

iPAD / IPOD TEACHER TOOLS

Michigan Integrated Technology Supports Conference

The following iPad apps provide some specific functionality to help teachers and other educators be productive in their work. Some of these are specific to the iPad, while others are for all of the "iOS" family (iPod and iPhone). A few also have alternate versions for the Android platform.

Non-negotiable, must-have apps (for me, at least)

- 1Password - app that lets you sync passwords with your computer and track web logins and other passwords
- Dropbox - web syncing service and so much more. GET THIS TOOL (www.dropbox.com)
- Pages - Apple's word processor - for iPad
- Safari - probably the most useful tool
- Terra - alternate browser that includes tabs, full screen, and offline viewing
- Settings - okay, this isn't an app, but this should be the first place you look to address accessibility issues for the iPad/iPod. There are a number of these functions built into these devices, including voice-over, zoom screen, large text, and white on black

Communication Apps

- BlogPress - blogging tool that lets you edit and manage Blogger, Wordpress, etc. blogs
- Blogsy - Blogging tool similar to BlogPress, but with some updated features
- Twitter - iPad reader/editor for the microblogging service
- MailChimp - email management tool - works with web app at www.mailchimp.com
- Skype - iPad version of the popular VOIP calling and videoconferencing tool
- FaceTime - built-in app on iPad 2 for videoconferencing
- Friendly - FaceBook reader/editor for the iPad
- FuzeMeeting - iPad viewer for the FuzeMeeting web-based meeting service (similar for GotoMeeting, WebEx, Adobe Connect, etc.)
- iTeleport: Jaadu - VNC client for iPad that lets you connect to and control your computer

Research/Reader Apps

- Flipboard - reader app for iPad
- Instapaper - web based capture and reader app - need an online account (free)
- Wolfram Alpha - amazing web search tool - look it up at www.wolframalpha.com and try the demo videos
- Articles - wikipedia reader
- iTunes U - it is amazing what content is on this site. Check in K12, then Michigan for the MI Learning resources too.
- Google Search - includes voice activated search
- Evernote - notetaking app that works with the Evernote service
- ZenViewer HD - opens and views about anything you read
- GoodReader - reads just about anything you send it, works with computer web browser
- Kindle/iBooks - great for the appropriate books

Notetaking Apps

- Dragon Dictate - speech to text tool
- SimpleNote - note taking that syncs with Dropbox on iPad
- SoundNote - note taking app that also records audio while writing and syncs with the notes you are taking for ease in playback
- Elements - note taking that syncs with Dropbox on iPad
- Penultimate - stylus based notebook tool for taking notes
- iThoughtsHD - concept mapping tool for making visual notes/graphic organizers
- Bento - database app that allows you to create and record data specific to your needs, and to bring up a database viewer for quick access to records

Presentation Apps

- Keynote - Apple's presentation tool - for iPad (i'll tell you later how this can work with your computer and Dropbox)
- Prezi Viewer - Useful if using the Prezi service
- Exhibit A - presentation tool that works with the VGA out adapter
- LabTimer - advanced timer app that can be used for presentations and other functions
- iMovie - not exactly a "presentation app", but lets you edit video you record through the camera app.
- BestPrompter Pro - a teleprompter app that lets you create or load text and have it slowly scroll while you read. Can also record audio.

Resource Information on Apps

- AppShopper - notifies you of sale prices on iPad/iPhone apps
- AppStart - free review tool for iPad apps
- Apps for Children with Special Needs (web site with reviews - <http://a4cwsn.com>). I cannot recommend this site highly enough! Good information and video reviews of apps, which is important considering how expensive some of the communication related apps are. This should be the first stop for a teacher working with special needs students.

Apps for Special Needs

- Magnifier - works with iPhone/iPod camera
- Proloquo2go - app for non-verbal students (autistic spectrum) to communicate
- TouchChat - another touch-based communication tool for non-verbal students
- iCommunicate - and another...
- Dexteria - fine motor skill development for students
- Dr. Gary Brown's Discrete Trial Training apps (there are lots - numbers, letters, etc.)
- IEP Checklist - this is, unfortunately, about the only app of its type right now that lets you enter data related to an IEP plan. However, it is missing some key components (parent information, among other things) and paraphrases the federal definitions and language around IEPs. But, it's at least a start...
- Many apps from Mobile Education Tools. Apps like Conversation Builder, Story Builder, Sentence Builder, etc. are helpful for students with speech issues.

Want more information? Check out links and conference information at <http://techttools4teaching.org>