

At Tarkington we have immersed our iPads into our learning community in many ways to help support our students. They allow us to provide our students different ways to learn in every subject.

As a green school, we understand the importance of reducing paper use. Our iPads allow us to visualize our work on our iPads instead of using paper. We can write a reading response in pages, or publish their research in keynote and Poplet. They can take notes in pages. All work can be emailed directly to their teachers thus decreasing our use of paper.

### Collaboration

Our students collaborated by students in different classrooms taught each new each other new APPS. Students in one classroom showed how to make a keynote presentation about their planet research. They showed step-by- step how to create each slide; adding text and pictures. Next they helped their partner create their own planet keynote. The second day of collaborating, the other. Lass taught the steps how to create a comic in comic life. They showed how to draw all the scenes in their comic in interactive paint board. Next add setting and dialogue boxes. After they modeled the steps, they helped their partner create their own comic. Through this collaboration, students used higher order thinking skills putting together their presentations, they had to communicate effectively, and used their creativity in creating their final product.

Student engagement increased when using the iPads. During book clubs discussions, students were more engaged in their conversation. The quality of conversation improved as students recorded their conversations which allowed them to be more aware of their participation and their role in the process of a successful book club discussion.

Students learning increased through opportunities and accessibility they have gained from the tools on their iPads. When researching biographies, they learned about Rosa Parks. They were able to watch videos of historical events such as Rosa Parks arrest and segregation to help understand the time period in which she lived and put themselves in her shoes to better understand her decision that day. Students were able to read text online, highlight words that were difficult and have it read aloud to them.

We have noticed throughout NWEA testing that students have greatly improved. In our third grade classes students increased from 28% exceeding standard to 44% exceeding standard in math and reading. In one class, thirteen students made over a 15 point gain math.