

October 2012

ED Compass

magazine

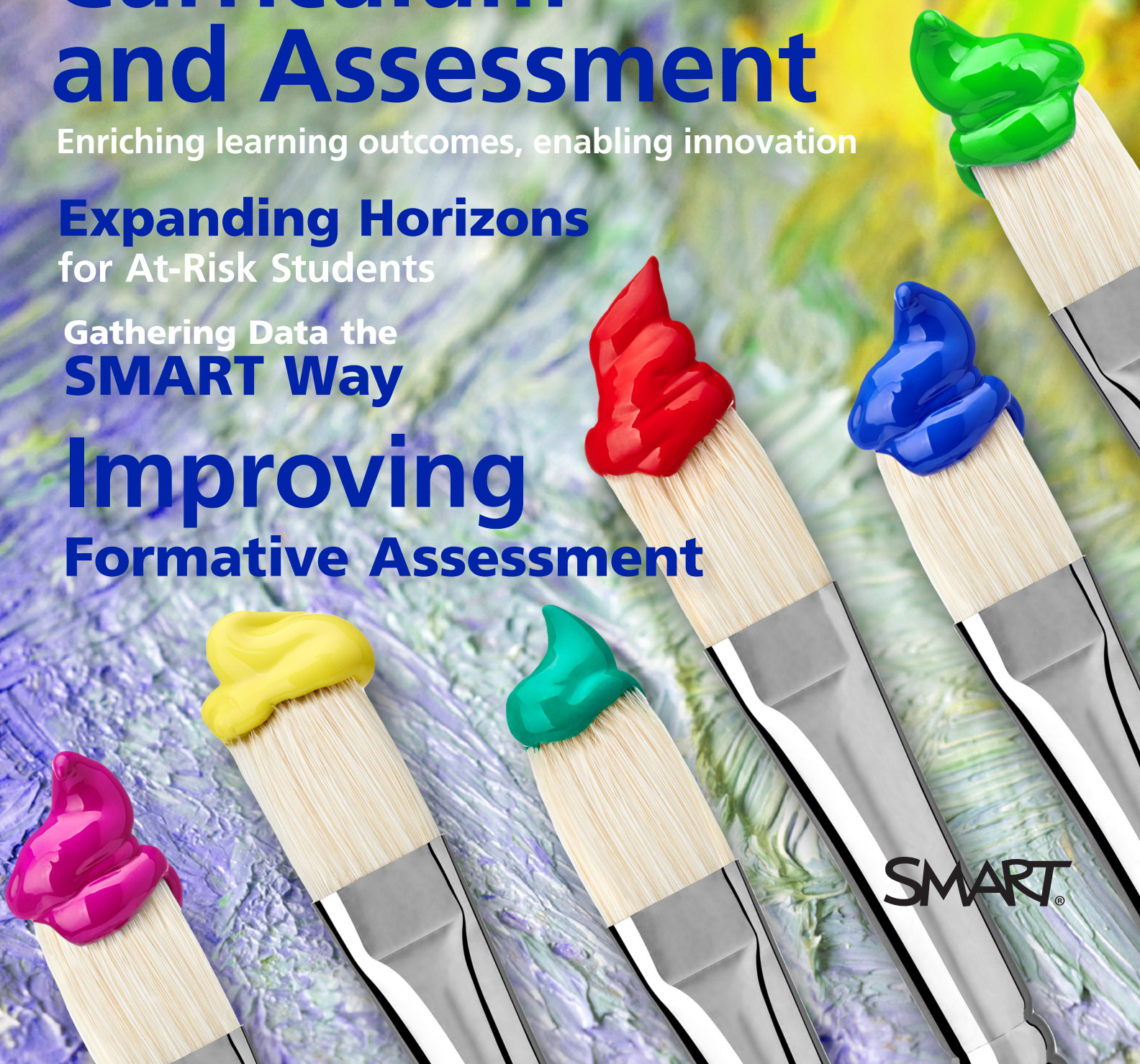
Curriculum and Assessment

Enriching learning outcomes, enabling innovation

Expanding Horizons
for At-Risk Students

Gathering Data the
SMART Way

Improving
Formative Assessment



SMART[®]

Curriculum and Assessment

"In education it isn't how much you have committed to memory or even how much you know. It's being able to differentiate between what you do know and what you don't. It's knowing where to go to find out what you need to know and it's knowing how to use the information you get."

– William Feather



As thoughts at this time of the year naturally turn to assessing student learning, educators understand that waiting for the unit test or year-end exam to find out how well students are grasping a concept can be risky. Going back and re-teaching a lesson or providing a reference for additional study can mean the difference between success and failure – for both teacher and students. However, when working together to ensure that every day, in every classroom, every student is learning and achieving, this will produce higher test scores and lasting results.

Educators are also realizing that when you involve students in their own assessment they are motivated to work harder because they want to succeed. And that is an important part of bringing out an enduring will to learn. This issue of the magazine offers a wealth of information related to curriculum and assessment, with tips, tools and best practices that may help you find new ways to evaluate the learning outcomes of your students and facilitate ongoing improvement.

In this month's [feature article](#), on page 14, educators share their tips, experiences and resources for conducting powerful formative assessment in the classroom. In the [Product Spotlight](#) on page 24 we've gathered together all the resources and information you need to use your SMART Response™ interactive response system for insightful assessment. And on [page 22](#), teachers from Speas Elementary share how they are helping at-risk students with SMART products.

On another note, I'd like to tell you about some exciting changes that are happening with EDCompass magazine. As part of our continued efforts to bring you timely tips, best practices and news from SMART, EDCompass magazine is merging with the [EDCompass blog](#). Beginning in November, we will start delivering all of your favorite articles, including our Showcase School, Product Spotlight and guest articles through the blog.

While you will no longer receive a copy of the magazine in your inbox, the [EDCompass blog](#) is updated continuously – delivering you more content, more frequently and making it even easier for you to learn more about how SMART products can help increase classroom success for teachers and students.

We hope you enjoy this final issue of EDCompass magazine and invite you to visit the EDCompass blog regularly for the high quality news and resources you've come to expect from SMART's publications.

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EDCompass

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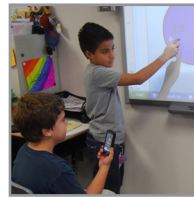
As always, you can e-mail any questions or feedback about EDCompass magazine™ or the [blog](#) to EDCompassfeedback@smarttech.com.

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04 NOTES FROM THE FIELD

Mike McGowan
Gathering Data the SMART Way!



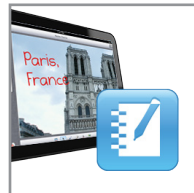
14 FEATURE ARTICLE

Improving Formative Assessment



06 SMART NOTEBOOK TIP

Embedding an Internet Browser onto your SMART Notebook Page



20 NEWS

What's Happening This Month
Find out about SMART's latest opportunities and happenings



08 FROM THE EDCOMPASS BLOG

SMART Response Makes the Grade in Sugar Land



22 SMART SHOWCASE SCHOOL PROFILE

Expanding Horizons for At-Risk Students



10 CLASSROOM CONTENT



24 PRODUCT SPOTLIGHT

What Do You Need For Truly Insightful Assessment?

Gathering Data the SMART Way!

By Mike McGowan, Technology Director, Lincoln Elementary School , District 156, Calumet City, Illinois

When I started my position at [Lincoln Elementary School District 156](#), I had very little exposure to student response systems and had no experience with [SMART Response interactive response system](#) in particular. But shortly after starting and working with my teachers I learned of the power of using the SMART Response system to give tests and quizzes, and the joy of not having to take home so many papers to grade. Why wouldn't all teachers use this? And then as I started to explore the SMART Response system, I noticed more and more features in the software that none of my staff knew about.

After some testing, playing and getting SMART Certified on the SMART Response interactive response system, the power that this tool puts at the fingertips of a teacher and students was clear. I was soon conducting trainings and working with teachers, not just in my building but all over, on how to tag students and questions with keywords to better track data to help guide instruction. The fact that we could tag students with demographic information, Response to Intervention (RTI) levels and so much

more, we could now see how groups of students were performing, not just individual students. Then having the ability to tag questions with state standards was amazing. My teachers could now see what skills students were mastering and which ones needed more work just by taking a few extra seconds while setting up the tests and quizzes.

One difficulty my teachers did have was the need to make sure all tags identically matched and this caused some issues. But SMART must have heard our calling because when SMART Response assessment software 2012 was released with state standards and Common Core State Standards built right in, it made life even easier for my teachers. And with the importance of student growth and making sure all students make gains and reach their goals, those enhancements in SMART Response assessment software 2012 have been a great enhancement for all.

The SMART Response system has really changed the way I look at gathering student data and helping guide instruction. All lessons I create have some form of a

SMART Response quiz, test or quick check built into it to help teachers get to that next step with data.

The SMART Response interactive response system has not just been a big help for summative assessment but also formative assessments. The quick checks for understanding, exit questions, or prior knowledge checks are so much easier with the power of the SMART Response system. In my school building every student has some form of the SMART Response system with them at all times that's how much we believe in it. My Pre-K classrooms have the [SMART Response LE system](#), K-3 has the [SMART Response VE system](#), and 4-8 have the SMART Response CE system – that's 1100 students ready to answer at any time. So we have moved from a handful of teachers using the SMART Response interactive response system, to not having to take home papers to grade, to now using the SMART Response system as a valuable data collection tool to get our students to the next level.

SMART Response Tip

When I attend trainings, conferences and workshops, I'm often asked: how is it that your teachers can review tests with all their classes when I can only review my tests with the last class that took the test? The answer is setting up a folder structure for all SMART files. Most teachers use the same file all day long no matter how many times they give a SMART Response test.

What you want to do is create a file for each period. If you teach the same math class, say three times in a day, you should have four folders. Have one master folder where you create the file and never use it. Then do a Save As or Copy the file into the period 1, 2 and 3 folders. Then give the test from the proper folder and save it when you are done. This way you can review with your classes their own data and not that of some other class.



say

have your

We asked where you look for professional development

28%

Internal school district offerings, including LMS, email, internal PD days or your Intranet

26%

Professional development websites, such as smarttech.com/training, Lynda.com or Ted.com

25%

Informal channels, such as on blogs, discussion boards, professional forums or mobile apps

16%

Formal training from SMART or from colleges and universities

5%

Other

Find more ideas and inspiration for using SMART products in the classroom on the [EDCompass Blog](#)

EDCompass™



Your Vote

How many times during a day do you use SMART Response interactive response system for formative assessment?

[Vote now](#)



SMART Notebook Tips

Embedding an Internet browser

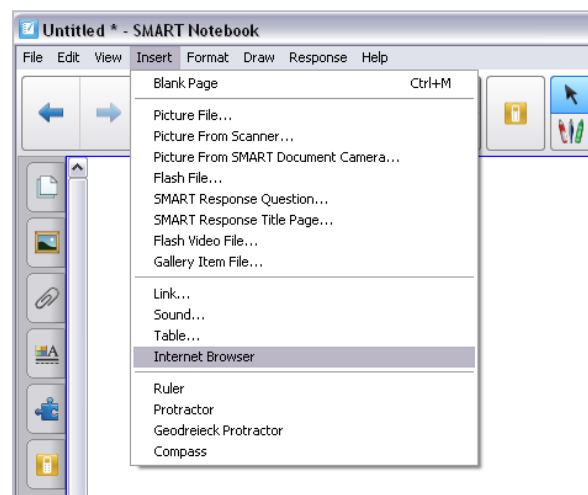
By Danesa Jepson

Seventh-Grade Language Arts Teacher and SMART Exemplary Educator
Oakdale Junior High School, Oakdale, California

While preparing or teaching a lesson, it is so wonderful to be able to go to the Internet without leaving my SMART Notebook™ collaborative learning software lesson. Without the Insert Internet Browser option, I could easily lose my students attention by leaving SMART Notebook software and searching for the webpage I need. With the Internet Browser right in my lesson, I can plan ahead and mark the page that I need or even search right there from the SMART Notebook page. I can even have multiple browsers open on a page if, for example, I wanted to show a comparison of a particular topic.

Here's how to do it:

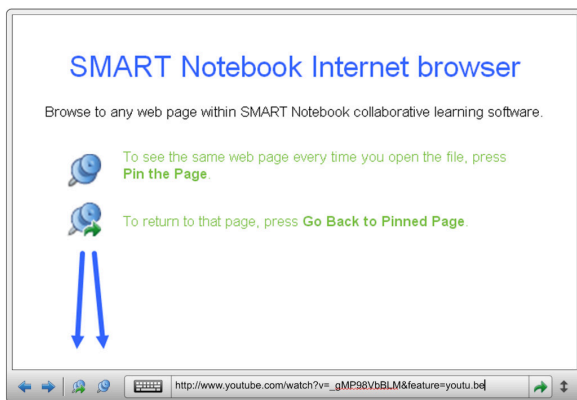
1. Open a blank page in SMART Notebook collaborative learning software
2. Click Insert in the toolbar
3. Click Internet Browser



Visit the [EDCompass Blog](#) for dozens more useful Notebook tips.



4. The SMART Notebook Internet Browser then pops up. Simply type the page you want your students to view and you're done! You can even click the blue pushpin at the bottom of your browser window so you go to that same webpage each time you open that particular lesson! **It's wonderful!**



There are so many ways to use the Internet Browser with your class. I use it to help my students learn about Activating Prior Knowledge. For the past two weeks we have been studying capitalization. To help students recall what they've learned, for review each day I play a song from the [Electric Company](#) about capitalization. My students sing along with it, and probably sing it during their quiz! It's quick, easy, fun and interactive!

I also use the browser to show students how to do research as well as to watch videos, raps and how-to videos that my past students have made. The possibilities are endless!

Download SMART Notebook 11 software.



SMART Response makes the grade in Sugar Land

By **Stacie Boudrie**, Educational Technology Specialist
[Fort Bend ISD](#), Sugar Land, Texas

Are you looking for a way to make your life in the classroom easier? Have you ever wished someone else could grade your 40-question assessment? Do you want to ensure all of your students grasp the new objective you taught? And how would you like 100 percent class participation with instant feedback from your students?

This can all be achieved by using [SMART Response interactive response system](#) in your classroom. This hardware and software combination can easily peak students' interest while lightening the teacher's workload.

SMART Response clickers, when put in student's hands, give them the power to learn, share, and be successful. It is almost magical when the clickers are given to students. Instantly, they're anxious to log on using their personal ID and they're ready to listen to the teacher with a new interest; therefore increasing participation and decreasing discipline.

Teacher Tools

However, the clickers are just 50% of this dynamic duo. Teacher Tools, the software component of the SMART Response interactive response system, makes your workload lighter and easier. The SMART Response assessment software is integrated into [SMART Notebook collaborative learning software](#) when downloaded and activated. So, there's no need to learn a new piece of software or create new presentations or assessments.



Status	Student ID	Last Name	First Name	Average	Angles	Mixed Numbers	Five Kingdoms	La
<input type="radio"/>	5	Phipps	Anthony	71.4%	7/10 (70%)	6/10 (60%)	9/10 (90%)	7.5/10
<input type="radio"/>	9	Pinson	Jennifer	73.7%	8.2/10 (82%)	4.5/10 (45%)	7.6/10 (76%)	7.6/10
<input type="radio"/>	29	Rameriz	William	66.7%	7/10 (70%)	9/10 (90%)	8/10 (80%)	6/10
<input type="radio"/>	1	Richmond	David	79%	8/10 (80%)	8/10 (80%)	7.8/10 (78%)	8/10
<input type="radio"/>	14	Rojas	Madison	65.8%	6/10 (60%)	8/10 (80%)	7.5/10 (75%)	7/10
<input type="radio"/>	31	Sevigny	Stan	80%	8/10 (80%)	8/10 (80%)	8/10 (80%)	9/10
<input type="radio"/>	20	Snyder	Christopher	68.3%	7/10 (70%)	6/10 (60%)	6/10 (60%)	7/10
<input type="radio"/>	4	Spring	Natasha	77.3%	8.9/10 (89%)	7.6/10 (76%)	8.9/10 (89%)	8.9/10
<input type="radio"/>	13	Tso	Victoria	79.7%	7.6/10 (76%)	6.9/10 (69%)	8.4/10 (84%)	8.3/10
<input type="radio"/>	7	Vanegas	Ava	77.4%	9/10 (90%)	9.2/10 (92%)	8/10 (80%)	7/10

In Teacher Tools you can set up individual class lists, which includes the student’s name and ID, and a record of that student’s class progress. In the Teacher Tools gradebook, you can choose a class to take an assessment. Once the assessment is completed and students submit their answers, the student’s grade is automatically inserted into the Teacher Tools within the class you selected (whether by subject, period, small groups, etc.). You can instantly see student and class averages for that assessment, as well as an average for all assessments. Questions and students can be tagged in Teacher Tools to help track data. All data is automatically stored and can be exported easily via spreadsheet or PDF depending on your needs.

There are multiple ways the SMART Response interactive response system is used in our district. Assessments can include up to 40 questions (the [SMART Response XE system](#) will allow for more questions and elaborate answers), the clickers can be used for pre- and post-assessments, hard copy assessments, tests and quizzes. Using the SMART Response menu in SMART Notebook software, an answer key can be created without actually typing the questions.

With the SMART Response system, assessments can also be integrated within a lesson to retrieve instantaneous responses to check for understanding throughout the lesson when presenting information to the students. This method would include several content pages of information followed by a few questions. What is the significance of this method? Using this Content>Questions>Content presentation model, teachers are able to ensure that students understand new concepts or are retaining previously taught information. This type of teaching ensures objectives are being mastered.

Also, by tagging questions, teachers can track how many times they taught an objective and if individual students and classes have remembered previously taught information. At a glance, teachers can see the strengths and weaknesses of all students and classes, allowing the teacher to tailor lessons to the needs of the class. No more having a student nod their head “Yes.” as they nervously think, “I have no idea, please don’t call on me.” The SMART Response clicker truly leaves no child behind and provides accurate and precise information.

Read Stacie’s full article on [EDCompass blog](#)

ON THE SMART



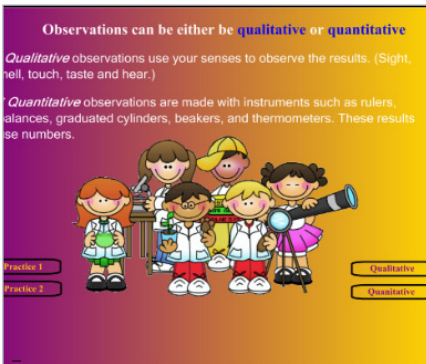
SMART Notebook Lessons

With more than 60,000 resources on the [SMART Exchange™ website](#), you can be sure your curriculum stays fresh and exciting. You can find a growing database of lesson content for all grades and subjects – many of which are standards correlated – created by classroom teachers or by SMART’s team of curriculum resource developers.

You can also search for [Common Core State Standards](#)-correlated lessons for math and English language arts by clicking the [Standards-Correlated Lessons](#) button in the top navigation bar on the home page of SMART Exchange website.

For our international readers, select your country in the search bar to find resources applicable to you.

Here are a few lessons created by teachers that you can try with your students.



Qualitative vs. Quantitative Observations

Fourth-grade science students can learn the difference between qualitative and quantitative observations. Students will first work as a class and then independently to assess knowledge of the topic.



Step Back in Time – Great Depression

Through a variety of practice activities, seventh-grade history students can get a better understanding of the 1920s and 30s, and learn about Black Tuesday, Hooverisms, FDR, New Deal, Hobo and Dust Bowl.



German

Are you teaching about Germany or the German language? This is a great activity for seventh- and eighth-grade students who are learning about the country and its language.

Exchange

WEBSITE

SMART Response Question Sets

The [SMART Exchange website](#) also offers a growing number of [SMART Response question sets](#), most of which are correlated to state and provincial curriculum standards. The website contains thousands of activities for all subjects and grade levels.

To make your search even easier, download the Search Widget for SMART Exchange and post it to your website to quickly and easily find content to supplement your lessons.

Download the [instructions](#) for posting the widget to your site.

Here are a few SMART Response question sets to try out in your next class.

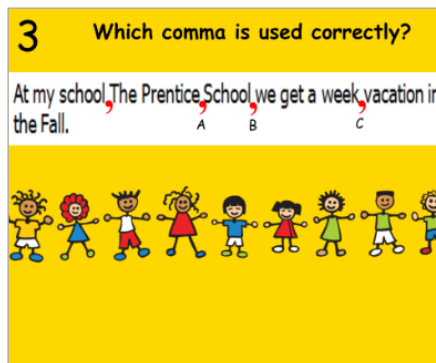


The Big Blue Ox

Grade: 1st
Subject: Reading
Date: 6-7-11

The Big Blue Ox

First-grade students can test their knowledge of vocabulary.



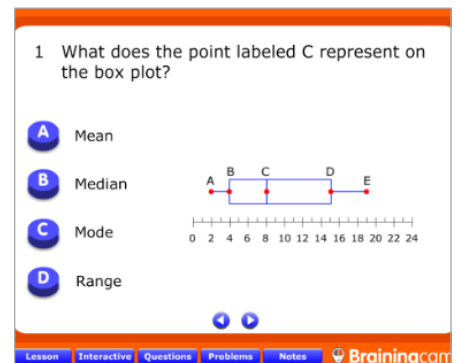
3 Which comma is used correctly?

At my school, The Prentice School we get a week vacation in the Fall.

A B C

Appositives

English language arts students in grades 5–7 can test their knowledge of appositives and proper comma usage.



1 What does the point labeled C represent on the box plot?

A Mean
B Median
C Mode
D Range

Box and Whisker Plots

Math students in grades 6–9 can test their knowledge of box and whisker plots by Brainingcamp, through lesson models and audio narration, virtual manipulatives, a question set and real world problems.

SMART Table® Activities



Developed specifically for early education classrooms, check out the growing number of [activity packs](#) for the [SMART Table interactive learning center](#) on the [SMART Exchange website](#). You can search by topic, subject or grade level to access hundreds of activities for your SMART Table. You can use SMART Table activities with small groups to complement whole-class and individual learning experiences. Most activities correspond to a SMART Notebook lesson and SMART Response question set.

Following are a few SMART Table activities you can try in your next class.



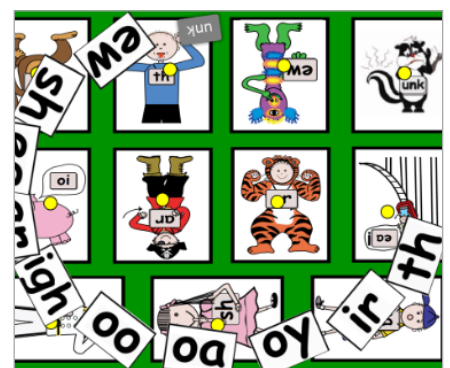
Eating Healthy

This activity teaches students about foods that are healthy and foods that aren't. They can learn about the five food groups represented on [MyPlate](#) and see examples of each group.



Flowers

Students can learn to identify and discriminate flowers and their parts, including roots, petals and leaves.



Sounds Fun SMART Table Blends

Students can learn about blends and diagraph sounds as they try to find words that begin with various blends. Videos included in the activity will help students learn the various sounds

SMART Accredited Software



Monitor Student Performance with Learning Station Insight

Turn your [SMART Response interactive response system](#) into a powerful tool to monitor your students' progress against your state's standards with the [LearningStation Insight Assessment Platform](#).

LearningStation Insight has received a Standard accreditation from [SMART's Software and Content Accreditation Program](#), due to its integration with SMART Response [PE](#) and [XE](#) interactive response systems.

As a browser-based platform, LearningStation Insight enables you to quickly create assessments aligned to state standards. Students can then respond with their interactive response systems.

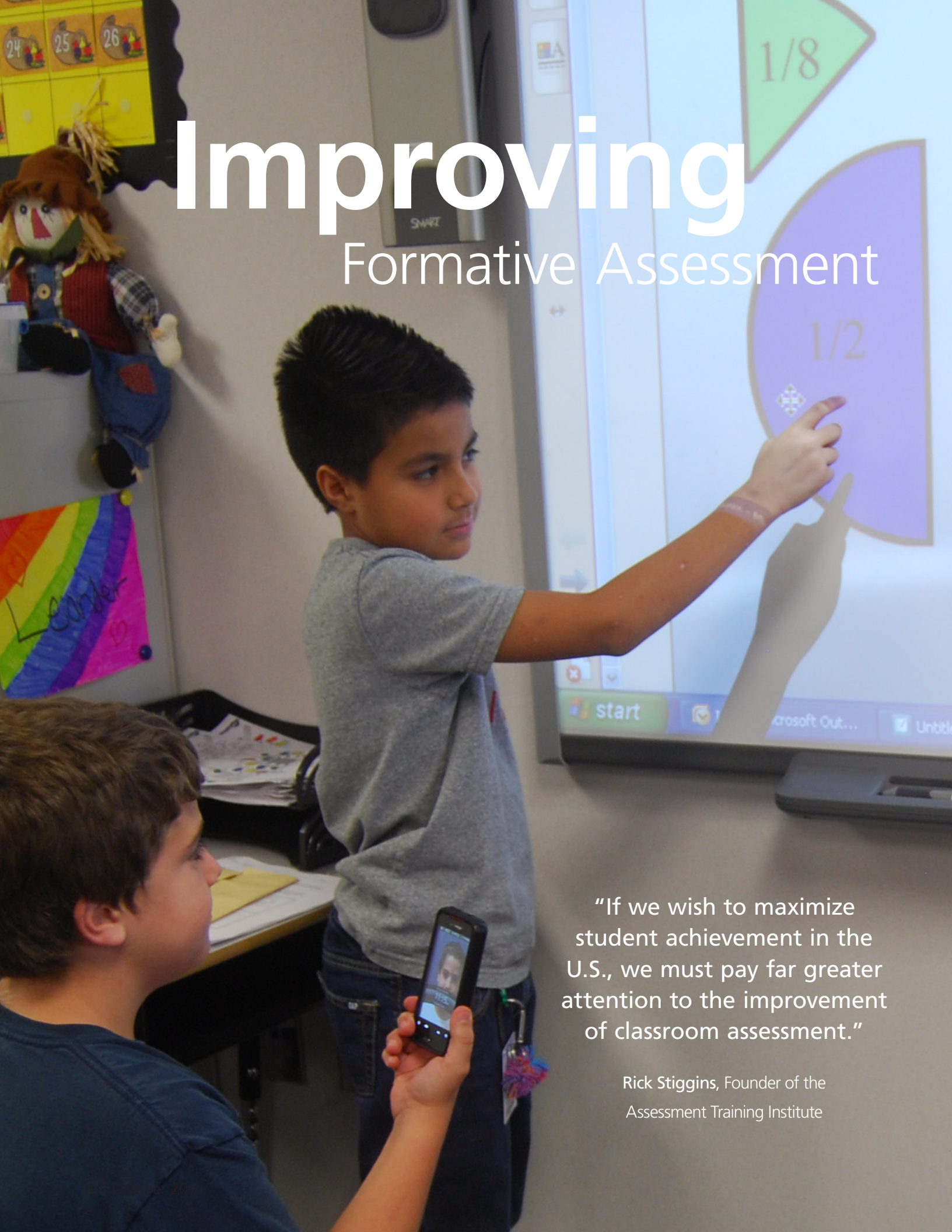
You can identify achievement gaps instantly and access aligned resources for immediate remediation. LearningStation Insight provides a documented track record of progress throughout the school year, and makes it easy for you to form groups of students for academic improvement plans.

Right now, through select Authorized Resellers, LearningStation Insight is offering a "Test and Assess Starter Pack", which includes a one-year subscription to LearningStation Insight and a set of either a 24- or 32- pack of SMART Response PE or XE systems. Contact your local [SMART reseller](#) for more information.

For more information about LearningStation Insight, visit learningstationinsight.com.

Improving

Formative Assessment



“If we wish to maximize student achievement in the U.S., we must pay far greater attention to the improvement of classroom assessment.”

Rick Stiggins, Founder of the
Assessment Training Institute

By Wendy McMahon

In a recent [article](#), assessment expert, Rick Stiggins, founder of the [Assessment Training Institute](#), explains that, “If we wish to maximize student achievement in the U.S., we must pay far greater attention to the improvement of classroom assessment.”

While Stiggins believes both summative and formative assessments are important for schools, his work focuses on taking formative assessment to a new level, which he calls assessment for learning (as opposed to assessment of learning). Stiggins and others have found that improved formative assessment benefits teachers and students. Student achievement increases, students become more confident and are motivated to learn, while teachers are able to make decisions about instruction based on accurate data.

Thanks to research and articles from Stiggins, organizations like the [National Council of Teachers of Mathematics](#) and other assessment experts there has been an increase in awareness of the importance of formative assessment in classrooms. Many educators - and in some cases districts - are rethinking the way they assess students. And many of these educators are using the [SMART Response interactive response system](#) to support their assessment efforts.

The right assessment tools

In her past role as a math teacher for [Ennis High School](#) in Ennis, Texas, over 70 percent of the students Rafranz Davis worked with faced language, social and educational issues. She felt formative assessment was an essential part of her daily lessons because many of her students had previously been just getting by without being properly assessed.

Davis says when she received her SMART Response interactive response system, assessment became easier

and more effective. “This was an assessment tool that I could incorporate in instruction and not have to worry about changing programs. It became a lifeline to my lessons,” explains Davis. “Being able to tell right away whether or not they get it, whether or not my instruction is sufficient for them to be successful, that was a big deal to me.”

Using her [SMART Board interactive whiteboard](#), [SMART Notebook collaborative learning software](#) and her SMART Response system, Davis would repeat the same cycle during her classes: teach a little bit, do an activity with students and then quickly assess student understanding. Repeating the cycle until the end of class.

Asking the right questions

Throughout her lessons Davis uses a combination of planned assessments and ad hoc questions - ensuring her questions focus only on one specific skill. In the beginning Davis used question sets found on the [SMART Exchange website](#), through [EXAMVIEW](#) and in classroom textbooks - until she had built a bank of questions to pull from. Ad hoc questions, which she used to do a quick check for understanding, were simply “Do you understand? Yes or no?”

“If all the colors of the pie chart were different. That would tell me nobody got it and we really need to talk about this. Then I would go ahead and do a quick run through again with the whole class on a specific skill. It wasn’t a whole lesson that I had to teach, just a specific skill,” explains Davis.

As Scott Miller explains asking the right questions means educators get the right information - information that helps inform instruction and ensure each student is mastering the required skills and concepts.



Miller, co-founder of [Teaching With SMART Board](#), and Instructional Coordinator for the Math Department at [Naperville Central High School](#) in Naperville, Illinois says, his district has also embraced Stiggins' concept of assessment for learning

Miller says a major benefit to using the SMART Response interactive response system in the classes in his math department is the ability to [tag questions](#). "Questions can be tagged to learning targets, learning standards and Common Core State Standards. That's fantastic, so now I have a set of standards to connect questions to," explains Miller.

Miller is then able to use the information he gains from those assessments in several ways. He can simply compare the results to the standard he was testing and design learning activities in SMART Notebook software that focus on areas of the standard where students need improvement or help. Or he can also give a similar assessment using the same standards tags and then review those assessments to look at student growth in that standard.

"Is the standard something that they're not growing on? Then what do I need to do as an instructor? Is the standard something that they've shown growth on and what did I design that helped them grow?" says Miller.

Davis agrees, she says question tagging, helped her assess how students were doing when it came to achieving Texas Education and Knowledge Skills (TEKS) objectives.

Each day Davis would give students warm-up questions that were tagged to the specific algebra or geometry TEKS objective students were working on that day.

"By the end of a week or two weeks we had a nice visual of how these students progressed by objective," explains Davis. She could see an overall picture of how an individual student, a class or all 140 students were performing on an objective.

This data also gave Davis a guide as to which skills she needed to reinforce with students and what she needed to address to help students succeed at their end-of-the-year exams.

"I knew right away without going through all kinds of other types of data that we had – my data was always consistent with where they were now. It wasn't something that was from 12 weeks ago. And so from there I could look at that and know which students I needed to target for more rigorous tutorials. And that was huge," explains Davis.



“This was an assessment tool that I could incorporate in instruction and not have to worry about changing programs. It became a lifeline to my lessons.”

Räfranz Davis, Math strategist,
Grand Prairie Independent School District

Benefits of assessing

One of the many benefits Davis sees as a result of assessing students with her SMART Response system has been that the instant feedback lets students see how they are actually doing and take ownership of their learning. Davis calls it “American Idol Syndrome”.

“You can have a kid who is doing fabulous but they don’t think that they are. And when they instantly see they’re getting it – it builds that self-confidence within them to push further and go above and beyond,” explains Davis. “On the other hand you have kids who really don’t understand but either think they understand or are afraid to say they don’t understand. As the teacher I can see that those issues exist and that gives me the knowledge to reach those kids in a different way.”

Miller agrees, he says frequent use of the SMART Response system increases the confidence and knowledge of his students while decreasing testing anxiety. Using the system also allows his students to set learning goals and monitor their progress.

In her new role as a math strategist for [Grand Prairie Independent School District](#) in Grand Prairie, Texas, Davis says the student make-up

mirrors that of her old school - a lot of English language learners and a lot of students with varied backgrounds. As a result she feels assessment is hugely important in this new role and has brought one SMART Response system with her for teachers to use along with a subscription to [SMART Response VE](#), which is designed for use on mobile devices. She is also in the process of purchasing more of this technology.

An administrator’s view

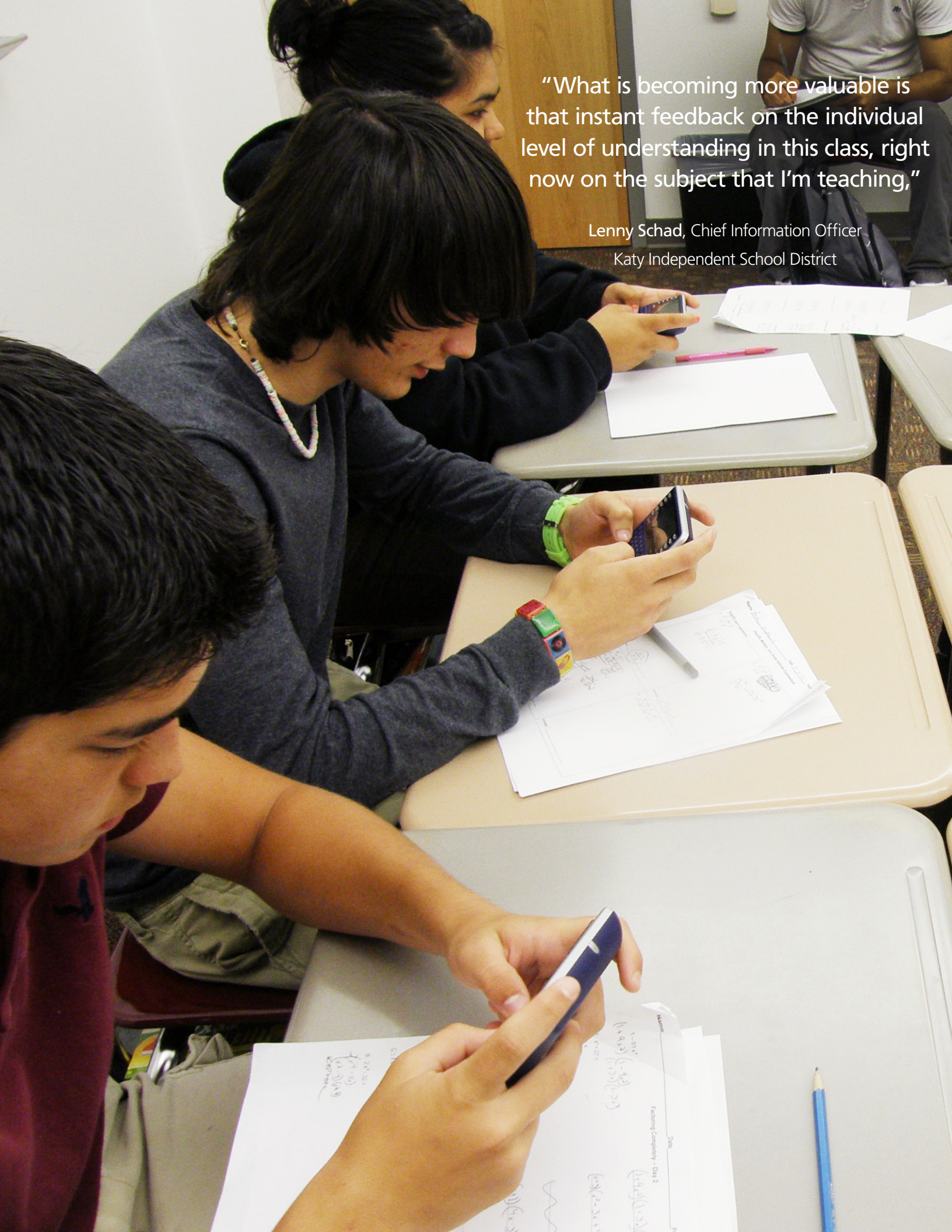
At the district level, Lenny Schad, Chief Information Officer at [Katy Independent School District](#) in Katy, Texas, also sees the growing importance of formative assessments.

“You’re going to have the big standardized assessments out there and those are certainly valuable, but I think from a teacher’s perspective what is becoming more valuable is that instant feedback on the individual level of understanding in this class, right now on the subject that I’m teaching,” explains Schad.

The district, which has standardized on SMART Board interactive whiteboards, has adopted the

"What is becoming more valuable is that instant feedback on the individual level of understanding in this class, right now on the subject that I'm teaching,"

Lenny Schad, Chief Information Officer
Katy Independent School District





SMART Response VE system. Schad says the system is a natural fit for the district as they move into the fourth year of their mobile learning initiative, which has a strong Bring Your Own Device focus.

“What the SMART VE system really creates is this atmosphere of very quick and easy real-time assessment that a teacher can do which doesn’t disrupt their class period totally. They can get it, they can review it, and they can make minor tweaks in what they’re planning to do and then continue on with their lesson.”

Schad says the SMART Response system and other web 2.0 tools not only help Katy ISD teachers assess students but they help differentiate learning and instruction for students.

“By integrating the web 2.0 tools we’re allowing kids multiple ways to do their homework and to learn rather than just saying you have to do this on paper and pencil,” explains Schad.

“I think that SMART is definitely ahead of the game. Mobile learning and Bring Your Own Device – I don’t think it’s a question of “if”, I think it’s a question of “when,” explains Schad. “And SMART had enough foresight and preplanning to know that and they

came out with these products right as this whole transformation in education was starting to occur. Their products really are helping school districts in this transformational time as they look to change how instruction can be delivered. It’s companies like SMART that really make it much easier for us to move down this transitional road.”

“What the SMART VE system really creates is this atmosphere of very quick and easy real-time assessment that a teacher can do which doesn’t disrupt their class period totally. They can get it, they can review it, and they can make minor tweaks in what they’re planning to do and then continue on with their lesson.”

**Lenny Schad, Chief Information Officer
Katy Independent School District**

Resources

Scot Miller and his co-host Dave Sladkey dedicate episode number 79 of their [podcast, Teaching with SMART Board](#) to demonstrating how to tag assessment questions to a standard, whether you’re using Common Core State Standards, specific state standards or district learning standards.

In this [tutorial](#) Rafranz Davis demonstrates how the create-answer-key function of the SMART Response system can save teachers time when it comes to classroom assessment.

What's Happening



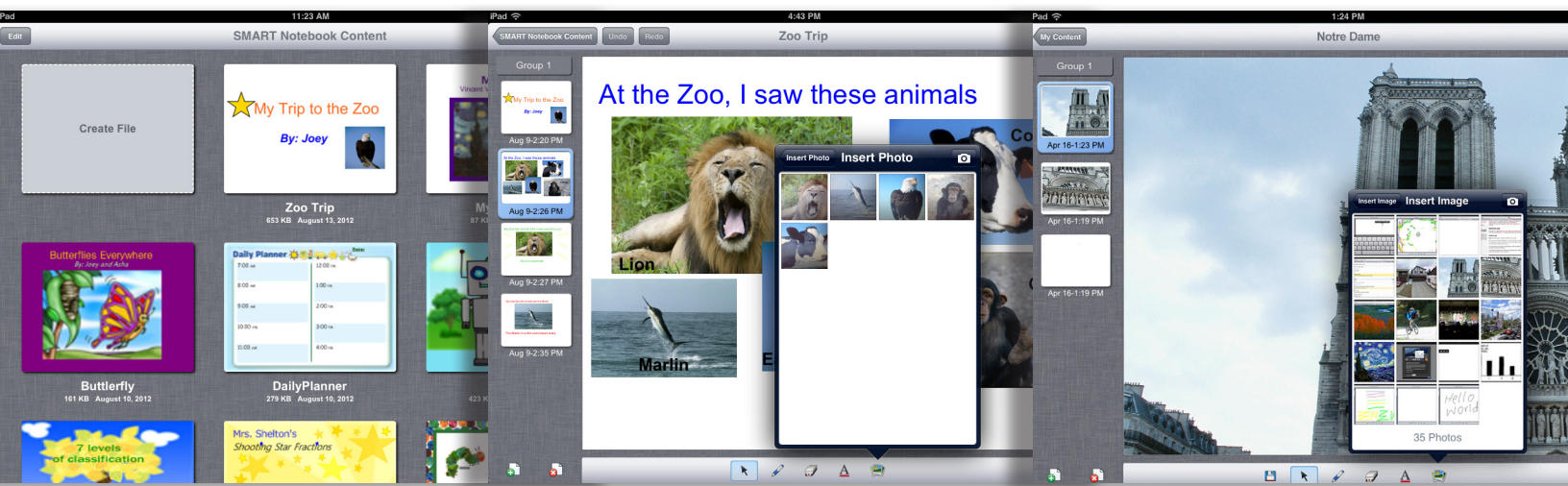
SMART Notebook App for iPad Now Available!

The anticipated [SMART Notebook app for iPad](#) is now available on the [Apple App Store](#).

With the iPad becoming increasingly popular in schools across North America, SMART has developed a light app version of [SMART Notebook collaborative learning software](#). The SMART Notebook app for iPad enables personalized and collaborative learning by allowing students to create basic multimedia

files and complete SMART Notebook lesson activities using an iPad.

Your students can use the SMART Notebook app for iPad for individual and small-group learning with an iPad, and the full desktop version of SMART Notebook collaborative learning software with a SMART Board interactive whiteboard for small-group and whole-class learning.



What can I do with the SMART Notebook app for iPad?

- **Complete pre-created SMART Notebook lesson activities** and create basic multimedia files using a choice of tools.
 - **Zoom and pan** – Get a closer look and navigate content by zooming in or out and panning to reveal a different area of the content
 - **Text** – Insert or edit typed text and change the font type, color, size and justification on the page using the Text Properties
 - **Pens and erasers** – Create drawings and annotations using colored digital pens and highlighters and choose an eraser to wipe out ink
 - **Objects** – Organize information and change a page layout. Tap to move, rotate or scale an object. Double tap or tap and hold an object to activate the Infinite Cloner and change the Sound properties.
 - **Photos** – Make files visual by inserting photos from the iPad camera and camera roll
 - **Sound** – Enhance the auditory experience by adding sound recordings to objects. Double-tap or tap and hold an object to pop-up the Context menu to record a new sound.
 - **AutoSave** – let the app save all revisions automatically as you work
 - **Undo & Redo** – quickly undo or redo your last change with one tap
 - **E-mail files** – share SMART Notebook files by e-mailing one or more files from the SMART Content File Manager or from directly inside an open file
- **Manage all your files** with the SMART Content File Manager, which gives you a thumbnail view of each file. You can quickly find a file by panning to browse the thumbnails, tap to open a new or existing file, and tap below the preview thumbnail to type a file name with the virtual iPad keyboard.
- **Save files from a desktop computer to a web-based storage device**, like Dropbox or Google Drive, to access from an iPad, and asynchronously collaborate with small group of students, or e-mail files with one tap
- **With Internet connectivity, access SMART Notebook files** that are saved in web storage services or download SMART Notebook files directly from the [SMART Exchange website](#).
- **Display content from an iPad to a SMART interactive display** for whole class discussion using [AirPlay®](#) and [Apple TV®](#) or using an HDMI or VGA cable
- Set the language for the iPad to English, UK English, French, Spanish, Italian or German.

Visit the Apple App Store to [download the app now!](#)

Note: Flash-based content, including SMART Lesson Activity Toolkit content, is not supported by Apple iOS devices, like the iPad



Expanding horizons for at-risk students

By Stacy Kindopp

When Dr. Sara Cook, a [SMART Exemplary Educator](#), became the principal at [Speas Elementary School](#) in 2009, the school was undergoing a renovation project and as part of the project funds had been allocated for classroom technology.

“Some of our classrooms already had [SMART Board interactive whiteboards](#) and the teachers led the decision-making and expressed their eagerness to continue down the SMART path,” explains Cook.

Now, every classroom space at Speas Elementary has a SMART Board interactive whiteboard, a [SMART Slate™ wireless slate](#), a [SMART Response interactive response system](#) and the [SMART Audio™ classroom amplification system](#). Teachers also use [SMART Notebook collaborative learning software](#) to create and deliver lessons.

Located in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, Speas Elementary is a Title I school with a high population of at-risk students. “SMART products help us bring the outside world in and build background knowledge that our children may not know,” says Cook.

“For example, even though we are only a few hours from the ocean a lot of our children have never seen the beach. Using the interactive whiteboard, we can bring the beach to them. They can touch the virtual water, explore

where the seashells are – it gives us an opportunity to create experiences for them that build vocabulary and knowledge that they’re missing,” describes Cook.

Speas Elementary became a [SMART Showcase School](#) in the 2011-2012 school year. To keep leading the way with technology, they make training and professional development a regular focus through user groups and teacher mentorship.

This summer the school hosted [SMARTcon12](#), a two-day workshop for educators who wanted to learn how to effectively use SMART Notebook collaborative learning software as a tool for creating engaging and effective classroom lesson content. “It was a great conference with a wide selection of presentations. Teachers could learn basic skills or dig into the advanced features in SMART Notebook software to find out how to create interactive, collaborative lessons,” says Cook.

Last year the school hosted a showcase night and invited principals from other districts, the community, parents and students to check out the school’s technology. “The students gave the demonstrations and that made a big impact,” says Cook. “I wish I would have taken pictures of the parents’ reactions. They really enjoyed watching their children show them how to use the technology and were amazed by their ability to manipulate content so easily.”

“SMART products help us bring the outside world in and build background knowledge that our children may not know.”

-- Dr. Sara Cook, Principal, Speas Elementary,
Winston-Salem, North Carolina

Gauging the understanding of struggling learners

Elizabeth SabbaghRabaiotti teaches a fourth- and fifth-grade special needs classroom at Speas Elementary. “My students learn differently and can become highly frustrated,” she explains, “They’re not highly motivated learners, but with SMART Notebook lessons I can easily integrate games, activities and links to websites that keep the students involved and focused on learning.”

“I use SMART Response frequently in my classroom. The student responses give me instant feedback and I can immediately see who gets it. I don’t have to rush and grade papers over lunch to find out which classroom material needs to be reviewed,” says SabbaghRabaiotti.

She explains that often it only takes two or three SMART Response questions to gain insight into student understanding. “When I see that 70 percent of my students don’t understand a concept, I know that I need to teach it again in a different way to reach their learning style,” says SabbaghRabaiotti.

Many of SabbaghRabaiotti’s students have trouble reading or feel stressed when taking a traditional paper and pencil test. “For many of my students, a paper test is a trigger for them. They immediately feel that it’s bad and they’re going to fail. SMART Response questions appeal to these learners. It’s amazing how comfortable they are and how quickly they know how to use the clickers,” says SabbaghRabaiotti.

“Frequently, I’ve had students refuse to take a paper quiz. Or they won’t put any effort into the test and write ‘I don’t know’ or randomly circle multiple-choice answers. With SMART Response, my students are motivated and



always willing to answer questions. None of them have ever refused to take a quiz on SMART Response,” says SabbaghRabaiotti.

This year, SabbaghRabaiotti is working together with the other fourth-grade teachers in her school to create common SMART Response question sets for math and vocabulary. They work together to review the assessment results to see how different classes are understanding concepts.

“If we notice that one of the classes understands a concept really well and the other classes don’t, we’ll share ideas to find out how the teacher taught the concept so that the rest of us can enhance our own teaching methods to better reach the children in our classroom. Or if we notice that a few students in each classroom are struggling with a concept, we’ll pull them together as a group for additional review,” explains SabbaghRabaiotti.

SabbaghRabaiotti sees the tremendous impact that SMART products are making in her classroom. This year she is mentoring other teachers to help them incorporate SMART Response into their classrooms. She says, “There is so much potential. Teachers are often fearful of using something new and they need to know they’re not going to break it! It’s easy, engaging and the more you use it, it just becomes second nature.”



Your school can become a SMART Showcase School and be recognized for using SMART education solutions to create exceptional learning environments. If selected, your school will receive exclusive membership benefits and opportunities. It will have an opportunity to share its success story and serve as a host site for other educators who want to find out more about the benefits of implementing SMART products. [Learn more.](#)

Question: What do you need for truly insightful assessment?



- a. The flexibility to deliver both formative and summative assessments
- b. A wide selection of content that is easy to access and aligns to education standards
- c. Assessments that are easy to implement, engage students and can be tracked
- d. Relevant professional development to help me learn new strategies for assessment and personalization
- e. All of the above

If you answered 'All of the above', you answered the same as SMART! It's this combination that we believe will truly help educators gain insight into students' learning and achieve better results.

The right combination for insight

True insight into learning means going beyond using a tool that allows students to respond with YES/NO, TRUE/FALSE.

Every learner is unique and to truly have insight into their learning, it's necessary to have a support system – one that can help you stay connected to each student before, during and after a lesson, respond to individual learning needs and track responses to each student's improvement and growth over the course of the year.

We believe that [SMART Response interactive response systems](#), the [SMART Exchange website](#) and [professional development](#) make a pretty amazing assessment solution. It's because this combination allows you to instantly assess students on almost any device, respond to your students' needs, track their responses and develop long-term understanding of their learning.

SMART Response systems provide an engaging way for students to participate in lessons and demonstrate their understanding, and the wide variety of content on the SMART Exchange website allows you to find and customize lessons and quizzes to suit the needs of your entire classroom, a group of students or individual learners. And it's easy to learn how to use these products to personalize learning and inspire achievement with our professional development offering.

Each product contributes to enabling engaging formative and summative assessments that can make a difference in students' understanding of lessons. And together – they create an intuitive, engaging and meaningful assessment experience.

SMART Response interactive response systems

- Four unique models designed for different needs – 1:1, K–12, inclusive and early education, and advanced math and science
- Integrated with **SMART Notebook software**, each system allows you to quickly and easily insert questions into your lessons to instantly assess student understanding
- Teacher Tools allows you to create assessment reports to evaluate student progress over the course of a year
- Can be used with **industry-leading assessment platforms**, like Acuity™ InFormative Assessment® Solution and eduphoria! SchoolObjects:aware™

The SMART Exchange website

- Free content can be downloaded and customized to your classroom's needs
- Over 60,000 education resources are available on the website
- More than 10,000 resources align directly to various state standards, including Common Core Standards
- Resources can be searched by grade, subject or keyword
- Many leading education publishers have developed content specifically for SMART products which can be searched for on the SMART Exchange website

Professional development

Over **15 different options** for professional development on assessment Access PD in-person, online or at public or private events

Four assessment solutions



SMART Response LE for inclusive and early education

This system features remotes with large buttons and colorful symbols that are easy to use and understand. The SMART Response LE system meets universal design for learning standards.



SMART Response XE for middle and secondary education

The system features remotes that support advanced math and science equations, giving teachers the ability to easily assess student understanding of more advanced content.



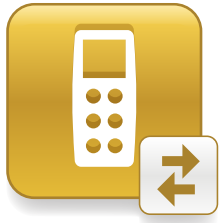
SMART Response PE for primary and middle school

Students can respond to questions in several formats, including numeric and text-based answers.



SMART Response VE for classrooms with mobile devices or 1:1 learning environments

Cloud-based assessment software enables students to answer questions using an Internet-enabled device, such as a smartphone, laptop or tablet, from anywhere.



Integration with online assessment platforms

SMART Response interactive response systems [integrate with other widely used assessment solutions for education](#), so you can use the remotes from your SMART Response systems with third-party products, gaining more options for assessment and reporting.

The following platforms integrate with SMART Response systems:

- *A+™ Classroom Student Response Software*
- *Acuity InFormative Assessment Solution*
- *eduphoria! SchoolObjects:aware*
- *Galileo K–12 Online Instructional Improvement System*
- *Ignite!™ Torch*
- *LearningStation® Insight online assessment platform*
- *Study Island*

Find a new product in the spotlight every month on the [EDCompass Blog](#).

EDCompass™

Ask Amy

Earlier this year, we released SMART Response assessment software 2012. This new version of our software for SMART Response systems features enhancements to Teacher Tools, reporting and tagging. We asked Amy Dewis, product manager for SMART Response systems, to give us a tour of the updates.

EDCompass What are the biggest improvements to the software?

Amy The biggest area of focus for SMART Response assessment software 2012 was adding the ability to track student performance by educational standard. We know that teachers and students are held accountable for learning the skills contained in the educational standards, so we wanted to make sure SMART Response systems support accountability and reporting in this area.

EDCompass What are the benefits of question tagging?

Amy Question tagging is a critical tool for aligning SMART Response questions with key educational standards, cognitive levels or other performance measures. By taking the time to tag questions, teachers are greatly increasing the usefulness of the student performance data generated by SMART Response systems.

EDCompass How has the Teacher Tools gradebook improved?

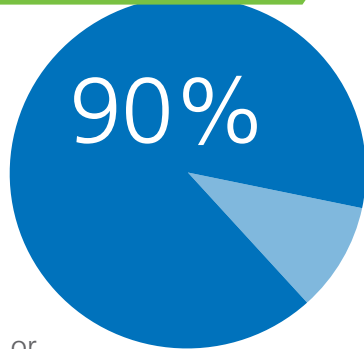
Amy We used to have only two reports in Teacher Tools, but in SMART Response assessment software 2012, we added 16 new reports! You can now save favorite reports, preview reports, create PDF reports and display reports as bar or line graphs. You can also create custom exports, which is great for transferring data from Teacher Tools to other school data systems including gradebooks, assessment systems and learning management systems.

EDCompass How have teachers reacted to the new software?

Amy Teachers have continued to express their satisfaction with the progress of SMART Response systems. We are committed to a path of continuous improvement and enhancement for SMART Response systems in the coming years. We are also hearing very positive feedback from teachers on the importance of the SMART Response VE system, which supports both formative and summative assessment with any Internet-capable devices.

ASSESSMENT BY THE NUMBERS

THE LANDSCAPE OF INSIGHT



Percentage of teachers who say they have a system on their school or district network available for entering or viewing results on student assessments¹

1,650,000

Students took the SAT in 2011⁴

FORMATIVE ASSESSMENT

FOUR aspects of formative assessment that the Association for Middle Level Education considers fundamental⁶:



1. QUESTIONING



2. FEEDBACK



3. PEER ASSESSMENT



4. SELF-ASSESSMENT

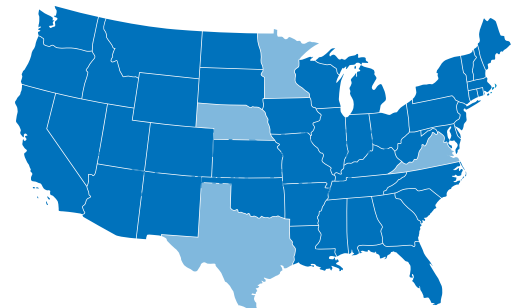
Studies of formative assessment show an effect size on standardized tests of between **0.4 and 0.7**⁷.

66%

Percentage of students in fourth grade who scored basic or above on the reading National Assessment of Educational Progress (2010-2011)²



45 states, 3 territories have adopted Common Core State Standards³



■ Adopted
■ Not Yet Adopted

853,314

Students took an AP Exam in high school 2009-10 (U.S.)⁵

MOBILE AND ONLINE ASSESSMENT

Online formative assessments (versus paper) can save up to **\$2.4 billion** a year nationally⁸

1.5 million iPads are being used in education institutions, including **over 1000** one-to-one deployments⁹

The U.S. has more mobile phones than people¹⁰

45%

Percentage of sixth to twelfth grade students who say they take online tests¹¹

Mobile devices constitute **45 percent** of the computing devices used in schools (laptops, netbooks, tablets and smartphones)¹²

SOURCES:

¹ Teachers' Use of Educational Technology in U.S. Public Schools: 2009, National Center for Education Statistics
<http://nces.ed.gov/pubs2010/2010040.pdf>

² The Condition of Education, National Center for Education Statistics
http://nces.ed.gov/programs/coe/pdf/coe_rd2.pdf

³ Common Core Standards State Initiative
<http://www.corestandards.org/in-the-states>

⁴ The College Board <http://press.collegeboard.org/sat>

⁵ ED Data Express: Data about elementary and secondary schools in the U.S.
<http://eddataexpress.ed.gov/state-report.cfm?state=US&submit.x=25&submit.y=3>

⁶ Research Summary, Formative Assessment Practices in Successful Middle Level Classrooms, Association for Middle Level Education <http://www.aml.org/Research/ResearchSummaries/FormativeAssessment/tabid/2694/Default.aspx>

⁷ The Value of Formative Assessment, FairTest, The National Center for Fair and Open Testing <http://fairtest.org/examarts/winter99/k-forma3.html>

⁸ Revolutionizing Education through Technology, The Project RED Roadmap for Transformation http://www.projectred.org/images/books/ISTE_Book.pdf

⁹ Apple, <http://www.apple.com/pr/library/2012/01/19Apple-Reinvents-Textbooks-with-iBooks-2-for-iPad.html>

¹⁰ National Assessment Day
<http://www.nationalassessmentday.com/ranks2012.html>

¹¹ Personalizing Learning in 2012 – The Student and Parent Point of View, Project Tomorrow http://www.tomorrow.org/speakup/pdfs/Infographic_PersonalizedLearning2012.pdf

¹² Revolutionizing Education through Technology, The Project RED Roadmap for Transformation http://www.projectred.org/images/books/ISTE_Book.pdf

¹³ Teachers' Use of Educational Technology in U.S. Public Schools: 2009, National Center for Education Statistics
<http://nces.ed.gov/pubs2010/2010040.pdf>

¹⁴ Immediate Feedback: Student Response Systems Improve Math Scores
<http://vault.smarttech.com/publications/interactive-administrator/2009/winter/techTrends-2.html>

¹⁵ SMART Exchange, exchange.smarttech.com

¹⁶ SMART products increase student engagement in U.S. classrooms, SMART Technologies press release <http://www.smarttech.com/us/About+SMART/About+SMART/Newsroom/Media+releases/English+US/Releases+by+year/2009+media+releases/2009/SMART+products+increase+student+engagement+in+US+classrooms>

¹⁷ Math scores Soar with SMART Response video, SMART Technologies
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oEVQgKAY7mw>

INTERACTIVE RESPONSE SYSTEMS

35%

Percent of teachers who reported using classroom response systems, sometimes or often, for instruction during their classes (2009)¹³

Research data from a four-year study measuring changes in student performance and progress in math, showed grade-level equivalency growth of 52 percent from grades three to four with the use of SMART Response systems¹⁴

52%



1200

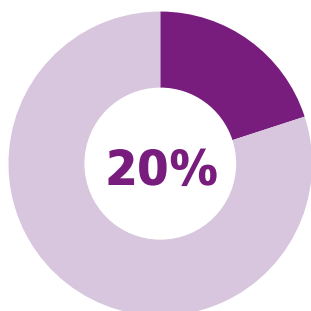
Number of assessment resources and quizzes available on the SMART Exchange website¹⁵

Percentage of teachers surveyed at a California school who felt their students were more engaged in learning when using SMART Response systems and SMART Board interactive whiteboards¹⁶

94%

Percentage of improvement in eighth-grade math scores after Hurst Junior High implemented SMART products¹⁷

20%



We're moving...to the *EDCompass* Blog

Join *EDCompass* magazine as we move to the *EDCompass* blog – it's the perfect place to find, comment on and share inspiring ideas for using SMART products in the classroom.

Here's what you'll find on the blog:

- Ideas, tips and resources from educators around the world
- Opinions and advice from experts in education and classroom technology
- The latest classroom resources on the SMART Exchange website
- Spotlights on SMART's new education products and programs



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