USING DIFFERENT MOBILE APPS IN EDUCATION

Kurhade Shubhangi Suryakant, Ph.D.

Asst.Prof. Adhyapak Mahavidyalaya Aranyeshwar, Pune

Abstract

The invention of internet has opened new avenues like apps and connectivity revolution has occurred. Educational apps aid the search for historical geographical and social facts on the palm top. Companies like Yelp have made innovative apps for smart phones. If you choose to study with your Smartphone, you have many options. Apps like Quiz let and Flashcards++ allow you to create your own flashcards and review them on your phone. Many students are the proud owners of these devices. In addition to standard cell phone features of calling and texting, smart phones make it easy to browse the web, play games, check the news, study for a test, and much more all thanks to different applications that can be installed on the phone. Some teachers allow students to stream music while they are doing their class work in an effort to foster productivity (Graham). Thus, smart phones enable primary and secondary students to build better learning experiences.With mobile devices being on hand almost constantly, make sure that younger people have a mixture of applications on their phones and tablet that helps to develop their brain as well as socialize. Smartphone can function as a productivity hub for challenge-based learning–reminders, to-do lists, calendar updates, social messaging, emails, etc

Key words - Mobile apps, Education

Introduction - An app in a Smartphone can be downloaded to serve a specific purpose. Such apps as a compass app if downloaded indicate directions. Likewise several different apps fulfils several different purposes can be severed location & information of historical monuments such as Forts, Mosques etc. can be obtained from such apps geographical information such as location and length of rivers, height of mountains, dams etc. can be obtained from skillfully made apps.**Yelp** is one such app making company in USA.

Such need base apps to search for scientific information or factual information regarding literature may be possible in future. Thus use of apps will soon be a basic necessity in education for rapid learning without recourse to dusty books.

A revolution in the classroom:

1. **Take photos**: mobile phones can be used as cameras to illustrate work and presentations.
2. **Read the news**: many teachers often include news articles as part of their teaching methods (for example, in Economics). With an endless amount of news gathering mobile applications, you can bring news and current affairs into the classroom in an instant.
3. **Carry out tests**: this is probably one of the most interesting and revolutionary uses of the mobile phone in the classroom. Students can now take quizzes and tests on their mobile phone that were created earlier by their teacher. In this way, teachers can gain valuable

real-time insight into the knowledge of their students and the effectiveness of their teaching. To implement this technique now, download the ExamTime Mobile App for iOS or Android.

4. **Dictionary**: there are a multitude of dictionary applications that allow you to check the meaning of a word instantly.

5. **Translator**: again, this can help with meaning and explanation of a foreign word just like the dictionary application.

6. **Share Notes**: many teachers tend to distribute material at the beginning or at the end of the class. Instead photocopying large amounts of paper and handing them out, your mobile phone allows you to easily perform this function. Again, the ExamTime App can help with that!

7. **Control Attendance**: there are many applications that can help keep track of the attendance of students direct from our mobile phone.

8. **Assess Students**: mobile phones can be used to monitor and keep track of a student's course work and exam results. In this way, teachers have access at all times to a particular student and can see if that student is making progress or not.

9. **Documents To Go** View and create PDFs and Microsoft Excel, Powerpoint, and Word documents from almost anywhere. Work from anywhere: View, edit, and create Microsoft® Office files & view Adobe PDF® files on your Android smartphone.

Smartphone's as Learning Tools -

Nearly every student, staff and faculty member has one, and in the past years there's been a push to harness the technology for educational enhancement. But now an even more advanced mobile technology is becoming ubiquitous–smartphones. Many students are the proud owners of these devices. In addition to standard cell phone features of calling and texting, smart phones make it easy to browse the web, play games, check the news, study for a test, and much more all thanks to different applications that can be installed on the phone.

How do we use the technology without distracting students from the class work? In a **Campus Technology article** published recently, this question is tackled. The authors give several tips on best practices for smartphones in the class, which will be highlighted after the jump:

▪ **Don't like the idea of smartphones? Reconsider**. Some may see smartphones simply as advanced toys or evil distraction devices. However, the fact is that app developers are coming out with thousands of education-centered apps on the **App Store** and **Android Market,** many of them costing little-to-nothing.

▪ **Take advantage of portability.** Lugging around a heavy laptop to each class is a hassle. Why have students do so when the same technology is available on their smartphone? Of course, in many cases a laptop does have its benefits. For example, you wouldn't want to write an essay on your phone. But for light tasks like reviewing reading, finding news articles and taking notes, a Smartphone could be just the tool they need.

▪ **Smartphone as a study tool.** As stated before, there are thousands of apps coming out of smartphone markets for educational purposes. One type of educational app that is gaining popularity is study tools. If you choose to study with your Smartphone, you have many options. Apps like Quizlet and FlashCards++ allow you to create your own flashcards and review them on your phone. **Evernote** can help you record your notes (via photo,

text, or audio recording) and search or review them later. To keep track of what and when you need to study, **myHomework** and **gTasks** will help you manage your time and create a list of to-dos. For a full list of apps Learning Technologies believes to be useful in education, visit the **LT page on Apps for the iPad.**

▪ **Using the smartphone for class engagement**. Obviously, class activities where smartphones are required are not the best idea when many people are still using standard cell phones. Perhaps as an addition to class time, allow students with smartphones to carry out a task during short breaks in the lecture. Smartphones provide easy access to Twitter, a social media tool that is gaining popularity in classrooms. **Some classes even allow students to tweet questions to professors during a lecture,** ensuring student's full understanding of the topic. Some classrooms have also reported using the GPS-enabled **SCVNGR**, where students actually visit places, check-in and complete tasks there.

According to the Campus Technology article, smart phones today "have the computing power of a mid-1990s personal computer". For such a tiny device, that is a lot of power. It is time we accept and utilize smart phones in higher education, because they won't be disappearing any time soon.

Educational Benefits of Smartphone's -

Fulfillment of educational purposes is a major benefit of smart phones. Through Internet research, smartphone users have the potential to improve their education. Starting at the primary level and proceeding to the secondary level, smart phones are being used as educational tools. Due to the "availability of the Internet and high speed mobile browsing," the smartphone offers an alternate channel for delivery of academic assistance (Sarwar and Soomro). In the past, teachers would forbid cell phone use by children in their classrooms. Then, with the advance of mobile technology, teachers changed their strategies to allow smartphone use as long as it was academic in nature (Graham). Students often remark that their professors encourage smartphone use on a regular basis to improve research skills. Making it easier for teachers and young students to collaborate, smartphones are technological tools which can supplement instructional activities. Some teachers allow students to stream music while they are doing their class work in an effort to foster productivity (Graham). Thus, smartphones enable primary and secondary students to build better learning experiences.

Developing Distance Education

In terms of taking distance education courses, college students use smartphones to access online classrooms where they participate in asynchronous and synchronous lessons. This is beneficial because it gives students the chance to continue tertiary education without upsetting their work and family life (Sarwar and Soomro). Further, smartphones can help in the development of educational systems in developing countries. By providing access to a vast amount of learning resources, smartphone technology can compensate for limited Internet capability (Sarwar and Soomro). Smartphones add to the quality of education provided at the university level, supporting instructor routine and learner access to a bevy of online resources

App availability

Apple alone reported in 2012 that more than 35 billion apps had been downloaded. That number has grown to over 75 billion in 2015. All in all, there are more than 1.2 million apps available, over 10 percent of which were said to be **educational or reference apps.** That means there were over 150,000 apps specifically geared toward students, many of which were for very young students.

From colors to ABC's to "The Little Engine That Could," what used to be taught through books is now being learned through apps. The "Apples in Education" website features thousands of apps and other resources for digital devices in the classroom. The applications for using smart phones from preschool through college are in place and growing.

To use smart phones in the classroom -

- **Students learn in a way they are comfortable.** Smartphone's are young-person intuitive. More and more students know how to use them, and they are becoming the most used "tool" by teens.

- **Students can get answers quickly.** Smartphone's provide the ability to get answers quickly. In some situations, a student may not ask for clarification to a question he or she has in an open classroom. Use of a Smartphone in a classroom setting can provide those answers.

- **Audio and video can bring learning to life**. Audio and video capabilities of smart phones can put a voice to John F. Kennedy, a dramatic video image to the Hindenburg disaster, and allow students to hear the music of Chopin or Al Jolson. They can even connect with other students from around the globe and expand their learning world.

- **Smartphone's allow for social learning**. Smart phones can allow students to work in groups on projects, sharing information and discoveries. They can move toward a common goal, again, in a format they are comfortable using.

- **How to, not if to, use smart phones**

- Many have to come to terms with the continuing advances in technology as well as how we deal with that technology in the actual classroom. It wasn't that long ago when teachers were faced with the problem of using simple hand-held calculators in the classroom.

- Challenges of leveling the playing field, maintaining proper use and control, and preventing abuse with smart phones are similar to problems faced by teachers in the past. Back then, it was passing a note; today it is texting.

- We believe the focus of Smartphone use in the classroom should shift from not if they should be used, but how to best use them.

- While there are many people who attribute this to the downfall of face to face interaction, imagination and the countless other social changes that new technologies have brought to the table, apps and smart phones aren't necessarily all bad.

- Apps are also great ways to help encourage learning out of the classroom. There are so many free and educational apps that children can play and gain arithmetic or literacy skills with at the same time. There are countless apps on the Android and Apple store that can be used to help improve arithmetic, counting, fractions and numeracy in general. These are often free and are usually in a game format meaning that young people are able to develop key skills while they have fun. Here are a few that will develop confidence in

maths: iMathematics, **Kids Learning Numbers, Maths Trainer** and **Trigonometry Mathematics.**

- Apps are also a great way of improving language skills, whether it's English or a second language, there are plenty apps available for a small cost and for free that are designed to help device owners and teachers alike. Apps like **Book Creator Free** allow younger children to use their tablet to create their own books, encouraging their creativity and helping improve writing skills. In the classroom**, The Story Wall** is a fantastic way to inspire younger people to get more involved in writing and team building as a story is collectively written by a class. For older students, word games like Scrabble, crossword puzzles and **Scramble with Friends** are fantastic ways to improve spelling and vocabulary.

- A thermal imaging app is perfect for **science lessons** – while **thermal imaging cameras** have been accessible on the market for years now they have never been affordable, particularly in schools. FLIR have developed an attachment to the iPhone that coupled with the app makes a reasonably priced thermal imaging camera for around $350. Although this might seem a little steep for an iPhone app, it is great for lessons on heat loss and heat transfer, is great fun for the children and can be shared around departments within the school to help spread the cost.

- Another fantastic bit of 'add on' hardware for apple products is the Piano Apprentice, not only does it help students to effectively learn sheet music and teach piano quickly and effectively but it also is a great way to write music.

- So, with mobile devices being on hand almost constantly, make sure that younger people have a mixture of applications on their phones and tablet that helps to develop their brain as well as socialize. Remember, it's also important not to overlook use of technology in the classroom too.

- **It's Time For Smartphones In Every Classroom**
- Students could Google anything–just like you do.
- they're incredibly affordable.
- They can therefore reduce rather than increase equity and access.
- Self-directed learning will be a core tenet of future learning. This means technology, and the most mobile, affordable, and accessible kind of technology is a used Smartphone.
- Texting in class is a classroom management problem–or even a matter of instructional design. It is not a technology problem.
- Related gadgets like wearable technology are already here. Smart phones are already dated technology, but they can serve as a bridge to the near future.
- Students can create their own workflows.
- The hardware isn't overwhelming. Technology isn't the point of learning, and should not overwhelm awareness, curiosity, interaction, or critical analysis in favor of mass publishing and communication.
- Push and location-specific notifications have tremendous potential for personalizing learning.
- Students can create their own IT department or tech support teams.
- Wi-Fi Direct makes peer-to-peer sharing of data instantaneous.

- They support project-based learning, game-based learning, sync teaching, and dozens of other related learning trends.
- They can be used as clickers to give teachers real-time data from quick assessments.
- Every student has a voice.
- Students can have choice in terms of apps, platforms, social channels, assessment style, and so on. Smartphone can support this.
- Smartphone can supplement laptops, tablets, and other learning technology.
- Smartphone can function as a productivity hub for challenge-based learning–reminders, to-do lists, calendar updates, social messaging, emails, etc.
- Digital literacy is as important as non-digital literacy.
- YouTube is the most popular and diverse media channel on the planet. It may be time to let them use it how they want, when they want.
- Easy of data collection for teacher.

Summary- With changing time the teaching aids of a teacher are changed and same is the care with learning recourses for learner. To make our educative process more student centre. One most think of devices that help student to be self motivated for learning. Mobile Apps provide a wide platform for giving variety of such learning experiences. From mathematics to language learning and from art and craft to music learning, different mobile apps can help learner to be engaged in the learning process that to in a very interesting and interactive manner. The internet has eliminated in excelling of knowledge in the fields of entertainment, education and learning in a very big way. Education apps display the most apt use of this technology for learning. The search for desired information regarding location and details of a place with minute details is now possible with educational apps. Answers to what when where and how are now on our smart phones due to these apps.

Websites-

https://www.examtime.com/blog/40-uses-for-smartphones-in-school/
http://lessonplanspage.com/using-smartphones-and-other-pdas-in-class-these-days-its-cool/
http://thejournal.com/articles/2013/05/08/report-students-use-smart-phones-and-tablets-for-school-want-more.aspx
https://depts.washington.edu/etuwb/ltblog/?p=2030
https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/20140624164729-61183726-some-educational-benefits-of-smartphones
http://education.cu-portland.edu/blog/tech-ed/should-students-use-their-smartphones-as-learning-tools/
http://www.socialnomics.net/2014/03/19/smartphone-apps-technology-in-education/
http://www.teachthought.com/technology/the-50-best-smartphone-apps-for-teachers-arranged-by-category/
http://www.teachthought.com/technology/50-reasons-smartphones-belong-classroom/