

Using the SMART Board

Katie Reel, Pike Township

Amy Schomacker, Pike Township

The goal of this presentation was to provide an introduction to the SMART Board, to demonstrate lesson ideas, and to provide hands-on activities with the experience that this technology provides. We wanted to show teachers and administrators the ease of using this tool and how it can engage students in everyday lessons. Integrating technology into the daily classroom routine is so important in today's society. This raises students' levels of interest and allows all children to participate, providing success in the classroom. We supported teachers in many different ways, from the basics of "how to" to lesson planning with the SMART Board.

We began with introductions and then moved quickly into a bit of background of the SMART technology. SMART Boards, produced by SMART Technologies, Inc., are electronic whiteboards that were created in 1991. Students interact with a computer by simply touching the boards.

We then used the SMART Boards to play some *Everyday Math* games with volunteer participants: Monster Squeeze, an early childhood game; Name That Number, for grades one through three; and Hidden Treasure, for grades four through six. We also added and subtracted fractions from BrainPOP Math. (See the website below.)

Next we moved into the SMART software that comes with the SMART Board. SMART Board software includes pens, erasers, pages, and other tools, as well as virtual manipulatives such as money, clock faces, and thermometers. This part of the session was opened up to participants to offer ideas of what they've done with their own SMART Boards.

We looked at three other websites that are great resources for teachers at all grade levels. These included:

- www.42explore.com. 4² explore lists many online resources for various math activities.
- <http://illuminations.nctm.org>. This is NCTM's Illuminations website, which has links to lessons, activities, the NCTM Standards, and other web resources.
- <http://www.aplusmath.com/>. This site includes many online resources, such as games and puzzles.

We finished by allowing participants to ask questions and “play” with the SMART Boards.

Additional websites:

www.brainpop.com.

This site has several activities, some of which can be accessed for free.

www.smarttech.com.

At the SMART Technologies website, teachers can click on “Training” to find free materials and lesson plans.

<http://school.discovery.com/schrockguide/math.html>.

Kathy Schrock provides resources in her Guide for Educators.



Amy Schomacker, center, and Katie Reel, right, presenters at the Using Spreadsheets and Using the SMART Board concurrent sessions.