Landmark Teaching Strategies

Provide Opportunities for Success

The use of educational technology does not have to be limited to specific students with identified needs. All students could benefit from the incorporation of technology in a variety of formats. Below are some possible suggestions for ways to incorporate technology into lesson plans and classroom instruction.

Language Arts

Reading	Writing
Word List: Use a digital format (such as Google Docs) to provide students with a pattern-based list of words, upcoming vocabulary that may present difficulty, or previous reading miscues for repeated practice. **Quizlet:** Use a tool such as Quizlet to discuss a vocabulary term of the day. This could also be an appropriate time to review previously learned vocabulary words. **Bookshare/Kindle:** Allow students access to required texts using either their Bookshare account or the Kindle/Kindle App. During this time, students and teachers can take turns reading and discussing. **Homework:** Have students read independently and complete a StoryBoard depiction of what they read to be reviewed in class the next day.	**Inspiration:** Before beginning the writing process, lead the class in a group brainstorm on the composition topic. Students can organize their own ideas from this brainstorm using a technology-driven mind map, such as Inspiration. **Checklists:** Before beginning the writing process, students can work with teachers to design their own individual proofreading checklist based on the writing and editing skills that they are focusing on. This tool can be created and shared in a cloud-based system, like Dropbox or Google Drive. **Google Docs:** Students can compose their compositions using a tool such as Google Docs, which would allow teachers to make suggestions and comment on progress while students are working. This would also allow the teacher to monitor student production and output.

Science

Concept Review	Instruction
Kahoot: Review programs such as Kahoot allow the teacher to choose from pre-existing content or create their own. Students access the review using their own device. The teacher can set time limits on the questions, and students can choose what they believe to be the correct answer. This activity allows for powerful review discussion and serves as an informal assessment tool to determine what students have retained and what requires more instruction.	**Frog Guts:** After reviewing key terms for a lesson (in this case, anatomy related), teachers can utilize technology to support instruction and exploration of a topic. Frog Guts is one such option that allows for K-12 exploration of anatomy concepts through virtual dissection. Teachers could guide students in this exploration, adding their own insight, instruction, and expectations along the way.

Math

> **Warm-Up/Review:** The start of class is an appropriate time to a do a warm-up activity, previewing the material that students will learn in that class period. This can also be a good time to review the previous night's homework assignment. The Whiteboard ipad app allows for teachers to project activities onto the board and use a stylus pen to write. This app also allows the ipad to be used as a document camera to project a worksheet, student work, or calculator to allow for modeling and/or collaboration.
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> **Direct Instruction:** After warm-up or review, the teacher could use the Whiteboard ipad app to then proceed to providing lecture notes or practicing problems for whatever material is the focus of that class period.
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> **Homework**: Khan Academy is one example of a technological tool that could support differentiation for homework (or even classwork). This program allows students to work on specific math skills at their own pace, which is a perfect way to help support student growth and progress in a way that benefits each individual student.

HOW DOES THIS CONNECT TO PROVIDE OPPORTUNITIES FOR SUCCESS?

Howard Gardner's theory of multiple intelligences suggests that individuals learn in many different ways. Incorporating technology into the classroom can help to ensure that the teacher presents materials and information in a way that most students can access. Universal Design for Learning should also be considered with the use of technology. Based on these ideas, it is appropriate to suggest that utilizing technological tools to supplement and enhance instruction could be one way in which teachers provide students with opportunities to be successful in the classroom learning new content. Because technology can help make content accessible, it can provide students with a learning difference the opportunity to showcase their knowledge and can help to boost their confidence when finding success in the classroom.