Mobile Devices in the Classroom
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What is a mobile device?

• A mobile device (also known as a handheld device, handheld computer or simply handheld) is a small, hand-held computing device, typically having a display screen with touch input and/or a miniature keyboard and weighing less than 2 pounds (0.91 kg). Apple, HTC, Samsung, LG, Research in Motion (RIM) and Motorola are just a few examples of the many manufacturers that produce these types of devices.
The research that has been done on the use of mobile apps like these has been very promising. For example, a recent study funded by the Department of Education, looked at the link between learning, and the PBS Kids educational gaming app, Martha Speaks Dog Party. The study found that after children had **used the app every every day for two weeks**, the vocabulary of Title 1 children between three and seven years old improved by as much as **31 percent**.
In 2001, Marc Prensky warned us, "Our students have changed radically. Today's students are no longer the people our educational system was designed to teach." He went on to describe how these "digital natives" are being exposed to more gadgets and technology than was ever thought possible. This is having a profound effect on the ways in which children learn. They are more engaged in learning when using the latest technological gadgets, because it is what they are most used to interacting with. Our students don't just want mobile learning, they need it.
"When the world inside schools looks so different from the world outside of schools, what are we really preparing students for?" she asks. "When we ban, rather than embrace, real-world technologies, we leave students (1) ill-equipped to know how to harness the power of technology for learning, (2) unprepared to develop a respectable digital footprint and, (3), without adequate knowledge to safely navigate the social web."

Lisa Nielsen, the author of The Innovative Educator blog
Mobile Learning

- http://appsineducation.blogspot.ca/2012/10/10-apps-for-documenting-learning.html?m=1
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