

# What is the role of Technology in the Classroom?

## Why Use Technology in the Classroom?

Students learn differently and sometimes the focus on how technology already in the classroom or school can support good instruction and research-based strategies that work.

Differentiated Instruction – which is a teaching theory based on the idea that instruction approaches should give students multiple options for taking in information, making sense of ideas, expressing what they learn, and accommodation differences while teaching to students strengths and knowledge.



Example of students collaborating while using a Smartboard in a collaborating learning environment.

## What is Differentiation?

Students learn at different rates and in different ways. Technology supports instructional strategies by creating new routes to learning and addressing multiple learning needs. Differentiate instruction by using the wealth of digital resources that will challenge and engage all multiple intelligences and learning styles.



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**ED 310 TECHNOLOGY IN  
THE CLASSROOM**

**OLIVET**  
1844  
C O L L E G E

### Differentiate Instruction:

*Providing materials and tasks at varied levels of difficulty with varying degrees of scaffolding, through multiple instructional groups. Encouraging student success by varying ways in which students work: alone or collaboratively, in auditory or visual modes or through practical or creative means.*



## Differentiating Instruction of Technology in the Classroom:

**ALPHA SMART** – FUNCTIONS AS A WORD PROCESSOR WHICH IS SIMILAR TO MICROSOFT WORD.

**CAST EREADER** - FOR CHILDREN WHO HAVE DIFFICULTY READING. IT READS TEXT ALOUD FROM THE COMPUTER SCREEN.

**Co-WRITER** - WORD SOFTWARE PROGRAM DESIGNED TO ASSIST PEOPLE WITH WRITING DIFFICULTIES.

**EAROBICS**- PROGRAM THAT BUILDS PHONOLOGICAL AWARENESS, AUDITORY PROCESSING AND PHONICS SKILLS.

**GLENCOE.COM** - ONLINE EDITIONS OF NEW MATH TEXT SERIES WHICH WILL READ PAGES OUT LOUD.

**MATH PAD PLUS**-STUDENTS TO PERFORM 3RD - 8TH GRADE LEVEL MATH DIRECTLY ON THE COMPUTER.MOUSE, KEYBOARD, OR SWITCH.

**PULSE PEN**-RECORDS NOTES TWO WAYS: IT CREATES DIGITAL COPIES OF EVERYTHING WRITTEN BY HAND WHILE RECORDING AUDIO AT THE SAME TIME.

**REACH** - IS AN ON-SCREEN KEYBOARD FOR STUDENTS WHO ARE UNABLE TO USE A STANDARD KEYBOARD.

**SMART BOARDS**- INTERACTIVE LEARNING, SCREEN AND ALLOW FOR STUDENTS TO FULLY PARTICIPATE IN THE CLASSROOM INSTRUCTION.

**STAND –UP DESKS**- DESKS HELP GIVE CHILDREN THE FLEXIBILITY THEY NEED TO EXPEND ENERGY AND, AT THE SAME TIME, FOCUS BETTER ON THEIR WORK RATHER THAN FOCUSING ON HOW TO KEEP STILL.

**WRITE: OUT LOUD**- TALKING WORD PROCESSOR WITH A TALKING SPELL CHECKER.

## Value of Technology for student learning:

REPLICATES REAL WORK TASKS

PROVIDES OPPORTUNITIES FOR GREATER PRIDE IN WORK

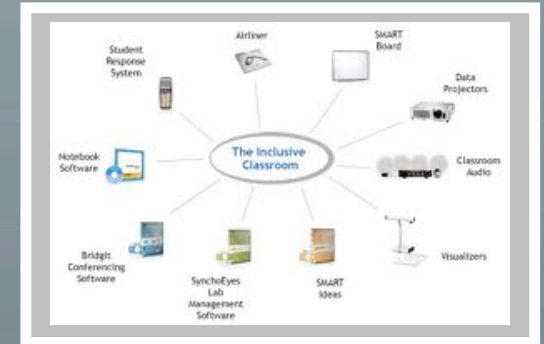
SUPPORTS MULTIPLE COGNITIVE STYLES AND LEARNING BEHAVIORS

PROVIDES ACCESS TO A HUGE AMOUNT OF INFORMATION INCLUDING ORIGINAL RESURCH AND PRIMARY SOURCES

CHALLENGES STUDENTS' RESURCH, CRITICAL THINKING AND PROBLEM SOLVING SKILLS.



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## USING TECHNOLOGY FOR A MORE DIFFERENTIATED CLASSROOM

- Blogs
- Wikis
- Podcasts
- WebQuests
- Online Tools
- Social Networks

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