

November 2012 AT Spotlight

iPad Tips

Software Update- Have your iPads been updated to iOS 6? If you aren't sure, go to "Settings" then "General" then "Software Update". It should show you if your software is up to date. iOS 6 has a new feature under "Accessibility" called "**Guided Access**". This feature keeps the iPad in a single app or allows you to control which features are available within an app. For example, if you only want your student to practice writing upper case letters in a particular app, you can block out the icons that take them to lower case letters and numbers. If the student is working on a free app that has an advertisement bar, you can also block out the advertisement so the student isn't taken to an area they don't want. Guided Access is easy to turn on and off but you must use a 4 digit passcode. Make sure you choose an easy passcode to remember, such as "1234." If you forget your passcode, the entire iPad must be reset. If you need your iPad updated to iOS 6, please contact Pat or Jessica Farley, our district iPad Technical Advisor.

Multitasking Gestures- This is another feature that you can find under "Settings" then "General". This feature allows you to easily swipe between two or more apps that are open. Because many of our students have difficulty with fine motor control, you may find that they are accidentally accessing different apps when they drag their hand or fingers across the screen. In this case, **it would help to turn OFF the Multitasking Gestures feature.**

Speaking of Multitasking...If you double click your Home button (the round button with the square shape on it), all the apps that are currently open will show at the bottom of your iPad. It is a good idea to periodically close all these apps (similar to having multiple windows open on your computer). To do this, hold your finger on one of the apps that appear in that bottom row until a "minus" sign appears. Touch all of the minus signs to close the apps that are open.

Updating your Apps- Please remember to periodically update your apps. To do this, go to the "App Store" on the Home screen. A number will appear in a red circle that tells you how many updates are needed. Hit "Update All" to update all the apps. Most updates are to fix "bugs" or improve performance in the apps. If you collect too many apps before updating (I have seen over 100 updates waiting on some of our iPads!), you may not have enough space to perform all of the updates at once so it is important to update your apps on (at least) a monthly basis. You need Internet Access to update your apps/access the App Store. If you do not have Internet access on your iPad, please contact Pat or Jessica.

Screen Protectors- Every classroom should have three iPads now. Each iPad should have a screen protector that will allow you to wipe off the screen with a mild soap and water solution. Make sure the cloth is not too wet as it could damage the screen. Please let Pat know if you need a screen protector.