



28 Interesting Ways* to Use an iPod Touch in the Classroom

*and tips

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[ipod touch cake](#) by ccyan



#1 - Maths Apps

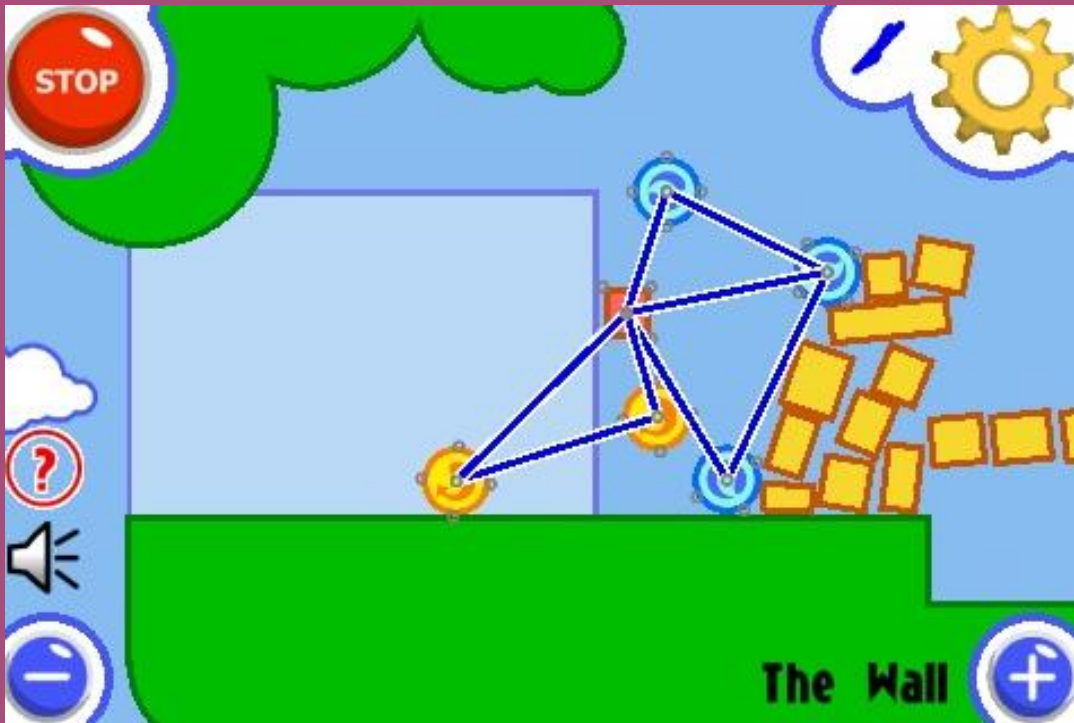
Add some math apps to the iPod Touch and let students who finish early use the iPod Touch to play Mathletics and other math games.cs

If you have more than one available you could have students competing against each other for high scores.

(Some apps I use are: Basic Math, Mathletics, Math Quizzer, PopMath Lite, Brain+)

([Jo Fothergill](#), [@kiwijoe90](#), [Room 10 RBS](#))

#2 - Fantastic Contraption



Fantastic starter, gets all the class involved. You have to build a contraption to get from A-B. Pupils all get involved trying to improve and adjust the contraption and make it work. Cost £2.99 but you only need 1 copy if you have a visualizer

#3 - Voice memo - collaborative story building

Get a pupil to record the first line of a story, pass it to the next pupil to listen to and add to, continue with each pupil adding a part until the story is complete.



#4 - Collect Data with Google Forms

Create a Google Form and email it to your iPod Touch. When you click the link, it will take you to the Form formatted for the Touch, with multiple choice scroll menus, text boxes, etc. Use the Touch as a handheld data collection device that automatically populates a spreadsheet with your data.



The screenshot shows a Google Form displayed on an iPod Touch screen. The status bar at the top indicates 'iPod', signal strength, '7:55 AM', and battery level. The form has three sections: 'Name' with a text input field, 'Engagment' with a 5-point scale (radio buttons) labeled 'Disengaged' and 'Highly Engaged', and 'Evidence' with a large text area. A 'Submit' button is at the bottom. The footer says 'Powered by Google Docs' and includes links for 'Report Abuse', 'Terms of Service', and 'Additional T...'. The iPod Touch home indicator bar is at the very bottom.

iPod 7:55 AM

Name

Engagment

1 2 3 4 5

Disengaged ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ Highly Engaged

Evidence

Submit

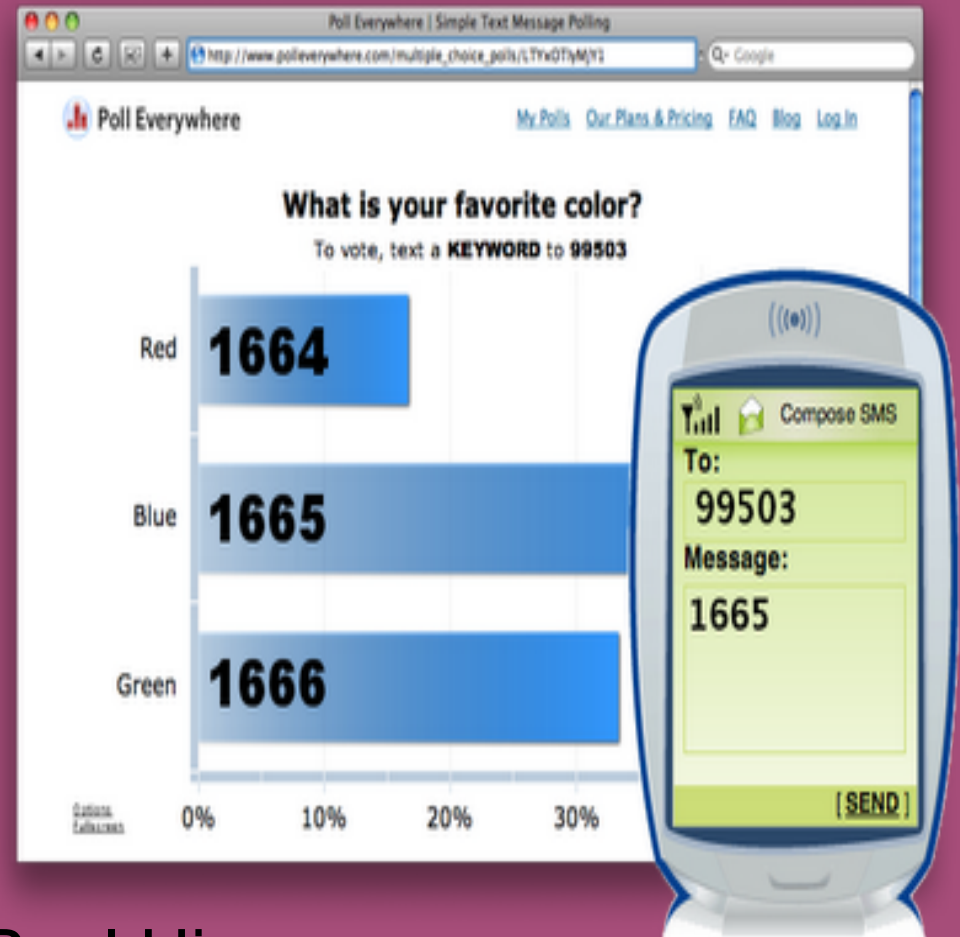
Powered by [Google Docs](#)

[Report Abuse](#) [Terms of Service](#) [Additional T...](#)

#5 - Conduct assessment with Online Polls

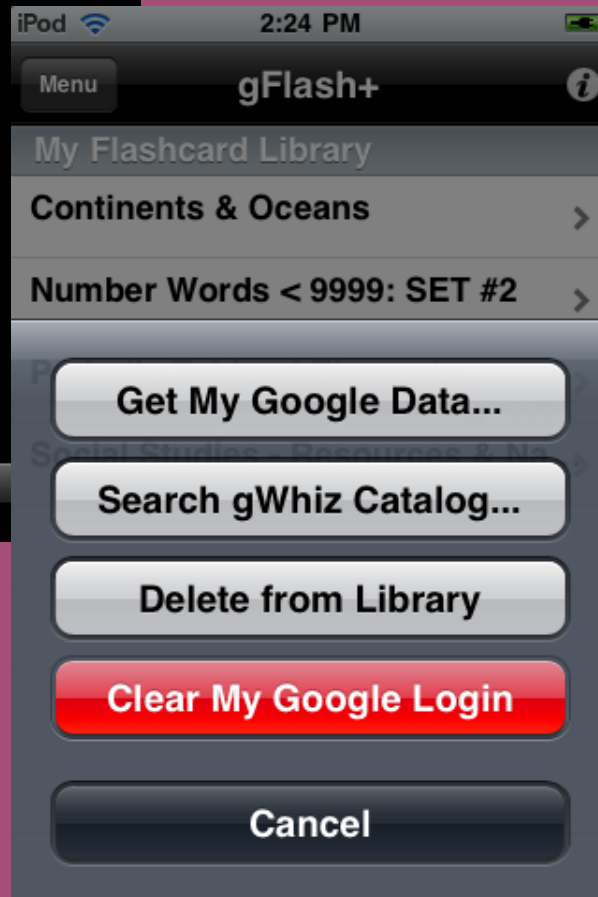
Using Poll Everywhere students can access polls online and vote for the correct answer. Poll everywhere is FREE for up to 30 users per poll. Additional users can be added at a fee.

Using Assessment Apps like qWhiz, ResponseWare, Teachers Pick, iResponse that work like traditional clickers.



Paul Hieronymus
[@Hairynomas](https://twitter.com/Hairynomas)

#6 - Create Custom Flashcards



Using the FREE gFlash+ app, you can create & sync custom card decks using your Google account.

The gFlash+ app is best suited to provide a skill and drill approach to memorizing vocabulary, math facts and other learning content.

[Complete App Review & Instructions](#)

More Educational iPod App Reviews at www.IEAR.org



#7 - Create a Collaborative Context

Touch Pets Dogs (free) is a great app to use for creating a context. Pupils adopt a puppy and are responsible for its needs ranging from food, exercise and training to building a career and socializing.

Earn puppy bucks by caring for your puppy then buy treats, careers and accessories.

Progress through careers by successfully completing challenges.

Can be used to develop skills in literacy, maths and health and wellbeing.

(food is refilled every 15mins for free)

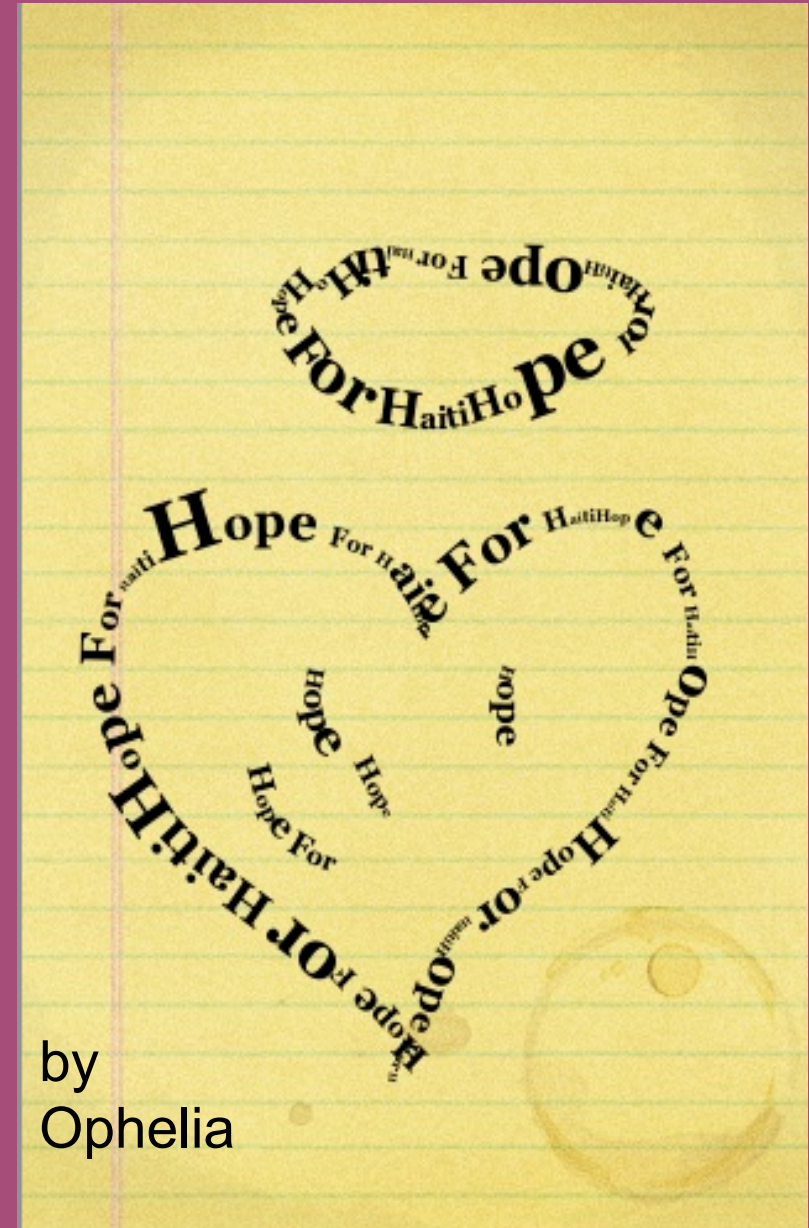


[Jenny](#)
[@relativism](#)

#8 - TypeDrawing

Use an app called TypeDrawing to create a visual message in response to a current event. Share to folder and create a slideshow to post on class website. This is a great way to display a reaction to an event or text.

Dana Zora, Stevens Elementary
<http://dzora.weebly.com>



#9 - Create a Mini Listening Centre

- Use a Belkin Rock Star to turn one iPod into a mini listening centre for 5 pupils.
- Download or make your own or student voice recordings of favourite stories/rhymes. Get other pupils, teachers, parents or principal to read as well.
- Create listening skills activities to develop auditory discrimination or meet student ESL/special needs.



@louwinsr

#11 Magic Wallet -app http://web.me.com/jenashby/iPodTouch_Project/Blog/Blog.html

Some say it's a party trick app. I say it's great for coin recognition and for counting coins. I have worked out some games. When the *i* is showing you can get more info and select the type of currency you require.

How much is in my wallet?

1. Fill the wallet with coins and then take a screen shot.(use in comic touch and label coins)
2. Open the screen shot and record in a table how many of each coin.
3. Start with the largest value coin and count, next add on the next in value etc until you have a total of the wallet.
4. Give your partner a turn and see if they can get more money in the wallet.



Money grab

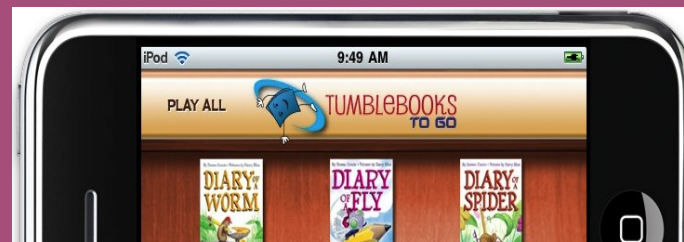
1. Fill the wallet and then take turns to double tap and take a coin.
2. Fill in the chart as you go.
3. At the end when no more coins come in the wallet you find out who got the most money. This could be limited by just allowing 5 grabs each.

Also it could be the person with the least amount wins.

For more ideas visit my blog. Jenny Ashby @jjash on twitter

#10 - Design a New Book Nook (NBN)

- Begin to create blended learning spaces and experiences in your classroom.
- Create a small area where 3-5 children can engage in a variety of literacy experiences.
- Include traditional children's literature materials and digital media.
- Items to consider
 - Bookshelves
 - Books
 - eBooks
 - iPod Touch
 - iPad
 - TouchSmart Computer
- Consider the seating (floor cushions; small chairs; rug; table/chairs)
- Consider the viewing distance; accessibility [children will need to touch]
- Consider safety



#12 Practice Descriptions in a Foreign Language

Working with a partner, create something that the other person needs to describe:

- Create an alien with Martian App and describe the creature
- Dress up a character with DressUpLite (or other clothing app) and describe clothing
- Customize the face with PicBook and have students describe facial features and emotions
- Draw with DoodleBuddy (or any other drawing app) and describe what is happening using verbs and adjectives



#13 Bump!



Children can work collaboratively on, say, a research task and pass images to each other with the free Bump app.

Images can be gathered from the web, annotated with one of the many comic apps (eg Comic Twist or Strip designer) and collected via bump on touch. The images could then be strung together with a slideshow app (Sonic Pics) adding audio.

[@johnjohnston](#) ([ipod touch posts](#), [ipod touch pilot blog](#))

#14 Image Search - auto attribution



<http://johnjohnston.info/flickrcctouch/>

Children can use images for lots of learning tasks, using as stimulus for writing, supporting research etc, etc.

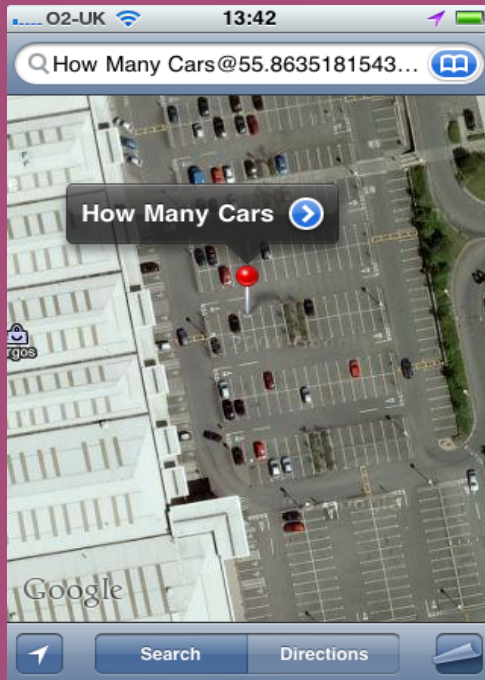
Images can be annotated with one of the many comic apps (eg Comic Twist or Strip designer) or strung together with a slideshow app (Sonic Pics) adding audio.

The above ipod optimised (a bit) webpage will search photos on flickr that can be edited and 'stamp' them with attribution.

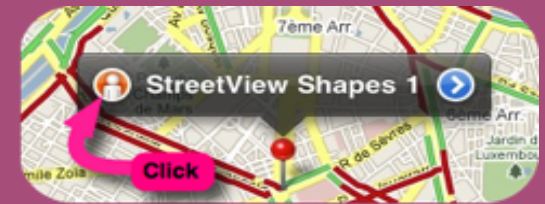
[@johnjohnston](#) ([ipod touch posts](#), [ipod touch pilot blog](#))

#15 Linking to Google Maps

The url is made up of several 'bits'



- <http://maps.google.co.uk/maps?> NB the ?
- [q=How%20Many%20Cars@55.86351815435995](#) -- the title you want with spaces preplaced by %20 followed by @ and the location (You can get the loc by right clicking and dropping a marker in on a google map)
- [z=18](#) 18 is the zoom
- [t=h](#) gives the hybrid view (options are "m" map, "k" satellite, "h" hybrid, "p" terrain, "e" GoogleEarth)



There are many interesting ways of using Google Maps in the classroom. Tom Barrett's Math's maps <http://edte.ch/blog/maths-maps/> show great ideas and can be adapted to the ipod touch. It might be better to have one challenge at a time, you can add a labelled pin to a map by linking (from a webpage, blog post, or via email).

Orange guy, if present, will take you into StreetView, good for descriptive writing.

[@johnjohnston](#) ([ipod touch posts](#), [ipod touch pilot blog](#))

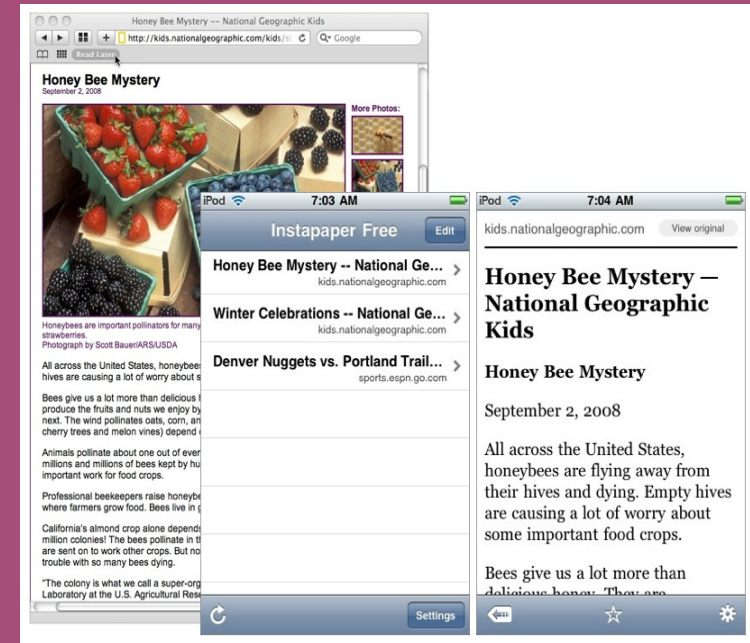
#16 Instapaper

[Instapaper](#), is an application that allows you to reposition web content, and your own content, for easy reading on devices such as the iPod Touch. As you are browsing a web page, you can send the text of that page (through the use of a bookmarklet) to your **iPod Touch** to read later (and offline if necessary) with the Instapaper app. This app can be used with a classroom set of iPod Touches to create a system of pushing content out to the iPod Touches with a minimal amount of work.

A teacher could use this to share with her students an article she would like them to read on the iPod Touch. By using this

method, she can invoke the Instapaper bookmarklet, which grabs the text of the web page, and then have the article appear on each of the classroom iPod Touches synced to the class account. In addition when you set up your account with Instapaper, you also have access to a special email address that allows you to send the contents of an email to the Instapaper app. For example a teacher might create a handout in her email and then instead of photocopying, she sends the email to the Instapaper account and it shows up on each iPod Touch.

I use this method at home with my son. I have his account bookmarked on my browser and when I find something I believe he would be interested in reading, I send it to him via Instapaper and he reads it on his iPod Touch.



#17 Pixter

[Pixter](#) can be used to assemble a series of photos (or other images) into a collage. One use would be to reinforce vocabulary using image associations, typically the kind of thing which might be done in languages, but perhaps in any subject where new vocab arises.

There are 3 steps:

1. Search for the images and save them to the photo library (*John Johnston provides a useful way of doing this on slide 14*)
2. Use Pixter to arrange the images onto a single work area and when complete, save back to the Library.
3. Open the collage in [Comic Touch Lite](#) and add the annotations.



[Ian Guest](#)
[@IaninSheffield](#)

A final stage might be for pupils to email the completed image to a (moderated?) [Posterous](#) site. This would mean they could add additional description or explanations in the body of the email which would then be automatically posted with their collage.

#18 StoryKit

... from the [ICDL Foundation](#) can be used for telling a story in words, images and audio. That story could be a series of poems, an analysis of/report on a figure in History or an experiment report in Science.

Pupils create a 'book' from scratch, page by page, typing in text or pasting from elsewhere, bringing images in from the Photo Library and recording audio if needed. Swapping from Edit mode to Read allows the book to be viewed and browsed as with the sample books which come with StoryKit. The completed book can be uploaded to the StoryKit server with a single click – you're then provided with a unique URL which points towards the online version which has the same content, but without the book-like look and feel. Here's [an example](#).

Details of how to create a Story can be found in [this video](#) by scsiFifth (although the description is for the iPad, it's exactly the same on the Touch)



[Ian Guest](#)
[@IaninSheffield](#)

#19 Radio Station apps

. . . could be useful to support language learning, more specifically with older students perhaps?

The [Radio France app](#) for example:

1. provides plenty of opportunities for listening to native speakers in authentic situations
2. provides access to their stations (Music, Sport, Culture etc)
3. has associated podcasts
4. provides dedicated news channels for each of the stations

So in addition to listening to the live channels, lessons could be planned around topical news items pulled down through any of the news feeds. Written text and audio from the original broadcast are available together.

By subscribing to any of the podcast categories, a weekly 'bulletin' session could take place where a different student feeds back about what's been happening in their chosen topic.

. . . by all means add other uses if you can think of any



[Ian Guest](#)
[@IaninSheffield](#)

#20 Probability and Percentages

Install the free app "iChoose", which has coin toss, dice, cards and other options for random outcomes. Students play for a fixed time and tally their results. They then calculate the percentage of each outcome using the iPod calculator and compare their results with the whole class data, to show after many trials experimental data approaches theoretical probability.



You can also compare real coin and dice data with iPod results if you don't have enough devices to go around.

@brittgow

21 LOTE/ESL/Special Ed Activity...

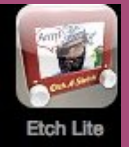
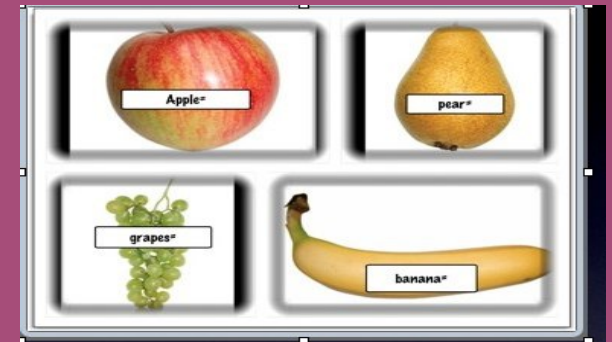
Using the apps [Etch a Sketch Lite](#) or some CC pictures from Safari. Find pictures relating to a set topic. Save these pictures to your camera roll. (4 pictures is ideal).

Go to "[Strip Design](#)". Select how many frames you would like. Add the pictures to your frames. (Put a border to make it stand out). Add text boxes/speech

bubbles to each of your picture frames. Save the picture via email or as a screen-shot. This will save it in your Photos App. They then can be used as flashcards for learning new skills, languages or to help students with ESL.

http://www.mexircus.com/Strip_Designer/index.html

Megan lemma @megsamanda meganaiemma@me.com



22 ppts on the ipod using box.net

A quick, free and fairly straightforward way to view PowerPoint on your iPod....

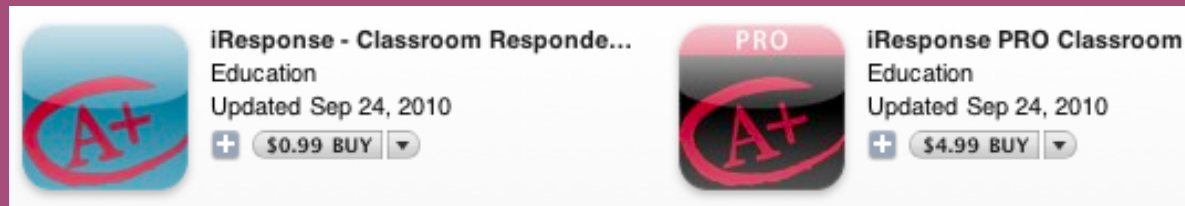
1. Save your ppts as pdfs using *save as in 2007* (this reduces the file size)
2. Create a free account at box.net
3. Upload your pdfs
4. Install the [box.net app](#) on your iPod
5. Log in to your account on the iPod
6. View your files
7. Save them to your iPod for offline viewing if necessary

#23 - iPadio

iPadio is a voice recording tool that now allows you to record and upload from iPod Touches into your own account, which it did not allow previously. Also my students use the iPods as their classroom computer platform. They blog directly into their Edublogs.org accounts from the iPods. They have to click on the "HTML" tab to write into the body of the blog.

from Dom Salvucci

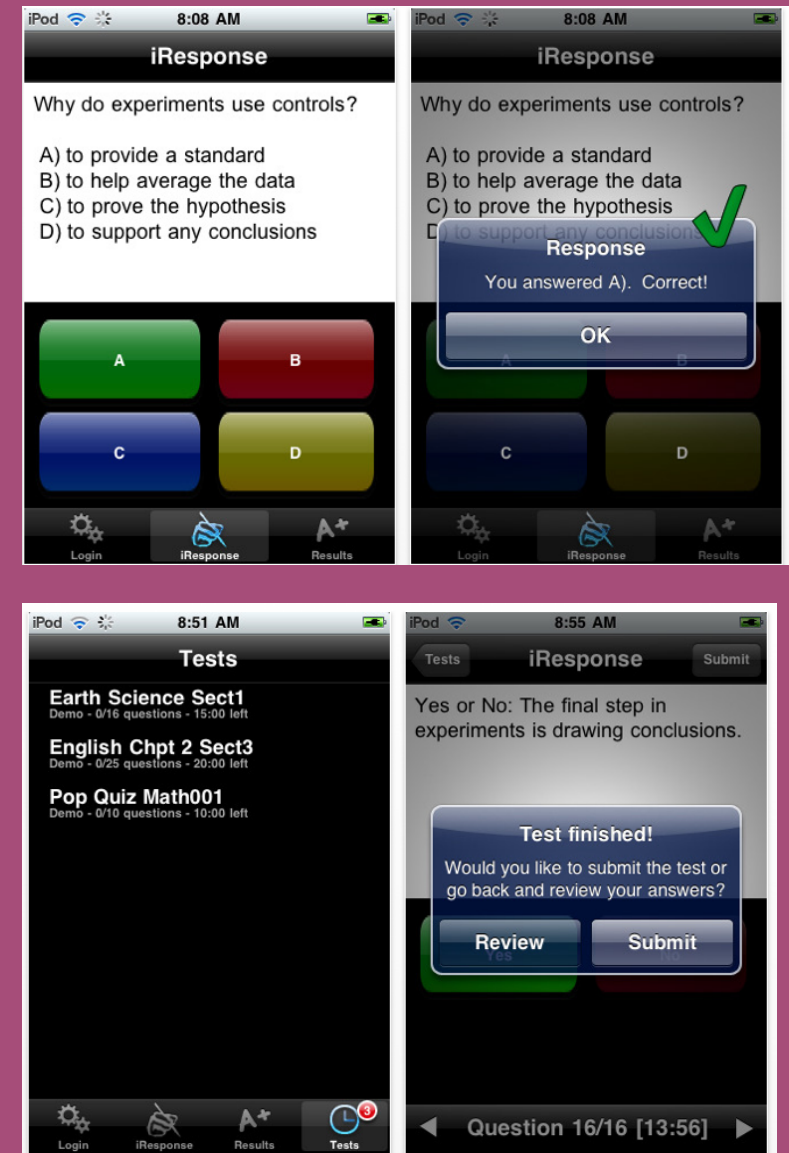
#24 - iResponse



[iResponse](#) (\$.99) & [iResponse Pro](#) (\$4.99) allow for a student response system (i.e. 'clicker' system) to be used with your iPod Touches in the classroom.

Pro - allows for individual tests; more features.

Note: This app requires desktop software that needs to be downloaded from www.iresponseapp.com



[@chadkafka](#) // www.chadkafka.com

#25 - Apple Volume Purchasing Plan Resources

In August 2010, Apple rolled out their [Volume Purchasing Plan](#) for education. This calls for paying per app per iPod/iPad device. The management of this is a little complicated and involved.

I've been collecting links and resources to how others are managing this. I am adding links to my Delicious account as they find them. Some links are to the right.

<http://www.delicious.com/chadkafka/vpp>

Please share what you find! [@chadkafka](#) // www.chadkafka.com



LINKS TO RESOURCES

- [Apple VPP](#)
- [Apple VPP FAQ](#)
- [Learning In Hand Step-By-Step](#)
- [Canby Step-By-Step](#)
- [iear.org Step-By-Step](#)

(add other resources here!!)

#26 - What's the Weather Like?

I have a set of ipod touches in my classroom. Last year my first graders used the weather app to learn about line graphs. We kept track of the weather in the locations of our pen pals in Zambia, Lebanon, New Hampshire (US), and our own in Colorado (US).

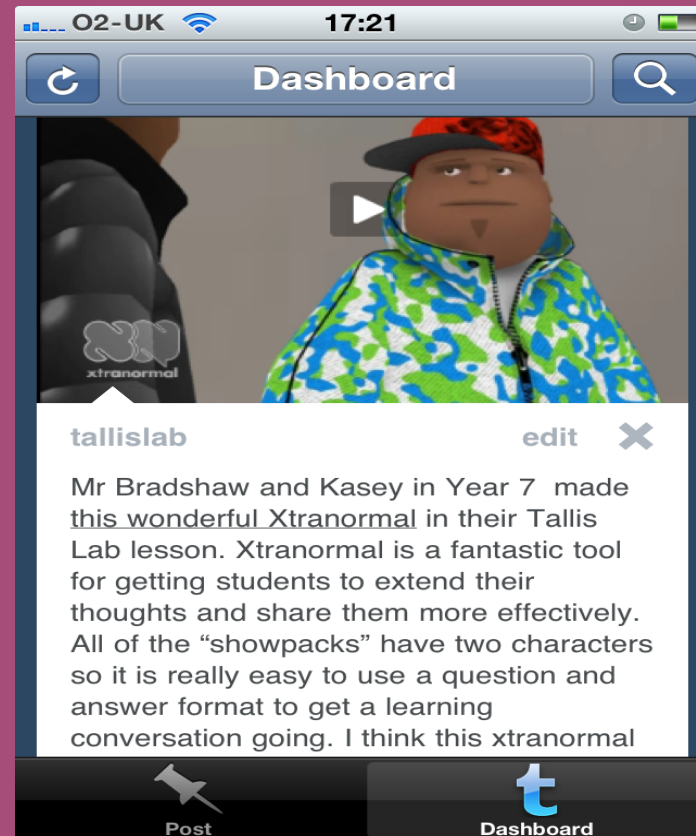
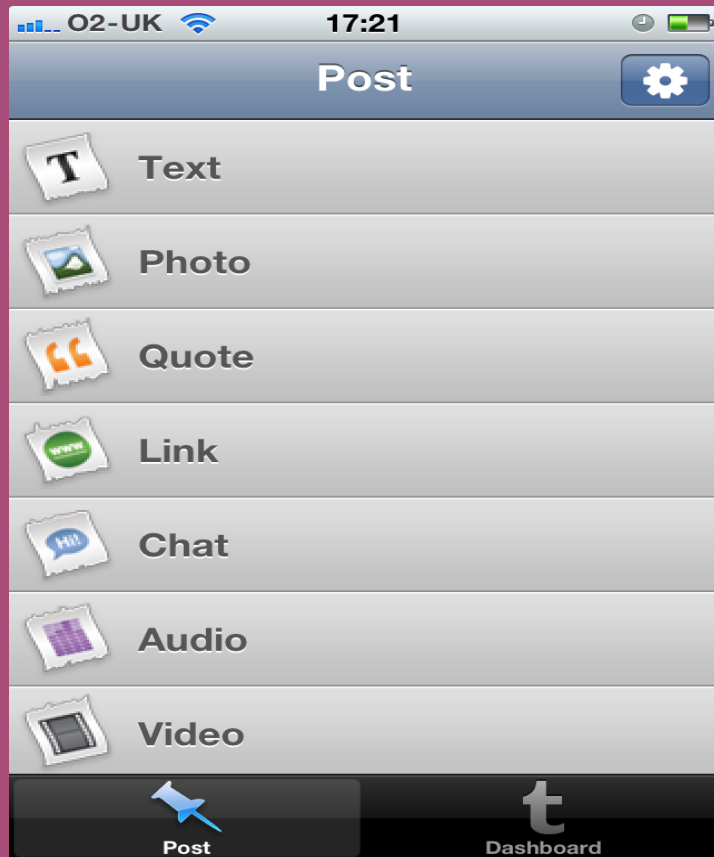
They not only learned to graph, they learned about the difference between Celsius and Fahrenheit as well as the different seasons in the northern and southern hemispheres. At the same time, we referred to the time using the clock each day as well. It showed not only the time difference, but also clearly showed the young learners when it was day here, but night somewhere around the globe.

Simple lessons without purchasing any apps!

[@c_arnett](#)

27 Tumblr app

Use the fantastic (and free!) Tumblr app to make posting to a project or class blog completely straightforward. You can post the full range of content (especially with the new iPods). Pre-synch the ipod with your Tumblr blog of choice, and it will go straight on without any messing around with submission and moderation. Instant!



@tallislab

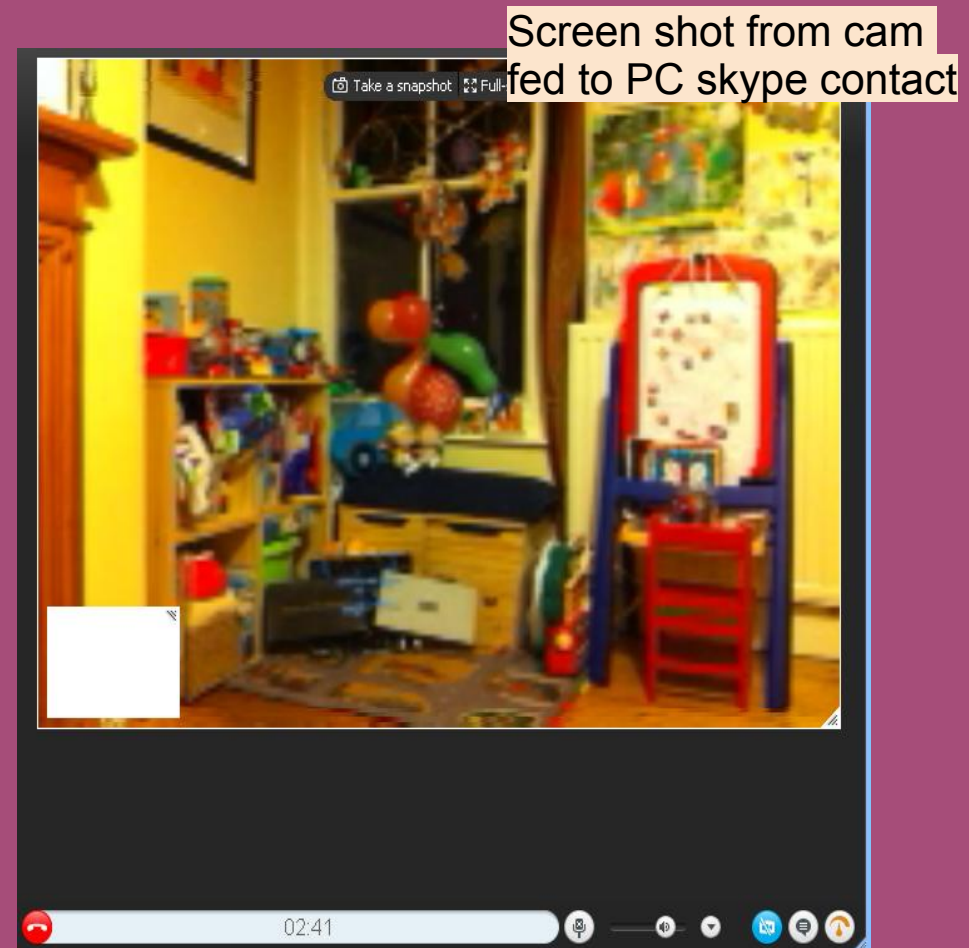
www.tallislab.com

#28 Roving reporter

Latest version of skype, coupled with latest iPod touch gives you the ability to move around a wireless-enabled school video-conferencing / broadcasting back to another skype account being used in the classroom on the projector.

So many possibilities are opened up.

1. Student reporters going around an activity or sports day with 'live link up back to the studio'
2. Treasure hunt, with classroom doing the problem solving whilst Anneka Rice volunteers go round the school following the instructions of their classmates.
3. School council can be video streamed straight into the dining room.
4. (Skype even streams video via the 3g network so iPhone/MiFi enabled groups could even report back from field trips...)



If you would like to:

- Contribute your ideas and tips to the presentation.
- Let me know how you have used the resource.
- Get in touch.

You can email me or I am @tombarrett on Twitter

If you add a tip (or even if you don't) please tweet about it and the link so more people can contribute.

I have created a page for all of the **Interesting Ways** presentations [on my blog](#).
The whole family in one place :-)



Image: '[Sharing](#)'

Thanks for helping
Tom Barrett

Have you seen [Maths Maps](#) yet?