

Music Appy Hour!

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What if you had access to anything (or everything) you need to teach with a tap of your finger? iPads provides teacher with versatility – from gradebooks, instruments, instructional tools, video and audio.



iDoceo is all-inclusive gradebook app for iPads. Teachers can access their gradebook, create schedules, seating charts and planner from this app. The gradebook allows for multiple class lists. It also allows you to create seating charts using students' photos. You can import/export class lists and student reports via CVS or Excel files.



Dropbox is an online file storage system. It allows you to share access to folders online with your students. You will never need to e-mail yourself a file or worry about losing your thumb drive again.. I create Dropbox folders for specific grade levels and make them accessible on devices. Students can access those files via their devices.



GoodReader is a PDF reader for iPad. It allows you to annotate over PDF documents and save your work. I use GoodReader with my seating charts and assessment tools to track students' progress. You will want a stylus to use with this app.



Amazing Slow Downer is an app that allows you to upload accompaniments or recordings and change the tempo and key of the song. Works well when you have an accompaniment track that is slightly out of the range or tempo for your students.

Making the connection – If you want to use your iPad to project on your interactive projector, you will need a "dongle." Check to see if your projector requires a VGA or HDMI dongle.



Garage Band is a digital audio workstation (DAW) and music sequencer. It allows students to compose new music, edit music already recorded, and create podcasts. This app is great for composing in elementary music.



Incredibox allows students to create their own mixes using a variety of musical sounds. Add a variety of sounds to each man in the group by accessorizing them with different shirts, hats, etc.



Rhythm Cat is a rhythmic notation app where students hear a piece of music and see the rhythms contained within that piece. Students must tap the rhythm on the screen in time with the music correctly. Each piece provides students with different challenges – from different durations, time signatures, and tempos.



The Carnival of the Animals App is a classroom favorite for my students for a variety of rhythms. I love that they get to hear and see an ensemble perform the piece. Students love the animations provided for each piece as they watch each movement performed.



Tune Train allows students to create melodies by connecting "people" (pitches) to the train. Students can choose pitches, harmony, and the style of their song. There is a notation component of this app that allows students to see their creation in notation. This app is the process of being updated for the iOS.



Sound Forest is a great app for beginning students to explore creating music. With four music environments, students add items related to the environment to create their own musical loops or compositions.



Blob Chorus is a fun app to help students with pitch matching. Students hear the "King Blob" sing a pitch, then several other blobs sing a pitch. They must match the King with its match. Great introductory app for little ones.

The new iOS update has forced app developers to move from a 32 bit to a 64 bit application. Older iPads will not update at all. To find a fabulous list of music apps that will (or will not) be updated, please check out <http://bit.ly/AppAway>.