

SMART board 101

SMART board 101 Training

For those who want to learn/remember how to connect it, turn it on, configure it, and feel better about using it at a basic level. We will talk about how the SMART board fits with UDL and when it doesn't.

NOTE: Because there are two groups together, each group will be responsible for moving through the lesson fairly independently. I have italicized the actions involved in this lesson. Please rotate through the actions so each person has the opportunity to use the SMART board.

Using the SMART board and UDL

The SMART board is a fantastic tool that engages students, can help a teacher represent information using pictures, digital formatting, sound, and physical action, and offers students another way to express what they know about a topic (e.g., participating in games, activities). A teacher needs to be aware, however, that the activities chosen for the SMART board must meet the needs of the children in that particular class.

Using the SMART board without knowing the students' learning needs or styles can be like using a hammer to drive a screw. You get the screw into the board, but the screw won't hold the wood like it should. A teacher needs to consider specific and general needs of the students. Should the teacher use the magnifier to keep the attention of some students or to help others understand to place their focus? Do some students need to help with calibrating the machine as a way to build their gross motor and muscle control? Or do some students need to see and hear the text that is projected? Once the teacher has truly assessed the learning needs and styles of the students, lessons can be effectively planned and the SMART board can be a useful tool.

Let's Get Started

1. When you have plugged the USB into your computer and screwed the other end into the bottom right hand corner of the SMART board screen, you can turn on your computer and then turn on your projector.
2. Wait until the light on the bottom right hand corner of the SMART board tray is green. Now you can either position your projector or the SMART board, or both.

Do what you need to do to expand the projected image so it is as big as it can get and in focus.

EVERYONE TRY THIS

3. Now that your screen is full size and in focus, you can calibrate your board. You can do this one of two ways.
4. *Hold down the two small buttons on the SMART board tray (the words “keyboard” and “right mouse” are next to the small buttons). Hold those down at the same time for three seconds.*

OR

5. *On the left hand side of the screen, you will see a blue, square box with a radius pointed to its upper right hand corner. Double click on that icon and a white screen will pop up. Choose “orient”.*
6. *In both cases, a white square with a red plus sign in the middle will appear at the top left hand corner of the screen. You (or one of your students – they love to do this), touches the yellow part at the center of the red plus sign each time it appears.*
7. Now your SMART board is calibrated and wherever you touch will correspond with what you wanted to touch.

SOME BASICS FOR USING THE BOARD

1. If you clicked on the blue, square box, then you opened SMART notebook (the “Word” for the SMART board). It will remind you of a PowerPoint screen. Let’s just say you want students to put punctuation into a sentence that you write on the board.
2. *Pick up the black pen and write:*
“I want to go to the store the pet shop the grocery and Marias restaurant but my brother only wants to go to the pet shop Hes too lazy”
3. Just because you picked up the black pen doesn’t mean the board knows the color of the pen is black. It knows it’s black because it was sitting in the black spot. If you made a mistake while writing, just pick up the eraser and erase what you need to erase.
4. *Now, with another colored pen, go back and add in the punctuation. There are 4 commas, two periods and two apostrophes. Can you find all of them?*

5. Now, let's say you want to save that into your student's portfolio. You can save it with your writing, or you can save it in text.
6. *Tap the top line with your index finger and a box will appear around the words. Tap the down arrow in the upper right hand corner of the box. A drop menu will appear with suggestions of what you typed. If they're not correct, it's okay.*
7. *Let's say it ran everything together. "Iwanttogotothe". On the left hand side of your screen, there is a tool bar with a keyboard on it. Click on the keyboard and drag it by putting your finger on the top bar and pulling it down.*
8. *Within the words surrounded by the box double tap where you want the cursor to go. If it doesn't go where you want to go double tap again with your finger slightly repositioned. Now use the keyboard to add spaces, letters or delete words. If you want the cursor to skip forward, tap your finger where you want it to go again.*
9. You will find that the commas, apostrophes, and periods you drew in might not be incorporated into the text. You can use the eraser to take them out and put them in with the keyboard. While this exercise can be frustrating, it will help you become more acquainted with what kind of pressure and direct touch you need to use on the screen.
10. When you have repeated the process for all of the lines, you're ready to save. You tap on the disk at the top of the board and follow the same saving process you do for all documents. You DO NOT HAVE TO USE THE SMART board FOR ALL OF THIS. If you are more comfortable with using your own computer and mouse for any part of this, then do that.

USING YOUR FINGER AS THE PEN

1. You can use your finger to tap, write, or draw just as you do a pen. Let's do shapes.
2. *Choose the pen icon with the square behind it at the top of the screen. Whatever basic shape you draw will be created by the SMART board. Try a square, a circle, a triangle, an isosceles triangle, a rectangle.*
3. If you draw something that the SMART board doesn't recognize, it will remain "rough" as you drew it. You can use the eraser to remove it. If you draw a shape and the SMART board thinks it's a shape you didn't intend to draw, you can use the "undo" arrow (blue arrow curving to the left) to get rid of it.
4. You can create a file with all of these shapes in them, bring that file up, have the children write their name on the page and then write their answers. You can simply clear the page by having them erase their answers.

5. *Now you can label them. Go back to the top of the screen and touch the pen icon right next to the arrow icon. Another tool bar will appear allowing you to choose the color of your pen. You can write the name of the shapes before or after each shape you're drawn.*

NOW YOU'RE READY TO EXPLORE SOME LESSONS ON THE INTERNET
(try to do all of this by touching the SMART board rather than using your computer)

1. *Click on the Explorer icon in the lower left hand part of your screen.*
2. *BCSC's webpage will come up. Open the keyboard on the left by touching it. You will now have to tap the content bar where www.bcsc.k12.in.us is typed and delete it using the back arrow on the keyboard. You can also brush your finger across it to highlight it and then click on the backspace button.*
3. *Type in www.google.com and then put "SMART board lessons" as the search term.*
4. *You will see the website for Smarttech.com (SMART – Notebook lesson activities). Click on this.*
5. *From the homepage, under United States, choose Browsing curriculum standards*
6. *You are asked to choose your subject and grade level.*
7. *Choose 2nd grade and language arts*
8. *You will see a list of lessons for the SMART board that are attached directly to an Indiana standard. For ease, choose the first lesson on the alphabet.*
9. *Simply open it (versus saving it) for this demonstration.*
10. *When the "Welcome to Notebook Software" screen comes up, you can simply press the red "x" in the upper right hand corner.*
11. *The lesson will come up. It will look like a Power Point presentation. To move the vertically presented slides to the right side of the screen find the black side-to-side arrow at the vertical middle. Tap that arrow, and the menu screen will switch to the right side. Now click through the lesson using the blue arrows at the bottom of the side menu.*
12. *The SMART board menu will also be on the right side with a grey background. If you want it to disappear, you click on the double left arrow. When you want it back, you touch the double right arrow.*

- 13. You can pick up a pen from the tray at any time to write on the board to add emphasis.*
14. Once one person has played a little bit, close that Notebook screen, go back to the webpage, and choose another standard, grade level and lesson.

PLEASE FEEL FREE TO EXPLORE.