

The third stage learning on the pathway is the creation stage. Students create their own pieces of work by combining apps and using their own imagination and skill. These are just a few of the apps that our students choose to present their work in new and dynamic ways.

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|  | Students can use the knowledge they have gathered and present it in a truly amazing way. | \$1.99 |
|  | Students can use their improved literacy skills to create a personalised comic to share. | \$2.99 |
|  | Need help engaging students? This is an app that builds on students' knowledge of and interest in music to create individual pieces of knowledge. | \$5.49 |
|  | Particularly good for students with disabilities but also useful for those students who are reluctant to type their own words. | Free |
|  | Also a good app for students with disabilities or those who are too shy to speak to the class. | Free |

To get you started some of the apps to investigate before using the iPad with your students are;



Start App



Good Reader



Pages



Reply Note



Keynote

None of these lists are exhaustive and no two teachers, tutors or students will use the iPad in the same way. iPads do not replace the role of the teacher/tutor, they enhance the learning experience. The usual barriers that LLN students face are substantially reduced through the flexibility, user friendly, non-threatening fun nature of iPads.



TUTOR TIPS

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Using an iPad

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It is becoming increasingly clear that iPads are not just another fad. They are here to stay and our students have embraced them in a way that is both amazingly wonderful and amazingly terrifying. How can we as teachers and tutors harness this excitement and use it to enhance the learning experience for our students? BNIT has been using iPads in its literacy and numeracy classes since the start of 2011. In this edition of Tutor Tips we would like to share with you some thoughts and ideas on how to incorporate this technology into both your teaching and the students' learning.

Firstly let us consider the following: Primary and Secondary schools throughout Queensland and other states have embraced the Digital Education Revolution (DER). They are actively encouraging students and teachers to engage in what has been termed "The Three Cs (Connect, Create and Collaborate)". The DER initiative

hopes to ensure that school leavers become digitally literate, critical consumers of technology and Web 2.0 tools, with a global focus. Literacy and numeracy skills play a central role in this initiative.

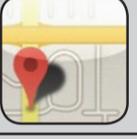
Literacy and numeracy have always been important skills to possess if a person wants to be an effective, functioning member of society. But in the 21st century it has become evident that a new literacy is needed to cope with the demands of an accelerated, media saturated, automated society. The ability to read and write is just not enough for this world. Digital and visual literacies are the communication tools of this new century. Children who live in this world are learning these skills without realising they are doing so. This is not the case with adults who will approach the new literacy like a complex foreign language, one which is of questionable use.

What is an iPad and how can it be used in teaching and learning?

In one small portable device you have a storehouse of resources at your fingertips. There are literally thousands of apps available through the iTunes store and many are free. On the iPad you can access the internet for research, social media sites and current information on a vast range of issues. There are dictionaries, thesauruses, calculators, clocks, encyclopaedias, newspapers, books, and magazines. There are word processing apps, spreadsheet apps, drawing tools and multimedia presentation apps....the list is endless. An iPad will allow your students to learn and do things in ways that are most compatible with their individual learning styles. And you (and they) can do it anywhere. With an iPad you are not tied to a particular room with access to computers, or a power source or books. In fact you don't have to be in a room at all. Imagine what it's like to be able to sit in a lovely shady spot with a cool drink and have at your fingertips all the resources (and more) that you may have accumulated over the years – all the boxes, bags, cabinets and shelves of stuff, all in a device the size of a magazine?

The pathway for using iPads seems to work best when students begin with using the devices as a TOOL, then as a CONSUMPTION device and ultimately as a means of CREATION.

Typically with LLN classes we used the following apps as tools.

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| Calc XT  | This app operates similar to a traditional calculator and also allows Students to show their working outs on the side. | \$0.99 |
| Dictionary.com  | Students seem less threatened by using this app to find word meanings. | Free |
| Google Maps  | This app is used in much the same way as a street directory or an atlas. | Free |
| Google Translate  | Students can use this app to check how to spell any unfamiliar words by speaking the word. | Free |

These apps replace expensive calculators, dictionaries and street directories. It also means that the iPads can be taken to any room or building or even outside with students still having access to these tools. These are the 21st century tools that our primary and high school students are using every day both in the classroom and at home. As LLN teachers we need to adapt to the change.

Once students are comfortable using the iPads as tools they progress to using the devices for consumption. Some of the apps that our students use to consume knowledge are;

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| Wikipedia and Qwiki  | Students can explore more than 3 000 000 topics by searching or browsing a worldwide map. | Free |
| TV and Newspapers apps.  | Students have instant access to the most recent national and worldwide events. | Cost varies depending on the app. |
| Discover  | An E-zine app. This app allows students to explore the world in a truly amazing way. Imagine having access to a bookcase of encyclopaedias and more that look like a magazine! Where the students journey of discovery is limited only by their imagination. | Free |
| iBooks  | So many awesome features make it hard to succinctly describe. LLN students traditionally struggle to find the enjoyment in reading. This app makes reading FUN. | Free |

These apps replace some traditional resources teachers have in the past used to expose the student to knowledge. In today's world the term "being literate" has assumed a very different meaning to what has been meant by the term previously. Today the ability to read and write (create) needs to include the ability to read and translate media that is the product of the high tech society we live in today.