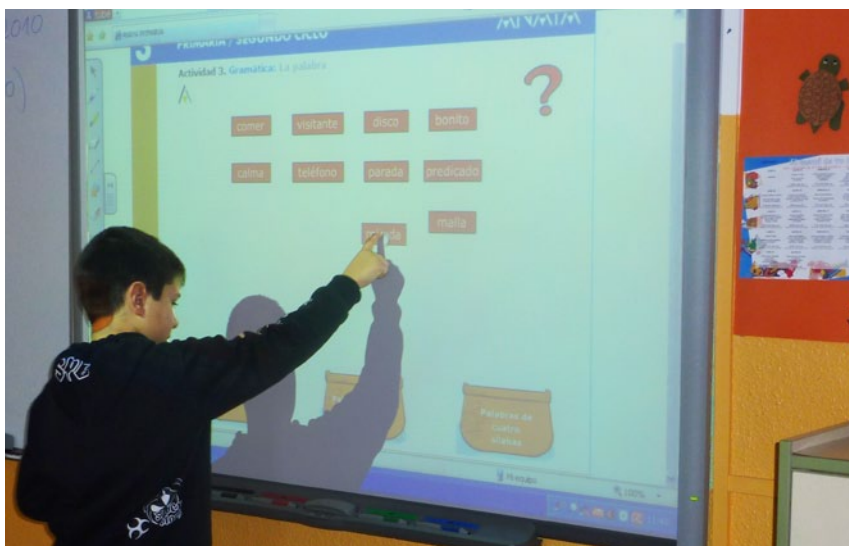


# Creating dynamic, engaging classrooms with SMART solutions

Comunitat Valenciana Kindergarten & Primary School, Valencia/Spain



Students are engaged with interactive, digital content in their classrooms.

Comunitat Valenciana, a public school located in the Campanar district of Valencia, Spain, has been gradually implementing classroom technology over the past five years. Technology now forms an essential and indispensable part of everyday school life. All of the school's administrative and educational activities revolve around this new way of teaching and learning. Parent-school communication is carried out by e-mail and Short Message Service (SMS), all classrooms have a SMART Board® interactive whiteboard and Internet connection and all students in grades 5 and 6 use a virtual agenda for their tasks and daily activities.

To reach this level of implementation and involvement by all members of the school community, the school had to overcome multiple challenges. "We had to resolve the economic hurdles, as well as the technical difficulties in installing technology in a school that was built 25 years ago," explains José Vicente de Sousa, the principal at Comunitat Valenciana.

In the 2006-2007 school year, the school implemented a SMART Board 680 interactive whiteboard in the music room. The room was also used by teachers in other subject areas and by students for project work, which gave both teachers and students an opportunity to become familiar with the technology.

The results were so successful that the school's management team decided to purchase a second SMART Board interactive whiteboard for the grade 6 classroom to help prepare students for secondary school. Thanks to the enormous interest of teachers and students and the involvement of the Parents Association, the school continued to implement additional classroom technology. The school credits several publications, SMART, banks and local businesses for their support and collaboration in the implementation of SMART Board interactive whiteboards.

## Challenge

With a limited budget, the school wanted to implement digital tools in the classrooms of their school that was built 25 years ago.

## Solution

They began with the installation of one SMART Board interactive whiteboard and based on their successful result, implemented interactive whiteboards into the virtually all remaining classrooms.

## Result

Students, parents and teachers are embracing a more dynamic, interactive, modern and vibrant school that has interactive, engaging digital content and solutions.

The school presented their project plan to the Regional Ministry of Education which enabled them to purchase three additional SMART Board® interactive whiteboards and elevated the school's status to become an exemplary model for classroom technology implementation. Schools throughout the region of Valencia and throughout Spain are interested in Comunitat Valenciana's experience and have visited the school to learn more as they plan their technology implementations.

Teachers were committed to the technology implementation and participated in two 30-hour training courses that were conducted by the Training, Innovation and Educational Resources Centre of Valencia. In addition, teachers spent a lot of personal time working with the SMART Board interactive whiteboards to learn how to get the most from the technology.

SMART Board interactive whiteboards are now implemented in three early education classrooms, six elementary classrooms as well as the music, speech therapy and special needs classrooms. Teachers use SMART Notebook™ collaborative learning software to create content, work with digital textbook material and to collaborate in the classroom.

Classroom technology has had an overwhelmingly positive impact on Comunitat Valenciana. "Students, parents and teachers have adapted to a new, more dynamic, interactive, alive, agile and up-to-date school," says de Sousa.

"Classroom content is no longer found exclusively in books. Our youngest students call the SMART Board interactive whiteboard the 'magic window' – it has opened up a whole world of knowledge and experiences through the images, sounds, shapes and figures that are now available," explains de Sousa.

The successful implementation of technology in the school is an exemplary example of the changes occurring in education. Digital, interactive content is now part of every day school life and is embraced by teachers and students at Comunitat Valenciana.



A group of students perform music exercises on a SMART Board® interactive whiteboard.

**"The change experienced by the installation of SMART Board interactive whiteboards has been enormously positive for all the participants in the educational community."**

**José Vicente de Sousa**, Principal of Comunitat Valenciana Kindergarten and Primary School

#### About SMART

SMART Technologies Inc. is a leading provider of collaboration solutions that change the way the world works and learns. As the global leader in interactive whiteboards, our focus is on developing a variety of easy-to-use, integrated solutions that free people from their desks and computer screens, making collaboration and learning with digital resources more natural. Our products have transformed teaching and learning in more than two million classrooms worldwide, reaching over 40 million students and their teachers. In business, our Freestorm™ visual collaboration solutions improve the way that people work and collaborate, enabling them to be more productive and reduce costs.

---

#### SMART Technologies

Toll Free 1.888.42.SMART (U.S./Canada)  
or +1.403.228.5940  
[smarttech.com](http://smarttech.com)