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Simplifying Classroom Technology

Technology may feel like one more thing to manage, however the learning benefits for students are far too great to ignore! Use these tips to take advantage of the technology that's available to you.



Index Cards Loose-Leaf Rings Post-it Flags

There's a good chance your classroom technology station is extremely popular among students, so making sure every student has an opportunity to spend time there is a top priority. An easy way to accomplish this is to label an **Index Card** for each child; then hole-punch the cards and fasten them on a **Loose-Leaf Ring**. Attach a **Post-it Flag** to the top card and put the card set at your station. The student whose name is flagged visits the station first. When his turn is over, he flips to the next card and notifies this classmate that it's her turn.

Featured Products: Index Card (Office Depot item #<u>757750</u>, Loose-Leaf Ring (Office Depot item #<u>401199</u>), Post-it Flag (Office Depot item #<u>160064</u>)

Tablet Computer

If you're fortunate enough to begin the school year with a new tablet computer, such as the **Dell Venue Pro**, resist the urge to create rules for classroom usage. Instead involve your students in brainstorming classroom guidelines for using and taking care of the equipment. Doing so will create a sense of ownership among the students and promote responsible student behaviors.

Featured Products: Dell Venue Pro (Office Depot item #119378)



Technology is great—as long as it works! But when things go wrong, the whole class can get derailed. To avoid this time waster, establish clear procedures for what to do when something isn't working. Should a child make note of a problem and then work on another assignment until help is available? Should the student stop where he or she is and place the device on your desk? For best results, use Pacon Sentence Strips, Sharpie Ultra Fine Point Permanent Markers, and a colorful Pacon Border to make a poster of prioritized options for students to follow.

Featured Products: Pacon Sentence Strips (Office Depot item # 394012), Sharpie Ultra Fine Point Permanent Markers (Office Depot item #451898), Pacon Border (Office Depot item #340182, assorted colors)



GBC Fusion 100L 12" Laminator Binder Clips

Are you constantly labeling sentence strips with the same Essential Questions, "I Can" statements, or Common Core State Standards? Stop the madness! Use your school or personal laminator, such as the **GBC Fusion 100L 12" Laminator** to laminate each strip you create. Organize the strips by subject or standard number. Use **binder clips** to attach the strips for the day to your board. Your teaching objectives will be in clear view time after time!

Featured Products: GBC Fusion 100L 12" Laminator (Office Depot item #186316), binder clips (Office Depot item #825190)



What technology are you dreaming of most for your classroom? Tablet computers were the top pick for over 40% of teachers, followed by interactive whiteboards, laptops, and color printers.

-Office Depot & OfficeMax 2014 Teacher School Supply Survey