Techy Teachers: Tablets 101

Overview
- Defining Tablets
- Types of Tablets
    - Android, iPad, eReaders
- Tablets in the Classroom
    - Pros and Cons
- Top Educational Apps
    - Reading, Writing, Math, Science, History

Introduction
- What are tablets?
    - Mobile computing tools
- Where do I begin?
    - Decide on the tablet type
    - Analyze the pros & cons
    - Explore available apps
    - Possible implementation in your classroom!

Types of Tablets
- Android Tablets
    - Google operating system
    - 1-2 cameras, microSD slot, USB connection
    - Examples: ($199-$600)
        - Samsung Galaxy Note
        - Asus Transformer Pad
        - Google Nexus
        - Evga Tegra Note
- iPads
    - Apple product
    - Cameras, video recording
    - Vast app store
    - Examples: ($299-$799)*
        - iPad
        - iPad mini
        - iPad Air
    - *Prices are for iPad and Wi-Fi, not cellular plans
- eReaders
    - Use "e-ink" which is easier to read
    - Access to internet without 3G data plan
    - Examples: ($119-$500)

- Kindle (Amazon)
- Nook (Barnes & Noble)
- Kobo
- Ectaco jetBook

Tablets in the Classroom
- Pros
  - Minimizes paper textbooks
  - Improves students' technology skills
  - Allows interactive, engaging learning
  - Teachers can provide in-real-time feedback
  - Differentiation of materials for students
- Cons
  - Potential cost
  - Potential for distractions
    - Lack of attention
    - Increased multitasking
  - Surplus of non-educational materials available
  - Susceptible to breaking and theft

Top K-5 Educational Apps
- Reading & Writing
  - Grammar Jammers
  - StoryBuilder
  - ABC Pocket Phonics
  - Blio
- Math
  - Rocket Math
  - Number Cruncher
  - Sushi Monster
  - Splash Math
  - ScreenChomp
- Science
  - Science360
  - Plants HD
  - Solar System for iPad
  - Bobo Explores Light
- History
  - TourWrist
  - Stack the States
  - Discovery News

- History for Kids

Conclusion

- Tablets are mobile tools
- There are 3 main types of tablets
- Depending on their implementation, tablets have many pros and cons
- Many educational apps are available for use

References

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