

Learning with iPad

Building Literacy Skills



Today's students need strong foundational literacy skills to support all facets of learning. iPad—with its unparalleled portability, accessibility, built-in features, intuitive interface, and rich ecosystem of apps—is perfect for students. It helps them become successful communicators of ideas, creators of multimodal texts, and consumers of information. At school and at home, iPad gives students the best platform for building literacy skills.



Built-in features for reading, writing, speaking, and listening

iPad lets students learn, explore, and create the way they think. For students who learn better by hearing what they're reading or writing, iPad has built-in features that add an auditory component to text.



Dictation. Thanks to the built-in microphone and Dictation, emerging writers can speak instead of typing their thoughts—allowing teachers to assess students' awareness of their learning, not just their language development. Dictating their ideas encourages students to write more and practice their speaking skills.



Speak Screen. Students can use Speak Screen to follow along as highlighted words or sentences are read aloud, making it easier for them to comprehend the meaning of the text and its proper pronunciation. This both increases their exposure to language and helps them proofread their written text.

Apple's text-to-speech contextual screen reader speaks the way people really talk, making it easier for young students to understand text and its pronunciation. It reads a whole paragraph before beginning to speak, and it knows when to pause and literally take a breath. The Speech Controller provides a Speak on Touch feature for more precise control.

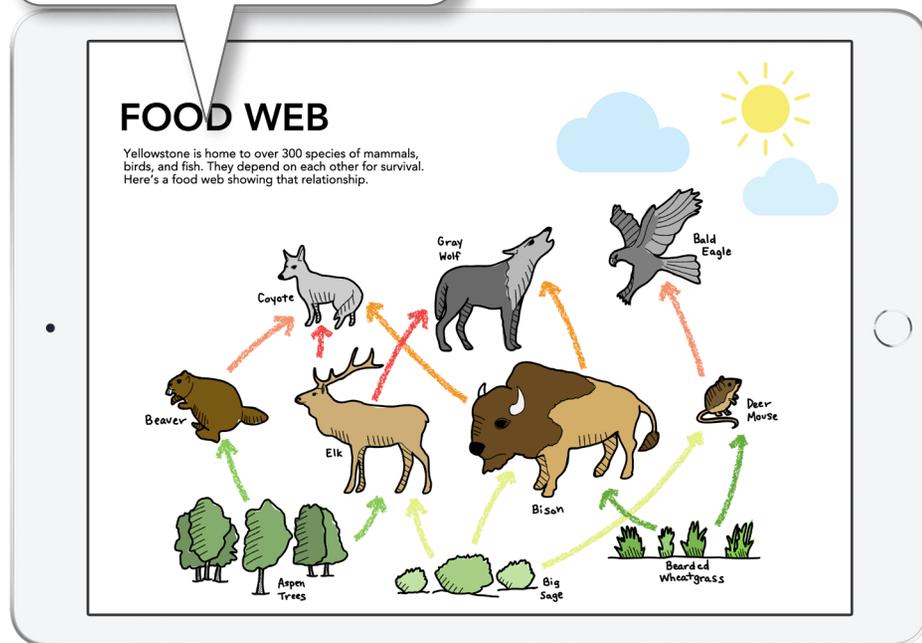


Dictionary. If students get stuck on terminology while reading an article, they can quickly look it up. Dictionary definitions and commonly used phrases are integrated into iPad to help with spelling, pronunciation, and grammar.



Typing Feedback. With Typing Feedback activated, students can hear a letter or word spoken back to them as they type it. This confirms they've selected the right letter or correctly written a word. Predictive Text suggests options for words that students can listen to and choose from, which helps them develop vocabulary and check their spelling.

"Yellowstone is home to over 300 species of mammals, birds, and fish. They depend on..."



Built-in apps for communication and creation

iPad comes with features and apps to support communication and creation. Students can independently or collaboratively use iPad to increase fluency, build vocabulary, and interact with written text in various ways. And they can use the built-in creativity apps to draw, record audio, take photos and video, and more. These apps also allow teachers to create relevant, age-appropriate materials.

Communication



Camera. Taking still images and video with the Camera app and built-in cameras gives students fun ways to build fluency. They can capture video of themselves practicing their reading or speaking skills, listen to their recording, reflect on their performance, and then rerecord as needed.



Notes. Writing in the Notes app using Speak Selection, Predictive Text, and Dictation lets students practice speaking and listening. They can also make their thinking visual by sketching what they're trying to say or adding photos and video. They can practice handwriting and share it in real time with their teacher or classmates.

Audio



Voice Memos. Turn iPad into a portable recording device to record notes, ideas, and feedback and to help with reading flow and pronunciation. Students can edit recordings, share them, or use them as elements in larger multimedia projects.



GarageBand. With GarageBand, students can record their reading to improve fluency, or they can capture themselves singing songs and creating beats for learning language and patterns.

Video



Clips. Creating videos in Clips is a great way for students to express themselves, build speaking skills, and quickly and easily capture learning for assessments. Using Live Titles, students can add animated captions and titles—just by talking—that sync with their voice.



iMovie. Students can shoot, edit, and share their own videos in iMovie to demonstrate knowledge, build communication skills, and express themselves through multimedia.

Multimedia Projects



Keynote. Using Keynote, it's easy to create and deliver engaging presentations and learning materials with stunning transitions and effects. Students can enhance their projects by adding drawings, audio recordings, images, animations, and video.



Pages. Apple-designed templates in Pages let students create a variety of interactive written projects that include images, videos, drawings, and audio recordings.

Learning Activity: Printing and Drawing to Support Early Reading

Students can strengthen language and vocabulary skills by using built-in apps on iPad to practice printing and incorporating text into drawings.

Objective

Support letter recognition by having students print or draw a letter of the alphabet, then turn it into a picture of an object that starts with that letter.



Notes. Practicing handwriting on lines and grids in Notes can help early learners with letter formation and foundational literacy skills.



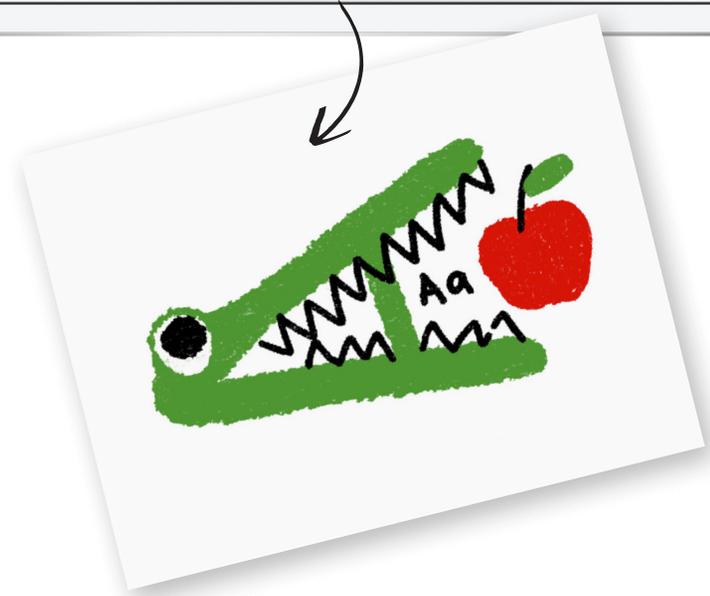
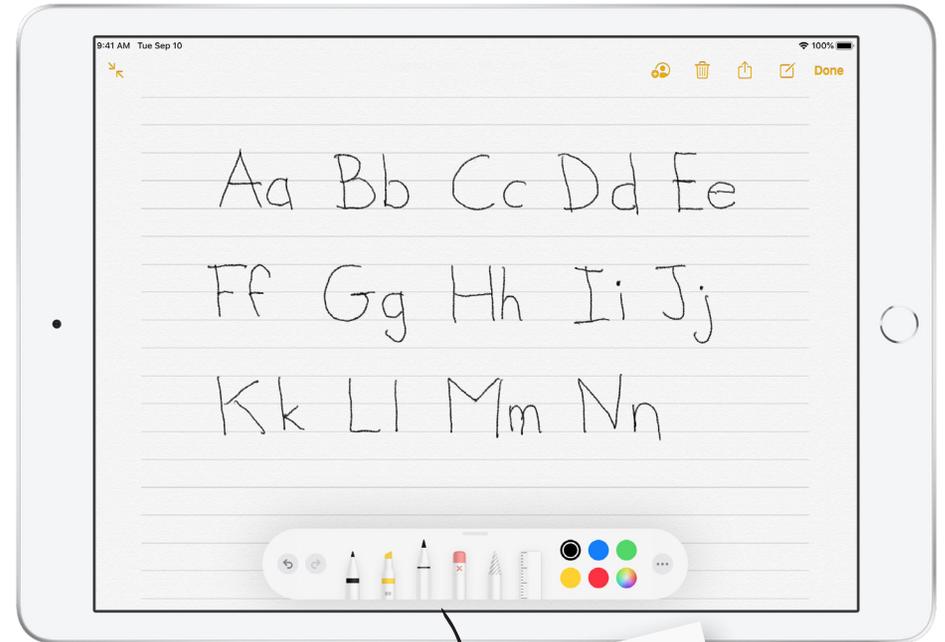
Screen Recording. Use Screen Recording to model, observe, or reflect on how students print their letters.



Photos. Save images and videos or create albums and slideshows in Photos. Draw and annotate directly on photos and add them to multimedia projects.



Clips. Students can go further and combine images of the entire alphabet into a fun Clips video. Have them add voiceovers, graphics, and titles to show phonemic awareness.



Learning Activity: Story Retelling in Augmented Reality

Augmented reality (AR) lets students and teachers overlay information, visuals, and other content into the real world, providing new context that enhances learning and builds understanding.

Objective

Students strengthen their reading comprehension and speaking skills by using AR to create or retell a story using three-dimensional elements in their own environment. Screen Recording allows students to easily add narrative or explain their thinking.



AR Makr. Have students bring a familiar story to life or create their own by placing elements into a physical setting with AR Makr. They can demonstrate vocabulary and comprehension by drawing scenery, characters, and objects, or they can use the built-in objects and templates.



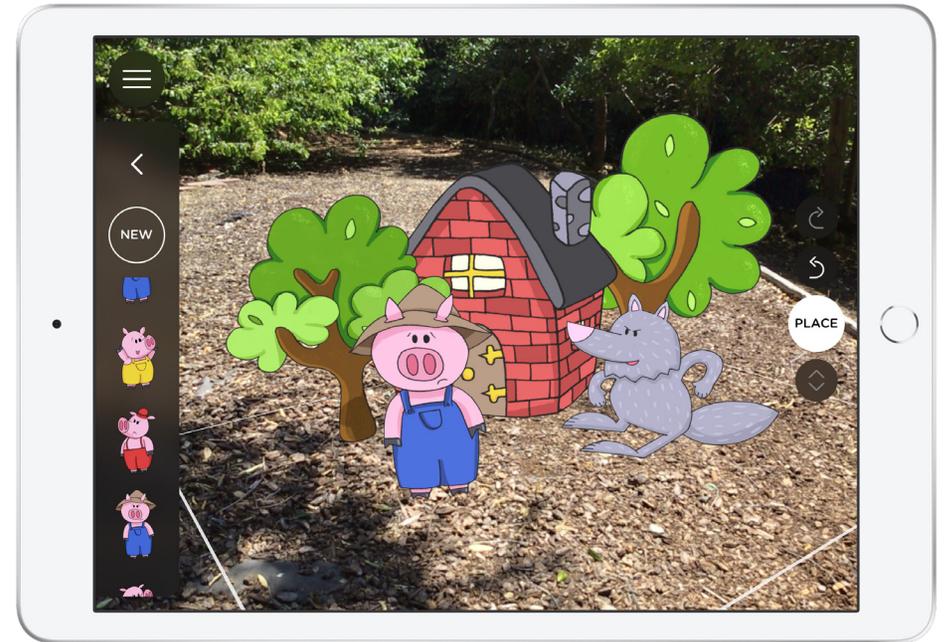
Screen Recording. Using Screen Recording is a great way to add narrative to scenes. To take it further, students can create several versions of the story from different characters' perspectives or make up alternative endings.



Photos. Learners can bring stories to life with images or videos saved to Photos. Using Markup, they can sketch, draw facial features, write text, and add captions.

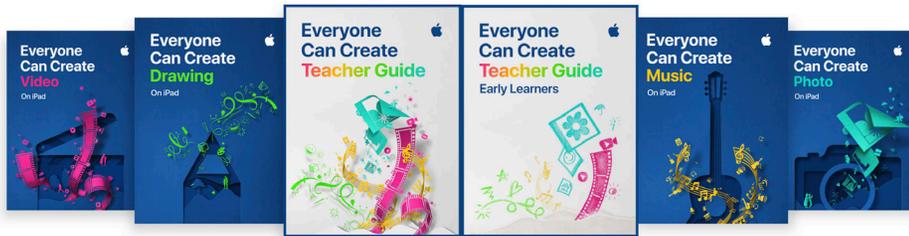


Pages. Students can import images and videos, use Dictation, record audio, type, and draw in Pages to create an interactive book report or a multimodal version of a classic story.



Resources

Many resources are available that can help educators learn how to use and integrate iPad into classroom and at-home learning. Here are some to get you started.



Everyone Can Create

Everyone Can create was designed to teach students skills and techniques to communicate their ideas through drawing, photography, video, and music. It includes a versatile set of resources to help teachers infuse core creative skills into the topics and subjects they teach every day. [Learn more >](#)

Apple Teacher

Apple Teacher is a free professional learning program designed to support and celebrate educators using Apple products for teaching and learning. Educators can build skills on iPad and Mac that directly apply to activities with students. The Apple Teacher Learning Center features self-paced, interactive lessons on creativity, coding, AR, and VR to help you connect with and engage students. [Learn more >](#)

Apple Education Learning Series

This series, presented by the Apple Education Leadership and Learning team, includes videos to help educators use the built-in features of Apple products to enable learning, no matter where it happens. [Learn more >](#)

Quick Guides for Learning with Apple

These guides show you how to make the most of built-in iPad and Mac features—from managing schedules and screen time to building a story—and will help you create productive learning environments. With busy K–8 teachers and parents in mind, the guides' five quick tips make it easy to set up devices. [Learn more >](#)

30 Creative Activities for Kids

Have fun finding shapes in nature, storyboarding a daily routine, and so much more using built-in features of iPad and iPhone. These activities are designed for kids ages 4 and up, and they can easily be tailored for the whole family. We can't wait to see what kids create. [Learn more >](#)

Apple Professional Learning

We want teachers to feel confident using Apple technology for learning and teaching. Our specialists are former educators who can support your teachers with onsite coaching and mentoring to help them design deeper learning experiences for each student. [Learn more >](#)

To learn more about Apple in Education, visit apple.com/education/k12 or call 1-800-800-2775 to speak with an Apple Education representative.