

Education Technology Fast Facts: **Interactive White Boards**

<p>What?</p>	<p>Interactive white boards (IWBs) are becoming the most popular piece of educational technology, but they are not without controversy because of their high price tags. Are they no more than techno-blackboards just giving teachers a new way to deliver the same old lecture, or will they change and transform education? It all depends on how they are used.</p> <p>Boards are connected to data projectors, which beam the computer screen on the board. They then use either pressure, or special styluses to allow people at the board to manipulate and control the computer and what appears on the board.</p>
<p>Who?</p>	<p>Who uses or controls the IWB in a classroom is the best determiner of whether this technology is a “game-changer”.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are students “touching/controlling” the board, or is it just the teacher? • Do you have peripherals that let the teacher move and share control (a remote pad), and students respond (clickers)?
<p>Where? When?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When doing direct instruction, for it to be interactive for the students, the teacher delivering the lesson can’t be the only one to interact with the board. • They can also be set up for “centers” and other small group work.
<p>Why?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It helps easily incorporate multimedia into lessons. • It allows you to quickly switch tasks, charts, and other materials. • It lets you save additional notes, writing, diagrams, etc. from a lesson for review later. • It gives students a chance to share and control learning giving them a voice. • The ability to draw makes it work better for math than keyboard based presentation systems.
<p>How?</p>	<p>The basic rule is the more the kids “touch/use” it, the more effective it will be. Teachers will likely start out “controlling” the board themselves, but should plan to transition students into that role.</p>

Links:

Sample:

A very short example showing how I've used it:

<http://drop.io/samplemedia/asset/smartboard-mp4>

Robert Marzano's Study for Promethean:

Marzano Keynote at CUE 2009

<http://community.cue.org/video/dr-bob-marzano-cue-2009>

IWBs Skeptics:

Read This: Some educators question if whiteboards...raise achievement

http://teacherleaders.typepad.com/the_tempered_radical/2010/06/some-educators-question-if-whiteboards-other-high-tech-tools-raise-achievement.html

When Rethinking the School Itself (the part about IWBs is towards the end, but the rest of the post outlines sets things up nicely)

<http://speedchange.blogspot.com/2010/01/when-rethinking-school-itself.html>

EdSanity Critique of Marzano Study

http://edinsanity.com/2009/06/07/marzano_part5/