

Having received a day's training on using I-Pads in the classroom, I was inspired to use this technology with my class. As our school did not have the equipment, Michael Conlon kindly lent me 4 I-Pads to use with my Primary 2/3 class.

From the training I was keen to use the Book Creator app during my Houses and Homes topic. I initially had to teach the skills to the children but they quickly picked up how to use the software and many were already familiar with the technology as they use I-Pads at home. The children were put into groups and the more confident pupils were able to support and teach their peers which developed their communication and social skills. All the children found using them highly motivating and were always asking when we were going to use them next.

The purpose of the class books were to demonstrate children's learning and to do this the children were able to take photos, record videos and annotate their pictures. The children also particularly enjoyed recording their voices to add sound files to accompany their photographs. The finished books were then shared with the community during the 'Clay Fest' held in Errol which my class were involved with.

I found the I-Pads to be particularly motivating for those children who were less keen to write and participate in group activities. Therefore, these children in particular were able to feel successful in their learning and had produced evidence of their learning through visual means.

I planned the use of the I-Pads during my topic times and as all children were unable to work on them at the same time, it meant groups of children were working on other tasks and I rotated them round. Once the children were confident in using the apps they were able to work on their task fairly independently with only occasional prompting and reminding. If we had more I-Pads it would have allowed more children to work on them at the same time so it did mean a bit of juggling.

The children were very proud of their books and loved to share them with other children and adults. I felt it allowed the children to communicate their ideas and learning in an enhanced way rather than just drawing and writing. The technology created a more visually appealing and creative approach.







Since trialling the I-Pads, our school have now invested in 8 I-Pads and are currently being used in every classroom by the class teacher. It is hoped that we will purchase more as they are proving to be highly motivating, easy to use and engaging for all pupils. As there is only one per class it is difficult to allow all children access, and some pupils in particular receive regular access as a way of de-escalating challenging behaviour and as behaviour incentives. Some of the challenges have been connecting to wifi as they logout frequently and this then requires the class teacher to have to login again which is a little frustrating. There is a huge range of educational apps that are free to download and many more that can be purchased, all of which can further children's learning and allow independent use. Ideally, we would love a class set which would allow individual use to maximise the skills and experiences the children would receive.

Below are some of the children's evaluations from their learning logs.

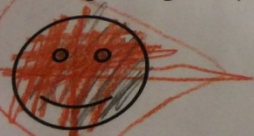
1.4.15

Name: Lewis M
Evaluation of i-pads

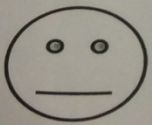
We have been using i-pads to make a class book to show our learning from our Houses and Homes topic.

I can..	Traffic light
Take a picture and add the pictures to a page in the book	
Add a recording of my voice	
Take a video	
Add more pages to my book and change the colour	
Change the size, colour and style of writing	
Work with others to share the i-pad and make decisions together	

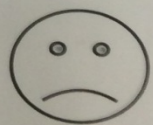
I thought using the i-pads was:



Great fun



ok



I didn't enjoy using them







Because we go + to learn about houses

Next I would like to google search

1.4.15

Name: HannahEvaluation of i-pads

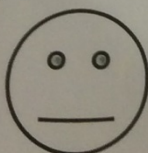
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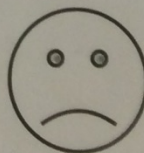
I thought using the i-pads was:



Great fun



ok



I didn't enjoy using them

Because we get to walk around.

Next I would like to make another book.