.
- Do a whole-class version of the activity first.
- Spend time teaching any apps that will be used for file sharing (i.e. See Saw, eBackpack)



School Rules

Materials

- 1 iPad with the SeeSaw app

Directions

1. Open the SeeSaw app.
 2. Tap Drawing.
 3. Draw a picture illustrating an important classroom rule.
 4. Tap the green check.
 5. Tap the T.
 6. Type the rule.
 7. Tap Done
1. Tap the microphone.
 2. Record what you wrote.
 3. Tap the red button when you are done recording.
 4. Tap the check.
 5. Tap the check again.
 6. Tap your name.
 7. Tap the check.

Tip 2 – Provide Clear Instructions

- Make task cards
- Make audio recordings of directions in Vocaroo.
- Create QR codes to all online resources and audio directions and include on the task card.

Tip 3 – Provide Content

- Search for content
 - Find websites
 - Google for the content with the word app.
 - Pinterest for content specific apps.
- Share content
 - QR Codes
 - Symbaloo
 - edPuzzle
 - Use print content (hard copy)

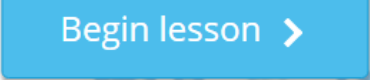
Understanding Pronouns



Materials

- iPad with the Scan App
- Worksheet
- Pencil

Directions






1. Open the Scan App.
2. Scan the QR code to get to the *Understanding Pronouns* video.
3. Have the worksheet and a pencil ready.
4. Click 
5. Follow the directions in the video.



Name _____
Date _____

Pronouns

Directions: At each stop sign, follow the directions given in the video. Show your work below.

	My friend grabbed the notebook. The playful dog chased the bone.
	Amy ran outside. My mom and dad baked cupcakes.
	Lucy invited Mary. Sam gave the toy to his brothers.
	My mom and (I/me) shopped all day. Sam came with Joey and (I/me).
	Mom asked John to take out the trash. John told Mom that John would get the trash after he finished his homework. Mom told John not to forget the trash.

Remember, writers use pronouns to replace nouns that are used over and over again. Make sure you do this in your own writing!

Great sites that provide content

- Unite for Literacy – Primary
- Wonderopolis
- Newsela.com
- Discovery Education
- BrainPop (Safari) and BrainPop Jr. (App)
- PBS Learning Media
- The kids should see this
- Student News Daily
- Time for Kids
- WatchKnowLearn
- LearnZillion

Tip 4 – Create “Hybrid” Centers

- Use low tech resources in conjunction with the iPad
 - Print books or magazines
 - Math manipulatives
 - Hard copy worksheets and pencils/crayons
 - Students create a hard copy product
- Capture their work with the iPad
 - Camera roll
 - SeeSaw
 - Adobe Voice

Making One Dollar – 4 Ways



Materials

- 1 iPad (See Saw app)
- Math Manipulatives

Directions

1. Use the math organizer and money manipulatives to show \$1.00 four different ways.
2. Open the See Saw app.
3. Tap Photo.
4. Tap the camera to take a picture of your work.
5. Tap the microphone.
6. Explain your work.
7. Tap the check.
8. Tap the check again.
9. Tap your name.
10. Tap the check.
11. Tap the arrow to the right to get the app ready for the next group.



Life Cycle of a Butterfly



Materials

- 1 iPad (Camera and See Saw apps)
- Life cycle pictures

Directions

1. Put the butterfly life cycle pictures in order.
2. Go to the camera app.
3. Change the mode to video.
4. Record each other explaining the stages of a butterfly's life cycle. Follow the directions on the right to put it in See Saw. (Each person explains the whole cycle.)
6. Go to the See Saw app.
7. Tap Camera Roll.
8. Tap Camera Roll.
9. Tap your video.
10. Tap the check.
11. Tap your name.
12. Tap the check again.



egg

pupa

larva

Adult
butterfly

Tip 5 - Support Creativity

- Digital Mind Maps (iBrainstorm)
- Infographics (PicCollage, Skitch)
- Record voice (Chatterpix Kids, Adobe Voice)
- See Saw
- Make a sound studio. Line a box with Styrofoam and put iPad inside. Use the camera to take a selfie video.

Things to Think (or Write) About



Materials

iPad (Things to Think About App)
Ipad (iBrainstorm App)

Directions

1. Go to the Things to Think About app.
2. Tap Categories.
3. Tap Rules.
4. Choose one of the prompts to explore.
5. Go to the iBrainstorm app.
6. Tap the triangle in the center of screen.
7. Tap the plus sign.
8. Type your names.
9. Tap Save.
10. Tap the plus sign above the faces.
11. Double-tap on the sticky note to type an idea.
12. Add more notes and type more ideas.
13. When you are done, tap the Share icon.
14. Tap mail.
15. Email your page to Mrs. Caulin.

Tip 6 – Share Their Learning

- Use Google Forms for student to write a reflection.
- Padlet – Use moderate posts so students won't see each other's work.
- Seesaw – Taking/creating pictures or upload from camera roll.
- Upload to your Edline page.

Other Thoughts

- Choose an app that purposefully targets a skill for instruction or review.
- Post clear instructions at the station to explain how the iPads are to be used. (General iPad rules.)
- Have students prepare the station for the next group of students by restarting the app so that it will be a clean slate.
- Remember that your station does not require a 1:1 ratio of iPad use. You can engage students in activities using 1 or 2 iPads per small group.

Teach Handling and Care

- Explicitly review how to handle the iPads safely.
- Students should not pick up the iPads; they should leave them on the desk during and after use...unless they are taking pictures.
- The teacher should set up the stations and include clear, written rules at the station.

Rules for using the iPad Center



1. Wash your hands before using the iPad.
2. No water near the iPad.
3. Use only apps in the instructions for the center.
4. Always share with others in your group.
5. Be gentle when touching the screen.
6. Leave the iPad on the table unless you are taking a picture.
7. Leave the iPad ready for the next users.



for Awesome iPad-Infused Centers

1. Teach the app
2. Use clear written directions
3. Provide content
4. Use “hybrid” centers
5. Support Creativity
6. Share their learning

References

- 6 Ready To Use iPad Centers
 - <http://www.mrswideen.com/2013/09/6-ready-to-go-ipad-centers.html>
 - Accessed 12/14/15
- 3 Tips for using an iPad as a center in your classroom
 - <http://www.teq.com/blog/2013/06/3-tips-for-using-an-ipad-as-a-center-in-your-classroom/#.VnGwAUqDGkp>
 - Accessed 12/15/15
- Spruce up your centers with technology video
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PONelAzGtK4>
 - Accessed 12/15/15